



Rock of Cashel © Heritage Ireland

# Travelling Surgical Society of Great Britain and Ireland tour to Cork, Ireland

19 – 26 May 2023



Jon Baines  
tours



Kinsale (top); Blarney Castle (below)

**The South-West of Ireland is one of the Emerald Isle's most popular regions to visit and known for its luscious green vistas, coastal villages, towns and the charming locals. This year's annual TSS tour will explore Cork, Ireland's second largest city, the gourmet capital of Ireland and frequently referred to by locals as 'the real capital of Ireland'.**

The professional programme will include a visit to Mercy Hospital - a teaching hospital affiliated with the University College Cork - to see the new operating theatre, and a city medical school. Alongside a full day academic meeting, a morning has been allocated for the annual TSS meeting. There will be a reception and three course formal dinner at the stylish Look-Out, River Lee. with local surgeons in attendance towards the end of the week.



**'There is a stone there, that whoever kisses, OH! He never misses, to grow eloquent'.**



## Day 1: Cork (Fri, 19 May) **D**

**Pm:** Arrive in Cork and transfer to the Montenotte Hotel. The afternoon is at leisure while the group arrives.

**Eve:** Dinner at the Montenotte Hotel with its fantastic views of the city and harbour.

## Day 2: Cork (Sat, 20 May) **B L**

**Am:** Take an orientation tour of Cork with a visit to the iconic English market, famously visited by the late Queen Elizabeth as part of her state visit in 2011. Wander through scores of vendors selling the region's best local produce and admire the ornate vaulted ceilings and columns.

**Pm:** After lunch at the market, head to the University College Cork, currently ranked in the top 1.1% of universities in the world, with an impressive history stretching back over 170 years. Hear historic tales from JP Quinn, one of the most well-known faces in UCC. JP will take you back to 1845 through a timeline of the college's medical history.

## Day 3: Cork (Sun, 21 May) **B L**

**Am:** **Surgeons on professional visit – Mercy Hospital. New theatre visit (1 hour)**  
Partner programme: short walking to Shandon Bells and the Crawford Art gallery. Whilst surgeons visit the Mercy Hospital, partners will enjoy a short walking tour from the hospital to Shandon Bells and the Crawford Art Gallery, one of the national galleries of Ireland.

**Pm:** After lunch, visit the almost 200-year-old Jameson Distillery to learn about the process of creating whiskey, with tastings of Irish premium whiskey.

**Eve:** Enjoy a special private screening at the Montenotte's own luxury Cameo Cinema, featuring state-of-the-art technology.

## Day 4: Cork / Cashel (Mon, 22 May) **B L**

**Am:** **Medical school visit (1-2 hours)**  
Partners at leisure. Reconvene to travel from Cork to Blarney, pausing to kiss the Blarney Stone where allegedly you will acquire Irish charm and the skills of flattery

The Regency Mansion of Fota House



and persuasion. Visit Blarney Castle and the Blarney Woollen Mills.

**Pm:** Travel to neighbouring Cashel for lunch at Cashel's famous Mickey Ryan's restaurant; legend has it that the original hops plant used to make Guinness came from the restaurant garden and the back of the building once housed a snuff factory. Gain fascinating insight into Ireland's past during a visit to the Rock of Cashel, one of Ireland's most spectacular historic sights. For more than 1000 years the Rock of Cashel was a symbol of power and the seat of kings and churchmen who ruled over the region. Enjoy optional drinks at Cashel Palace and return to the hotel via the Vee, a spectacular drive with stunning views (time permitting.)

#### Day 5: Kinsale (Tues, 23 May)

**B L**

**Am:** Visit the picturesque yachting harbour of Kinsale, known as the gourmet centre of south-west Ireland. Take a tour through Kinsale's unique brightly coloured buildings and learn its history.

**Pm:** After lunch, travel back to Cork via the Joseph Walsh Studio, a design studio, workshop, gallery and archive, set within an 18th-century farmhouse.

#### Day 6: Cork (Wed, 24 May)

**B D**

**Am:** Full Day Academic Meeting

Partner Programme: visit Fota House, a Regency mansion. Experience the opulence of its gorgeous interiors and learn about the lives once lived in this Regency mansion. Take a walk in the tranquil adjoining arboretum and gardens to see rare plants and learn about their history, conservation, and development.

**Pm:** Academic Meeting

Partner Programme: visit the harbour town of Cobh to learn of its fascinating seafaring history at The Titanic Experience.

**Eve:** Reconvene in the evening and join local surgeons for a reception and three-course formal dinner at the stylish Look Out Room at The River Lee.

#### Day 7: Cork (Thurs, 25 May)

**B D**

**Am/Pm:** The TSS annual meeting will be held on the morning of the final full day within the hotel. The remainder of the day will be at leisure.

**Eve:** A farewell barbeque will be held in the evening at the Montenotte Hotel's impressive Glasshouse rooftop bar. The tour will end after breakfast the following day.

#### Day 8: Cork (Fri, 26 May)

**B**

**Am:** Check out after breakfast and transfer to airport / station.



English market



Montenotte Hotel (top); The private Cameo Cinema at the Montenotte Hotel (below)

## Hotel

During your tour you will stay at the **Montenotte Hotel, Cork**. This independent family-owned hotel is situated in the heart of Cork with fantastic views of the city and harbour, with an on-site Health Club & Spa. Built within a former 18th Century residence of a Merchant, the hotel has a rich heritage that has been preserved throughout the years with a contemporary twist. The Montenotte is a member of Small Luxury Hotels of the World (SLH).



**The cost of the tour per sharing is £2,088 per person.**  
**The cost of the tour with a room to yourself is £2,548**

### **The cost includes:**

- 7 nights' accommodation in the Montenotte Hotel, Cork.
- Meals as per the itinerary
- Drinks packages included for dinner on Wednesday 24 May
- English speaking guide throughout
- All transport within the tour
- Full programme of cultural visits throughout and admission fees where applicable
- Partner Programme

### **The cost excludes:**

- International flights and airport transfers
- All personal extras such as portorage, laundry, inoculation fees, drink not included with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Travel insurance
- Tips

**Please contact us if you require additional nights before or after the tour in Dublin.**

### **Flights**

Flights are not included in the cost of the tour, but we can assist in booking them.

On arrival, you can take a taxi from the airport to hotel, or alternatively we can arrange private transfers.

# About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.

All the flights and flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to:  
[www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate)

**Jon Baines Tours (London)**  
Hyde Park House, 5 Manfred Road,  
London, SW15 2RS  
Tel: +44 (0) 207 223 9485 / 5618  
Email: [info@jonbainestours.co.uk](mailto:info@jonbainestours.co.uk)  
[www.jonbainestours.co.uk](http://www.jonbainestours.co.uk)

**Jon Baines Tours (Melbourne)**  
PO Box 68, South Brunswick,  
Victoria 3055  
Tel: +61 (0) 3 9343 6367  
Fax: +61 (0) 3 9012 4228  
Email: [info@jonbainestours.com.au](mailto:info@jonbainestours.com.au)  
[www.jonbainestours.com](http://www.jonbainestours.com)



Cobh Cathedral (top); Jameson Distillery;  
Traditional Irish music (above)



Jon Baines  
tours

