MHT’s 1916 100th Year Anniversary
“The Rising” Tour of Ireland

25 March—4 April 2016
Tour Leader: Col Dave Wall USMCR (Ret)

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Ireland Itinerary

March 25 - Depart the US on your overnight flight.

March 26 – Arrive at Dublin Airport. Meet your driver/guide in the arrivals hall for a transfer to your hotel. *(Times to be decided. Consult with MHT)* This afternoon we will attend a Remembrance Ceremony *(Time not yet known)* for all those who died during the events of 1916. This event will be held at the Garden of Remembrance and will include Irish music and poetry. This evening we will have dinner at your hotel. **Overnight: Davenport Hotel (B, D)**

March 27 – Today we will attend the State Ceremonies of Remembrance. These events will include the reading of the Irish Proclamation of Independence by an Army Officer, the laying of a wreath by the Irish President, a full military parade from Dublin Castle to Parnell Square and an Air Corp fly past. Later this afternoon there will be time to explore Dublin on our own and dine out in one of the city’s many fine pubs or restaurants. **Overnight: Davenport Hotel (B)**

March 28 – This morning after breakfast meet with a local guide for a tour of Dublin. See elegant Georgian squares and houses, buildings of historical importance including The Bank of Ireland at College Green and Dublin Castle as well as sites of importance during the Rising. Our first stop will be at Kilmainham Gaol one of the largest unoccupied gaols in Europe, covering some of the most heroic and tragic events in Ireland’s emergence as a modern nation from 1780s to the 1920s. Kilmainham has a unique place in Irish History and was where for more than 100 years those who fought against the English occupation of Ireland were imprisoned. We will leave this tour with a much deeper understanding of the often complex forces which shaped the Irish nation. Later this afternoon we will visit Glasnevin Cemetery & Museum, guardians and storytellers for over 1.5 million people. From the ordinary to the truly extraordinary, these people helped shape the Ireland of today. Dinner on our own this evening. **Overnight: Davenport Hotel (B)**

Don’t do 1/2 of Ireland as MHT takes you to all of Ireland with our Expert Tour Partners:

**Price:** $3,095 Now $2,695

**Prices Based On Double Occupancy (BODO)**

**Single Room Supplement:** $575 (depending on availability)

**Tour Price Includes:**
- 9 Nights First Class Hotels (4 nights Davenport Hotel, Dublin—2 nights Europa Hotel, Belfast—2 nights City Hotel, Derry—1 night Trim Castle Hotel)
- Meals as listed in itinerary 9 Breakfasts/1 Lunch/4 Dinners1 evening of dinner and entertainment at the Brazen Head Pub
- Emergency Medical, Evacuation, Repatriation, and baggage insurance included in each tour
- Porterage of one suitcase per person
- Coach with professional driver/guide per itinerary
- Transfers on arrival & departure by private coach
- Admission fees to all sites, museums and special attractions listed
- Services of experienced Tour Directors and knowledgeable local guides
- All local sales taxes & Hotel service charges

Not included in tour: Trip Cancellation & Gratuities.

Airfare not included: Book Optional MHT Airfare: Round-trip economy or business class airfare from your

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Our Irish Tour Highlights...Remembrance Ceremonies for the 1916 Rising, local guide in Dublin, Kilmainham Gaol, Glasnevin Cemetery & Museum, Trinity College, Bru Na Boinne Visitor Center and tour of Newgrange, Titanic Belfast, local guide in Belfast, Giants Causeway, Derry WWII Sites, guide in Derry, & Ulster American Folk Park.

**Beech Hill Country House, Derry**

Beech Hill where the U.S. Marines were housed in Derry (1942-44) in over a hundred Quonset Huts on the surrounding grounds. Today one of these iconic WWII buildings remains on site as well as numerous bases.
March 29 – Today visit Trinity College, one of the oldest centers of learning, dating to the 16th century. See the Book of Kells, an ancient manuscript created by Irish monks. Next board our coach to visit the Guinness Storehouse where we will explore exhibits with over 250 years of creative history. Our tour ends in the Gravity Bar with a pint of Guinness and a 360 degree view of Dublin. This evening travel a short distance on our coach for an evening at one of Dublin’s oldest Pubs. Dinner with traditional Irish entertainment at the Brazen Head Pub. Overnight: Davenport Hotel (B, D)

March 30 – Travel north into the Boyne Valley to the Brú Na Bóinne Visitor Center where we will learn about the fascinating Megalithic Passage Tombs of Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth. Tour Newgrange a UNESCO designated World Heritage Site and see how primitive people managed to align huge boulders precisely with the movements of the sun. Arrive in Belfast in the late afternoon. Enjoy some time at leisure before joining your fellow travelers for dinner at your hotel. After dinner you may wish to visit the Crown Bar a restored national landmark located close to your hotel. The bar is a unique visual gem, a veritable masterpiece in bar architecture dating back to the 1826. Overnight: Europa Hotel, Belfast (B, D)

March 31 – This morning we will visit Titanic Belfast. It is located in the heart of Belfast, on the slipways where RMS Titanic was built. Inside this iconic building, visitors will re-live the entire Titanic story from her birth in Belfast to the fateful maiden voyage and her eventual discovery on the seabed. After lunch we will meet a local guide for a tour of Belfast, the vibrant capital of Northern Ireland, we will see Victorian buildings, the imposing City Hall in Donegall Square and learn about the diverse history of this ancient city. Some free time this afternoon for independent exploration. Dinner on our own. Overnight: Europa Hotel, Belfast (B)

April 1 – After breakfast Journey along the spectacular “Nine Glens of Antrim” with mountains on one side and coastline on the other. A brief photo stop at the Carrick-a-Reede Rope Bridge, originally constructed as a fisherman’s crossing. Next stop is the Giant’s Causeway. After a short audiovisual presentation, walk along the cliff tops to view the spectacular hexagonal rock columns formed by nature 60 million years ago. Legends about giants abound, especially Finn McCool, a hardy Ulster hero. Arrive in Derry in the late afternoon and take a walking tour of the old walled city. Meet your fellow traveler for dinner at our hotel. Overnight: City Hotel, Derry (B, D)

April 2 - This morning, we tour Beech Hill Country House where the Marine Provisional Battalion was housed in Quonset Huts around the grounds and a tour of the museum & grounds including the Marine Corps Memorial. After lunch at Beech Hill, we see where the U.S. Navy operated over 140 Destroyer Escorts to support the Battle of the Atlantic including a trip to the Navy Memorial near the Peace Bridge downtown. Tonight we have a chance to enjoy Derry’s nightlife from our centrally located hotel. Dinner on own. Overnight: City Hotel, Derry (B, L)

April 3 - After breakfast board our motorcoach to visit the Ulster American Folk Park, an outdoor museum of cottages, including that of Thomas Mellon's ancestors. See traditional cottages and displays of rural Irish life together with portrayals of the Atlantic crossing to the United States and the life of early Appalachian settlers, the “Ulster Irish” who played a major role in the American Revolution. Travel south to the lovely town of Trim. Our hotel is situated in the shadow of the very impressive Trim Castle which was featured in the film “Braveheart” and is only 45 minutes from the Airport. Overnight: Trim Castle Hotel, Trim (B, D)
April 4 – After breakfast we say goodbye to our Irish Adventure and travel to Dublin Airport for your return flight to the USA. (B)

No Shore Patrol with MHT in Derry this trip!