



Five Affordable Destinations: Europe

IRELAND

The Emerald Isle offers a world of culture, history and beautiful scenery less than six hours from Boston.

What To See and Do:

Walk in the footsteps of Joyce and other Irish literary legends in Dublin, and make a pilgrimage to the original Guinness Brewery at St. James's Gate. Experience the camaraderie and music of a traditional Irish pub. Visit one of Ireland's ubiquitous castles, some ruined, some restored. Take in the beauty of the Irish landscape firsthand, by walking the Ring of Kerry or other long-distance country hikes.

Getting there:

Non-refundable flights can usually be found for under \$500 out of high season, but major airlines often advertise special deals for less. Aer Lingus, the Irish national airline, flies direct from Boston to Shannon Airport, in western Ireland.

Getting around:

Major travel websites and airlines often offer week-long "fly-and-drive" packages, including accommodation and rental car, for a couple hundred dollars more than the airfare alone, per person. But there are plenty of budget options for travelers who can't find a good package deal, who want to stay longer, or who can't or don't want to drive on the left side of the road.

A bed in an Irish youth hostel can be had for \$30 or less, and those not travelling alone can find double rooms under \$50. An Irish Rover bus ticket offers unlimited bus travel in Ireland for any three out of eight days for around \$100, and any eight out of fifteen days for around \$200. Restaurant prices can be comparable to large U.S. cities, but grocery stores and markets are budget options.