



Dublin: Historic Irish Gardens & Estates

Featuring Bloom 2023 & Exclusive Castle Retreat

with Steve Foltz, Director of Horticulture

May 31 – June 7, 2023

Be One of the First to Meet the Elephants Coming to Cincinnati!

HIGHLIGHTS

SAVOR a luxurious night in an exclusive countryside castle retreat (to be announced), where we will gather for an elegant dinner

ENJOY a full-day exclusive immersion in Bloom, Ireland's largest festival for flowers, gardens, food, and drink, where we will peruse dozens of show gardens from Ireland's preeminent garden designers and an abundance of flowers in magnificent nurseries

TAKE an exclusive visit to the Dublin Zoo, where you will meet our friend Gerry Creighton and other Zoo staff who will give you a guided tour of its world-class facilities, and be one of the first to meet the Dublin Elephants coming to the brand-new elephant exhibit, the Elephant Trek, at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

JOIN the owners at some of Ireland's most majestic estates and gardens, who will lead us through their beautifully landscaped properties, including a 350-year-old family-owned castle, a sculpture garden blending art with sustainable practices, and the 18th-century Russborough House, where we'll enjoy lunch in the gardens

DELIGHT in a behind-the-scenes tour of the Edwardian-style Farmleigh House, former residence of the Guinness family, followed by an exclusive "Connoisseur Experience" at the Guinness Storehouse.

REVEL in a festive dinner and a private performance of traditional Irish music from gifted local musicians

TRAVELING WITH YOU



Stephen Foltz, Director of Horticulture at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, has been with the Zoo for 29 years. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture. For the past 25 years, Steve has taught the woody landscape plant classes at both Cincinnati State and at the University of Cincinnati. He has been a member of the Ohio Plant

Selection Committee and is one of the original members of the Theodore Klein Plant Awards Committee in Kentucky since its inception in 1995. Steve is also a board member of the International Plant Propagators Society, Eastern Region, and was honored with the 2016 Distinguished Contribution Award from the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association.

Front cover: Farmleigh House. This page: Dublin



Dear Members and Friends of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden,

In May 2023, join me on a thrilling journey to the Emerald Isle. This exclusive six-night program will introduce us to the gardens, architecture, and culture in Dublin and its picturesque surrounding countryside. I am excited for us to go behind the scenes of the elegant private gardens and historic manor homes that make Ireland such a magical destination. Owners at a 350-year-old castle, an eco-friendly sculpture garden, and an art-filled 18th-century home will open up their estates and gardens to us for guided tours.

In Dublin, we will have special full-day access to the marvelous floral displays and exquisite food exhibits at Bloom 2023, Ireland's answer to the Chelsea Flower Show. Later, experts at the Dublin Zoo will give us an inside look at their facilities when they are closed to the public. You will be one of the first to see their elephants who will be making their way to our new Elephant Trek enclosure in late 2023 or early 2024!

I am delighted to share that our program will conclude with a luxurious night in a countryside castle retreat. Along the way, we will learn how to "pull" the perfect pint on an exclusive visit to the Guinness Storehouse, taste Irish whisky, dance to traditional music, and meet local farmers and gardeners who will offer rich insights on their craft.

There are more than 50 shades of green attributed to Ireland, and we'll definitely see many of them on this enchanting trip. I hope will you join me for this sumptuous, deeply enriching experience in this captivating country.

Sincerely,

Stephen Foltz
Director of Horticulture
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Farmleigh House, Dublin



Dublin: Historic Irish Gardens & Estates

Featuring Bloom 2023 & Exclusive Castle Retreat

May 31 – June 7, 2023



Bloom Festival, Dublin



Dublin Zoo

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31: DEPARTURE

Depart on an overnight flight to Dublin.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1: DUBLIN, IRELAND

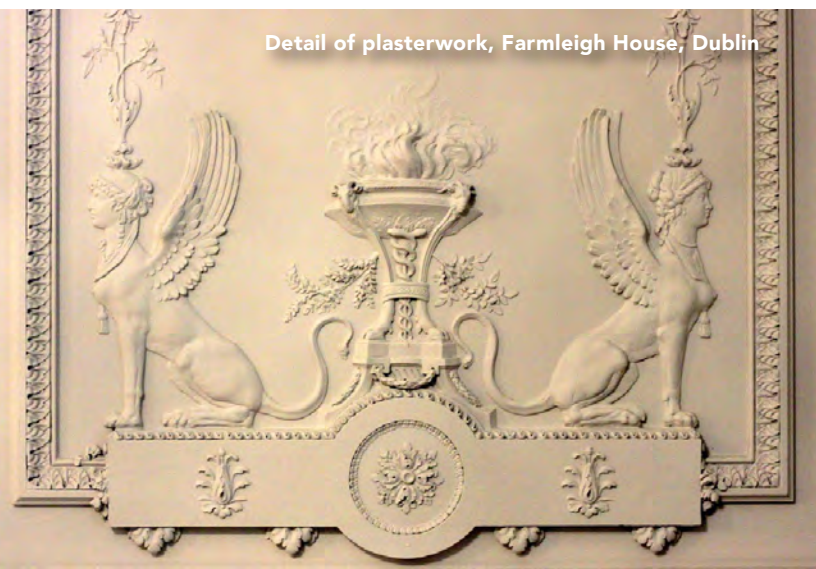
After arrival at Dublin Airport, transfer to the Dublin city center. Enjoy a short panoramic city tour along the River Liffey. Discover striking monuments such as the 19th-century, Georgian-style General Post Office; the neoclassical Custom House, completed in 1791; and Phoenix Park, the largest public park in Europe. On the south side of the river, delight in the sophistication of Dublin's vast Georgian squares, such as Merrion Square, site of the Oscar Wilde House, the writer's childhood residence and now home to American College Dublin. You will also see the revitalized shopping thoroughfare Grafton Street, with its stylish boutiques and stores. Check into your hotel and enjoy a welcome lunch. Then, admire this splendid city the way it was meant to be seen—by foot, with a focus on Dublin's gastronomical delights. The evening is free to enjoy as you please. B,L

FRIDAY, JUNE 2: DUBLIN

Today is devoted to Bloom, Ireland's largest garden and lifestyle festival, hosted in Phoenix Park. After a brief orientation tour, you will have free rein to indulge in this celebration of Irish horticulture, food, and drink. Throughout your day at the festival, you will learn more about everything from gardening, to growing fruit and vegetables, cooking, and culture. We will gather later and return to the hotel. This evening, enjoy a welcome cocktail party and dinner. B,D

SATURDAY, JUNE 3: DUBLIN

Rise this morning for a private visit to the Dublin Zoo, which opened its gates in 1831. Today, Dublin Zoo covers 28 hectares and attracts more than one million visitors a year, making it Ireland's most popular family attraction. When the zoo is closed to the public, meet with key staff members to discuss conservation and how Dublin Zoo works with local communities to educate schools, youth groups, and after-school groups about wildlife and the environment. Then, visit Farnleigh House, a private Edwardian mansion that was once home to the Guinness family. Enjoy an exclusive guided tour of this historic house that also serves as an official Irish State guest house for visiting dignitaries. Return to Dublin this afternoon for a behind-the-scenes visit to the Guinness Storehouse, where you will learn to pour the perfect pint during an exclusive "Connoisseur Experience." Dinner is at leisure. B,L



Detail of plasterwork, Farnleigh House, Dublin



Guinness Storehouse, Dublin



Russborough House, County Wicklow

SUNDAY, JUNE 4: DUBLIN / COUNTY WESTMEATH

This morning, depart Dublin for County Westmeath. Experience a private tour of a beautiful castle and gardens dating back over 350 years, originally occupied by the Earls of Longford in the 17th century. Today, this estate serves as the family home for three generations and features beautiful gardens and magnificent parklands. Stroll through its walled Flower Garden and Chinese Garden. Our private tour will be led by the estate's current owner, a passionate gardener and a writer of historical books and, more recently, about trees. Lunch will be included as part of your visit. Return to Dublin via County Meath. Enjoy a visit to a unique whiskey distillery to learn all about their family traditions and unique distilling processes. Savor a special tasting before returning to your hotel. This evening is at leisure. B,L



Tullynally Castle Gardens, County Westmeath

MONDAY, JUNE 5: DUBLIN

Journey to the North Coast of County Dublin near the fishing village of Howth. Connect with nature and revive your soul during a visit to a privately owned sculpture eco-garden. Join the owners on an intimate tour unveiling the secrets of the space, which combines contemporary design with sustainable practices. Behold the striking creations of one of the owners, a sculptor, whose artworks are dotted around this unique place. Continue to the beautiful town of Howth to enjoy free time for lunch in one of its many seafood restaurants. Tonight, join local musicians for a private traditional Irish music experience with dinner at a local venue. B,D

TUESDAY, JUNE 6: DUBLIN / COUNTY WICKLOW

Today, travel to County Wicklow, known as the garden of Ireland. Here you will visit one of Ireland's finest stately homes, Russborough House, built in 1741. Admire remarkable plasterwork by the Francini brothers and ceilings decorated by the Lafranchini brothers. During this secret garden experience, the owners of this estate will open their doors to their beautiful home for dining and exploration in and around the gardens. Continue to your accommodations this afternoon, a beautiful castle retreat in the heart of the countryside (to be announced). Gather for a farewell dinner at the castle retreat, where you will spend the night. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7: RETURN

Depart the hotel after breakfast for the flight home. B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

ACCOMMODATIONS

THE MERRION, DUBLIN

The Merrion, located in the heart of Dublin city center, is the capital's most luxurious five-star hotel, and a proud member of The Leading Hotels of the World. An impeccable restoration of four Georgian townhouses, The Merrion is a marriage of exquisite comfort, relaxed elegance, and advanced guest facilities, including free Wi-Fi, an 18-meter pool, spa, and gym.

EXCLUSIVE CASTLE RETREAT

(to be announced)



Drawing Room, The Merrion, Dublin

PROGRAM RATE

\$5,999 per person, double rate

\$6,599 single rate

RATE INCLUDES

- Six nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at all included lunches and dinners
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Airport/hotel/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and portage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES Airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Elephants from the Dublin Zoo, coming to the new Elephant Trek enclosure at Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden



CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN DUBLIN: HISTORIC IRISH GARDENS & ESTATES MAY 31 – JUNE 7, 2023 RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please contact Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944; fax: 212-344-7493; email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Room Preference Double Twin Single (limited availability)

I wish to share a room with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*)

Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date