



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

"The small group added so much to the experience. The tour leaders were excellent in personality and knowledge and helped us understand the history of Ireland."

— Jim, Florida

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

August 31-September 13, 2021 (14 days | 12 guests)
with geoarchaeologist Stephen Mandal



Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur





© Giorgio Galeotti

This journey takes you through the archaeology, history, and landscapes of eastern Ireland. After a couple of gentle days in Dublin, where you will visit the National Museum of Ireland and explore the city, you will head north to explore the various landscapes of Northern Ireland, including Slieve Gullion, the medieval town of Carrickfergus, and the UNESCO World Heritage site at the Giant's Causeway. From here, journey south to the Boyne Valley, where you will visit, amongst other sites, the UNESCO World Heritage site of Brú na Bóinne (Newgrange and Knowth), staying in the heart of the valley in the beautiful village of Slane. The next stop on the journey will be inland to the medieval city of Kilkenny. As well as the castle and medieval streetscape of the city, this will serve as a base to explore the wonderful scenery and amazing hidden archaeological gems of the region. Our journey south ends in Wexford and Waterford, where you will enjoy a day at the Irish National Heritage Park and visit your host's ongoing excavation project. Travel in a small group of no more than 12 guests and enjoy the personal attention and service of a highly respected Irish academic lecturer/host and a charming tour manager/guide, plus several specialist guest experts.



- # Overnight stays
- Itinerary stops
- ✈ Flights



© Andreas F Borchert

Archaeological Institute of America LECTURER & HOST



Dr. Stephen Mandal is an expert on the Irish landscape, its archaeology, history, and geology. He earned his honors degree in Geology and Ph.D. in Geoarchaeology from Trinity College, Dublin. He has co-founded several multi-award winning community heritage projects including the “Digging the Lost Town of Carrig Project” (which you will visit on this tour) and the “Blackfriary Community Archaeology Project,”

which received funding under the AIA’s Site Preservation program. Stephen is a director of the Discovery Program (the national center for archaeology and innovation in Ireland) and has previously served as Vice Chairperson of the Royal Irish Academy Committee for Archaeology (2009-2014) and as External Examiner to Sligo Institute of Technology (2012-2015). He is a professional member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland, the Institute of Geologists of Ireland, and the European Federation of Professional Geologists. Stephen has undertaken research on many of the sites that you will visit on this tour, including the Hill of Tara, Newgrange, and Trim. He has co-authored two books, most recently *Carrick, County Wexford: Ireland’s First Anglo-Norman Stronghold* (2019), and has contributed to a dozen more. He is a standing international guest speaker for the AIA’s national lecture program, and in 2019 was appointed as a research associate of the Smithsonian Museum. Stephen has a wealth of experience in communicating geology, archaeology, and history at all levels, and on this AIA tour he will assist you in viewing the Irish landscape from the perspective of the people who lived there in the past.

Cover: (Top) Glenadlough monastery; (middle) AIA travelers at Giant’s Ring, Northern Ireland; (bottom from left) Trim Castle, Newgrange, and the Carrick dig site

“Steve [Mandal] was great fun, extremely knowledgeable, and provided cohesive understanding of all these various sites.”

– Linda, California



© operator

Stephen Mandal and AIA travelers at Trim Castle

"The sites, leaders and guides were enthusiastic and very knowledgeable. A country full of history and lovely landscapes. A perfect combination."

– Ruth, Ontario, Canada

ITINERARY

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (R)= Reception, (D)= Dinner

Tuesday, August 31, 2021: Depart home

Depart the U.S. on independent flights to Dublin.

Wednesday, September 1: Arrive Dublin, Ireland | National Museum of Ireland | Welcome dinner

Upon arrival at Dublin Airport (DUB), you will be met and transferred as a group (time TBD) to our hotel. After a light lunch, take a private, guided tour of the National Museum of Ireland with the museum's former Assistant Keeper, Eamonn (Ned) Kelly. Of particular note in the collections are the Broighter Hoard, Tara Brooch, Ardagh Chalice, Derrynaflan Hoard, and a number of bog bodies. Gather this evening for a welcome talk by our hosts, a reception, and dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [Herbert Park Hotel](#) for two nights.* (L,R,D)

Thursday, September 2: Dublin: AM walking tour, PM Trinity College

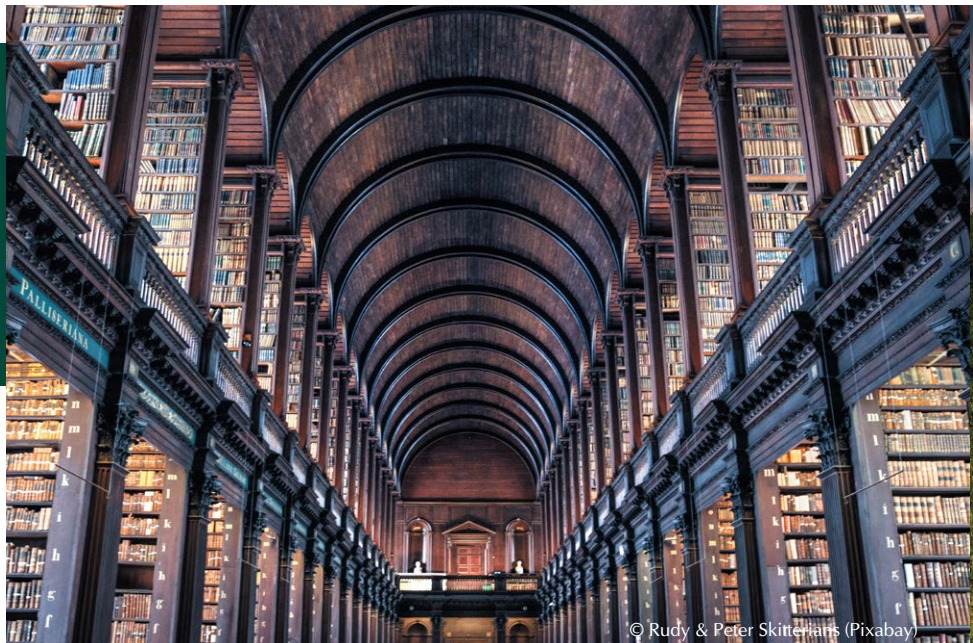
Founded as a Viking settlement, the Kingdom of Dublin became Ireland's principal city following the Norman invasion in the late 12th century. This morning we take a guided walking tour of the city center, with its narrow, winding streets and mostly 18th- and 19th-century Georgian and Victorian architecture, passing key buildings and vistas that help bring the city's history to life. After lunch (under your own arrangements) we reconvene to visit Trinity College and see the famous 9th-century Book of Kells that is on exhibit in the 18th-century library. Before dinner at our hotel this evening, our host will give a lecture on the Irish landscape and history. (B,D)

Friday, September 3: Slieve Gullion, Northern Ireland | Giant's Ring | Belfast

Depart Dublin and start our journey northwards, stopping for a walk to the beautiful Slieve Gullion along the way. Slieve Gullion is a volcanic mountain with a height of 573 meters (1,880 ft). At the summit is a small lake and two Neolithic passage tombs, the highest surviving monuments of this type in Ireland. Slieve Gullion appears in Irish mythology, where it is associated with Fionn mac Cumhaill and Cú Chulainn. After lunch we continue driving northeast to the capital city of Belfast and check-in to our hotel in the heart of the city's Titanic Quarter. Set out for an afternoon visit to the spectacular Giant's Ring, a circular enclosure that is 6.9 acres and surrounded by an 11-foot-high, earthwork bank, and then return to Belfast, where we have dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Titanic Hotel Belfast](#) for three nights.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 4: Carrickfergus | Belfast: Titanic Belfast

This morning drive the short distance to the walled medieval town of Carrickfergus. The name of the town translates as 'rock of Fergus' and it is believed to have gotten its name from Fergus Mór (Fergus the Great), the legendary king of Dál Riata. Carrickfergus came to prominence as a town shortly after 1170, when Anglo-



© Rudy & Peter Skitter/Hans (Pixabay)

Trinity College Library, Dublin



A page from the Book of Kells at the Trinity College Library



Carrickfergus



© Poleary91

Mound of the Hostages, Hill of Tara

Norman knight John de Courcy invaded Ulster, established his headquarters in the area and built Carrickfergus Castle. The castle, which is the most prominent landmark of Carrickfergus, is widely known as one of the best-preserved Norman castles in Ireland. Visit the castle and explore the town. Return to our hotel in Belfast and enjoy an independent lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon we walk across the way to the Titanic Belfast, a visitor center at the head of the slipways where the Titanic was built and launched. It features nine interactive galleries focused on the “Titanic Experience,” including a collection of artifacts from the ship itself. Dinner and the evening are at leisure. (B)

Sunday, September 5: Giant’s Causeway | Dunluce Castle | Belfast

Travel through the beautiful landscape of the northern coastline to the Giant’s Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage site comprising 40,000 basalt polygonal columns that were formed after a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago. After an independent lunch at the visitor’s center we continue on to Dunluce Castle. In the 13th century, Richard Óg de Burgh, 2nd Earl of Ulster, built the first castle at Dunluce. The castle has a remarkable and well documented history, falling into various hands over the centuries with links to Scottish clans and the Spanish Armada. We return to Belfast and gather for dinner at our hotel. (B,D)

Monday, September 6: Slane, Ireland: Hill of Slane

This morning we head south into the heart of the Boyne Valley. As the antiquarian William Wilde (father of Oscar) said, “the history of Ireland is told in the monuments along the banks of the river valley.” Visit the beautiful village of Slane and enjoy a guided visit to the Hill of Slane, atop which are the ruins of a friary church and college, including a 62-foot-high early Gothic tower. On the Hill’s west side lie the remains of a 12th-century motte and bailey castle. Check-in to our hotel, a restored, 18th-century coaching inn in Slane. Before dinner, enjoy a lecture by medieval historian, university professor, and author Dr. Michael Potterton. *Overnight at the 3-star [Conyngham Arms Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 7: Brú na Bóinne (Newgrange & Knowth) | Hill of Tara | Boyne Valley Woods | Slane

Set out this morning for the UNESCO World Heritage site of Brú na Bóinne and explore the exhibits at the Visitor Centre. Then visit the 4th-millennium B.C. megalithic passage tombs at Newgrange and Knowth. Newgrange is the largest passage mound in Europe, and encloses an astronomically-aligned, 20-yard-long inner passage leading to a cruciform chamber with a corbelled

“The leaders and guides were exceptional, the sites incredible, the hotels great, and the food was absolutely the best. An exceptional experience!”

– Donna, California

The AIA & AIA Tours

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world’s archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA’s network of scholars and worldwide contacts.



© Jean Housen

The lively Temple Bar area, Dublin



roof. (The illumination of the passage and chamber at the winter solstice sunrise is world famous.) The Great Mound at Knowth is similar in size to Newgrange and surrounded by 18 smaller satellite mounds; both sites contain the finest megalithic art in Europe. From Brú na Bóinne, we head west to the seat of the High Kings of Ireland, the Hill of Tara. Its Mound of the Hostages (a passage tomb) was constructed ca. 3000-2500 B.C., and in the early Christian period Tara was the political and religious center of Ireland. After lunch at the hill and a walk amidst the monuments, set out for Boyne Valley Wools, a traditional wool craft shop with a flock of Jacob sheep, where one can experience the process of spinning wool. Return to Slane, where dinner and the evening are at leisure. (B,L)

Wednesday, September 8: Trim Castle | Rock of Dunamace | Kilkenny

This morning we travel to the medieval town of Trim for a guided tour of the 12th-century, twenty-sided Trim Castle, Ireland's largest and best-preserved Anglo-Norman castle. After lunch in the town, we head south to the Rock of Dunamace, which held a significant place in Ireland's medieval past. Archaeological excavations indicate that the Rock was first settled in the 9th century when a hill fort was built, and Dunamace came to prominence after the Anglo-Norman invasion in the second half of the 12th century. From here we drive to Kilkenny City, small and compact enough to explore on foot, yet full of fascinating historical buildings and contemporary shops, design galleries, and restaurants. The evening is at leisure to enjoy dinner and explore the quaint city. *Overnight at the 4-star [Kilkenny Hibernian Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L)

Thursday, September 9: Kilkenny: Kilkenny Castle, Medieval Mile Museum | Kells Priory | Kilkenny

This morning visit one of Ireland's most instantly recognized buildings, Kilkenny Castle, built by the Anglo-Normans in the 12th century (and remodeled in Victorian times), set in extensive parklands. Also explore the excellent Medieval Mile Museum, in the heart of the medieval city. After an independent lunch we reconvene to travel the short distance to the 12th-century Kells Priory, one of Ireland's largest medieval monuments. The most impressive features of the Augustinian priory are the tower houses and enclosing walls (of an area just over three acres) that give the priory the appearance more of a fortress than of a monastery. Return to Kilkenny where we enjoy a lecture this evening by Prof. Muiris O'Sullivan, former Chair of Archaeology at University College Dublin. (B,D)

Friday, September 10: Knockroe | Kilmogue portal dolmen | Waterford | Hook Lighthouse | New Ross

This morning we visit Knockroe, a lesser-known but highly important Neolithic passage tomb, in the company of Prof. Muiris O'Sullivan who

"I've traveled in Japan, Israel, and Europe, and I've lived overseas. There have been many wonderful trips, but this was the best...Dr. Mandal's extraordinary mix of personal, scholarly, and leadership gifts was central."

- Victoria, Kansas



Irish National Heritage Park



excavated the site. Also visit the impressive Kilmogue portal dolmen (single-chamber megalithic tomb) before continuing on to the Viking town of Waterford, where we visit Reginald's Tower, the oldest civic building in Ireland (in continuous use for more than 800 years), and its permanent exhibition on the treasures of Viking Waterford. After lunch we continue to the Hook Peninsula, in the southeast corner of Ireland, where we find the Hook Lighthouse, the oldest operational lighthouse in the world (at over 800 years old), in a dramatic setting. End the day with a drive to the town of New Ross, and settle in to our hotel before dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [Brandon House Hotel](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 11: Ferrycarrig: Irish National Heritage Park, Carrick Ringwork excavation | New Ross

Today travel a short distance to the Irish National Heritage Park in Ferrycarrig, a 35-acre, open-air museum that depicts 9,000 years of Irish history, from the prehistoric through Norman periods, and features various structures typical of each period. Enjoy a lunch cooked using a *fulacht fiadh* ("burnt mound"), a style of open-air cooking place that dates to the Bronze Age. Afterward we visit the "Digging the Lost Town of Carrig Project," where archaeological research and teaching excavations at the Carrick ringwork are being conducted by the Irish Archaeology Field School. Learn firsthand about the latest discoveries from your host, Stephen Mandal, and his co-director Dr. Denis Shine. Return to New Ross, where dinner and the evening are at leisure. (B,L)

Sunday, September 12: Glendalough | Killiney, Dublin | Farewell dinner

Depart New Ross and head north, crossing the Wicklow Mountains to the iconic, 7th-century monastery at Glendalough, set in a beautiful U-shaped glacial valley at the side of a lake. Visit the wonderful interpretive center and explore the monastery's ruins. Continue to our hotel in a coastal suburb on the south side of Dublin for a relaxing final night and farewell dinner. *Overnight at the 4-star [Fitzpatrick Castle Dublin](#).* (B,L,D)

Monday, September 13: Fly home
Transfer to Dublin Airport (DUB) for independent flights homeward. (B)

"Both guides showed superb knowledge, enthusiasm, and care for making each event a good experience. The sites were extremely well chosen and provided a good variety of experiences and educational opportunities."

- Adair, Illinois



Students excavating the Carrick ringwork



Giant's Causeway

What to Expect

This unique itinerary has been carefully planned to include eastern Ireland's most important archaeological and historical sites. The program is paced to optimize time at each site and to limit travel between destinations. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand, and discuss whether or not the program is appropriate for you. Accommodations (ten nights in 4-star and two nights in 3-star hotels) are chosen for their charm and proximity to the sites we visit. A full Irish breakfast is included each morning. For the few lunches and dinners on your own, there are fine restaurants conveniently located nearby, and our tour manager and co-guide Lisanne O'Loughlin will be available to offer suggestions and assist with your arrangements. Average temperatures in September range from the mid 60s F during the day to the mid 40s F at night, with a fair chance of precipitation. Our office will provide you with comprehensive pre-departure information, including packing suggestions, and is available to assist you in preparing for your journey.

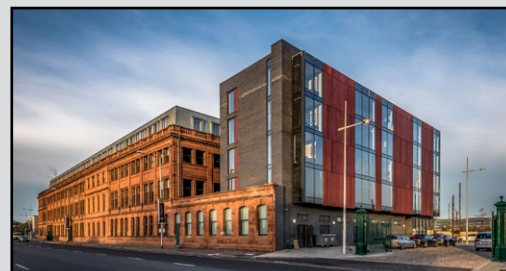
Air Arrangements & Transfers

Airfare to/from Dublin Airport (DUB) is not included in the tour cost. Group airport transfers (times TBD) are provided upon arrival on September 1st and departure on September 13th. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking your flights before this time, please contact AIA Tours first. *We do not accept liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

Accommodations



Two nights at the 4-star [Herbert Park Hotel](#) in Dublin



Three nights at the 4-star [Titanic Hotel](#) in Belfast



Two nights at the 3-star [Conyngham Arms Hotel](#) in Slane



Two nights at the 4-star [Kilkenny Hibernian Hotel](#) in Kilkenny



Two nights at the 4-star [Brandon House Hotel](#) in New Ross



One night at the 4-star [Fitzpatrick Castle Dublin](#) in Killiney



© Christian B.

Tour Prices Per Person (12 Nights)

Double Occupancy (10-12 participants)\$7,945

Single Supplement.....\$1,145

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability). With fewer than 10 participants, a small group surcharge may be added.

PRICES INCLUDE:

- Leadership of **AIA Lecturer & Host Dr. Stephen Mandal**, guest speakers, and a professional, **local tour manager/guide** throughout
- **Accommodations in 3- and 4-star hotels** as indicated in the itinerary
- **Most meals included:** twelve breakfasts, eight lunches, and eight dinners
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as indicated in the itinerary, weather permitting
- **All entrance fees** to sites included in the itinerary
- Surface transportation by **air-conditioned motorcoach, including bottled water and hand sanitizer**, parking fees, highway tolls, and local taxes
- **Baggage handling** (one bag per person)
- **Gratuities** to the lecturer, tour manager/guide, hotel and restaurant staff, porters, and drivers
- **Group airport transfers** (times TBD) on program arrival and departure dates
- **Complete pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading guide and packing suggestions

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; inoculation fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; meals, alcoholic or other beverages, except as noted; taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 90 days prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$250 per person. Cancellations received between 89 and 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "EOS-Passenger Account-AIA EastIreland8/21." Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure and must be by check only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

Note: Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leaders are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at www.aiatours.org.

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For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:

800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | aia@studytours.org | www.aiatours.org

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608



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*"The tour leaders were excellent,
knowledgeable and so willing to share.
They were like travelling with friends."*

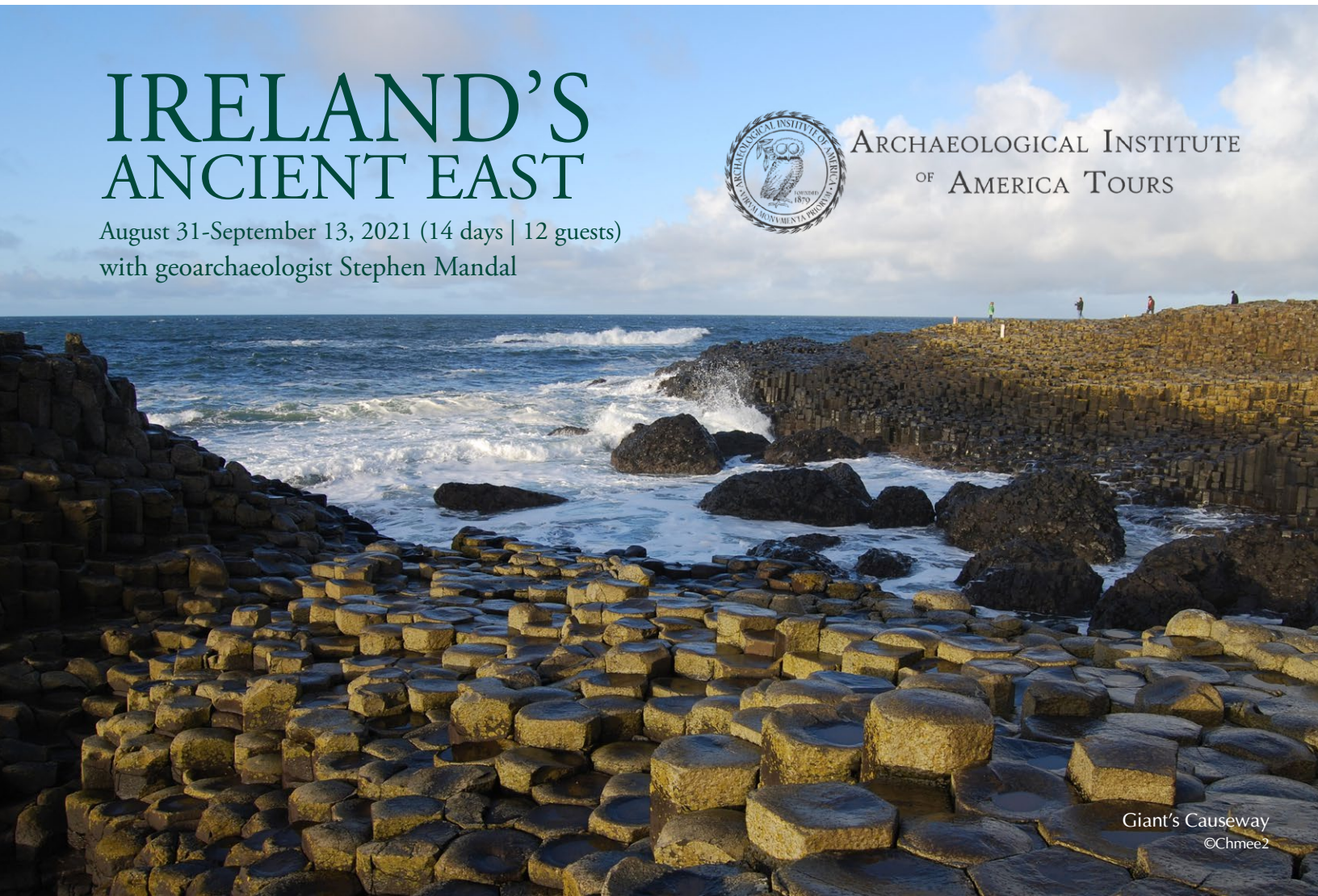
– Henry, Kentucky

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Giant's Causeway
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RESERVATION FORM

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

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To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.

Name 1
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2
(as it appears on passport)

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s) |

☐ I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, _____

How did you hear about this tour? ☐ eNewsletter ☐ mailing ☐ website ☐ friends/family ☐ other _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

☐ Double (one bed) ☐ Twin (two beds) ☐ Single

☐ I will be sharing with: _____ ☐ Share-please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)
☐ Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. You will receive an invoice for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (please check one):

☐ Check payable to: EOS Passenger Account-AIA EastIreland8/21 ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express ☐ Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date 3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, sign the release statement below, enclose your deposit, and "submit" by email, mail, or fax to:

AIA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

If submitting this form electronically, please check the following box:

☐ I understand that checking this box constitutes a legal signature confirming that I acknowledge and agree to the Terms & Conditions.

Signature (participant #1) Time and Date

Signature (participant #2) Time and Date

Submit via email

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In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancels the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **RATES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of printing and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT: By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Agreement.