



The Small Cruise Ship Collection

www.small-cruise-ships.com



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info@small-cruise-ships.com

RIVER SHANNON CLASSIC CRUISE

Living life at the glorious pace of the Shannon Princess really is a special vacation & the perfect way to spend time with family or friends. Barge gently through the heart of hidden Ireland, calling at pretty riverside villages, little changed through the centuries, while enjoying on board service and cuisine second to none. The Shannon Princess is all about creating a trip of a lifetime and we are happy to tailor the perfect vacation just for you. On our Classic Cruise itinerary we can also add extra activities on a pay as you go 'a la carte' basis including: golf, fishing & horse riding. Itinerary shows the SOUTHBOUND tour



ITINERARY

Sunday, Day 1 Glasson

Your magical journey begins when your barge host meets you at 3pm at our designated hotel. From there our private coach takes you to the beautiful Shannon Princess waiting for you in Quigley Marina in Glasson - 1 hour and 30 minutes from Dublin. In keeping with the ethos of the family-owned and managed Shannon Princess, you're treated to 'Cead Mile Failte' ('a hundred thousand welcomes') and enjoy a champagne reception to toast the special days ahead. There's time to relax on deck and meet up with fellow guests as you watch the world float gently by and ease into your first gourmet dinner on board.

Monday, Day 2 Glasson to Athlone

As the day begins, you take the time to enjoy an early morning stroll through the gently winding country lanes. You see for



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yourself how little the countryside has changed through the years, and that nature has gifted the river & her lakes with many treasures, including first-class fishing, abundant bird life, and incredible scenery. Then it's time to set sail on the River Shannon's 'Inner Lakes' and relax in style. You indulge in the scenery as we pass stately riverside homes, as well as some of the 365 wooded islands found on the lake. You then arrive in the lively, bustling town of Athlone in county Westmeath at the very heart of Ireland. Here you make an afternoon visit to Kilbeggan Distillery - the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world, dating back to 1757 - and discover a wealth of tradition, craftsmanship and passion for this much-loved Irish drink. You then take time to explore at your leisure, with a spot of shopping, antiquing or taking in any of the impromptu music 'sessions' at the town's local pub. We call it 'the craic' and you'll love it - just don't forget to return to the barge for your freshly-prepared gourmet dinner!

[Tuesday, Day 3 Athlone to Shannonbridge](#)

From Ireland, Land of Saints and Scholars - to our fighting history and some ghosts for good measure - today is a mixture of history and fascinating stories. After a hearty country breakfast, we descend through Athlone Lock and sail through 'The Callows' - lush grazing meadows that have not changed for 1000 years and which are now a beautiful wildflower and fauna reserve. We then moor below Clonmacnoise ruins and make a trip to the ancient burial grounds of the High Kings Tara and Connaught - a chance to step back in time and explore our rich past. You enjoy lunch on board as we cruise on to Shannonbridge - arriving at this charming little walled village which is an excellent spot for riverside walking and exploring. We then take an excursion to Leap Castle - once home to one of

America's founding Fathers - John Carroll - and reputed to be Ireland's most haunted building. There, renowned musician Sean Ryan and his family are your hosts and will show you around their historical and unu

[Wednesday, Day 4 Shannonbridge to Terryglass](#)

The Shannon Princess slowly cruises through a beautiful landscape that constantly changes - offering up rolling green hills, ivy-covered ruins, medieval garrisons and sleepy market villages. After descending Meelick Lock, we pause at the Portumna Swing Bridge which opens to welcome the Shannon Princess onto the serene Lough Derg. We will moor at the beautiful Terryglass Harbor in the quaint story-book village of Terryglass in County Tipperary. This charming hamlet has twice-won the highly-coveted national prize of 'Ireland's Tidiest Town'. We make a memorable visit to the beautiful, award-winning Birr Castle Gardens. Here rare trees and flowers, wildlife and wonderful walks meet amazing feats of science and engineering at the on-site Science Centre - home of the Great Telescope. Back on the barge you enjoy a gourmet dinner, with time afterwards to explore and sample local nightlife if you wish.

[Thursday, Day 5 Terryglass to Mountshannon](#)

This morning we leave the Shannon Princess bound for an excursion to the Walled Kitchen Gardens of Portumna Castle which dates back to the early 17th Century. We then make our way on to Galway - the lively Anglo-Norman cultural capital of Ireland and a stronghold of the Irish language. Ireland's fourth-largest city, Galway has expanded beyond its medieval core of narrow streets into a lively university town of quaint shop fronts and busy pubs. Take the time to discover it all, to browse in the colourful shops which showcase local artisan crafts - with the treat of the day being lunch at an authentic Guinness and

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Oyster Bar. Return to 'Shannon Princess' and cruise south as the sun sets on an especially beautiful portion of Lough Derg, cruising past ancient mountains and forested parks. We set course for the charming estate village of Mountshannon, perched above the Lough. A lovely place to visit, Mountshannon is renowned for its stunning scenery and pretty walks. After a gourmet dinner on board, enjoy a moonlit ramble around the village.

Friday, Day 6 Mountshannon to Killaloe

The Shannon Princess cruises through the fjord-like reaches of the River Shannon and its many islands and castles. The vast waterway carves a dramatic route through the hills and valleys of the twin towns of Killaloe and Ballina. Joined by the old bridge, both lively centres are full of art, history and foodie treats, while Killaloe is best known as the birthplace and home of Brian Boru, the 11th-century High King of Ireland. Later in the afternoon we take you back in time – on a trip to a traditional Irish handweaver's workshop and studio. Here you'll see for yourself how the beautiful fabrics of our land are created, and how these small cottage industries are meeting the future and technology. You lunch in Killaloe, then drive to beautiful Adare Manor - the former seat of the Earl of Dunraven and dating back to the 17th century. Here on the banks of the River Maigue you are treated to an impressive display of some of the world's most majestic birds of prey – including falcons, hawks, owls, and eagles. You enjoy the privilege of getting up close and personal to these magnificent creatures and experience the magic of flying some of these awe-inspiring birds freely to the glove. All while taking in the estate's magnificent walled garden, parklands and surrounding woods. Returning to the Shannon Princess, you end the day with Slainte drinks and a special

farewell dinner. Rather than bidding you good-bye, and in true Irish spirit, the crew says, 'see you soon'.

Saturday, Day 7 Killaloe

After breakfast and as your week draws to a close, you leave the Shannon Princess at Killaloe and transfer to the assigned hotel in Dublin - arriving at approximately 12 noon.

Please Note:

Please note that the above itinerary is a sample itinerary only and may operate in reverse. Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, (drought, flood, lock repair, navigation authority directives), the vessel may be forced to cruise on an alternate route. We will inform you as soon as such changes occur, and will substitute an equally interesting route.

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YOUR SHIP:

YOUR SHIP:

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:



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PRICING



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