Ireland 2017

by James C. Esten

Now sweetly lies old Ireland Emerald green beyond the foam, Awakening sweet memories, Calling the heart back home.

Driving route

Red = route to towns where we stayed

Blue = day trips



Rock of Cashel. Tower, Chapel and Cathedral. Construction dates from 1100 - 1270





Graves around the cathedral

Celtic crosses at the Rock of Cashel



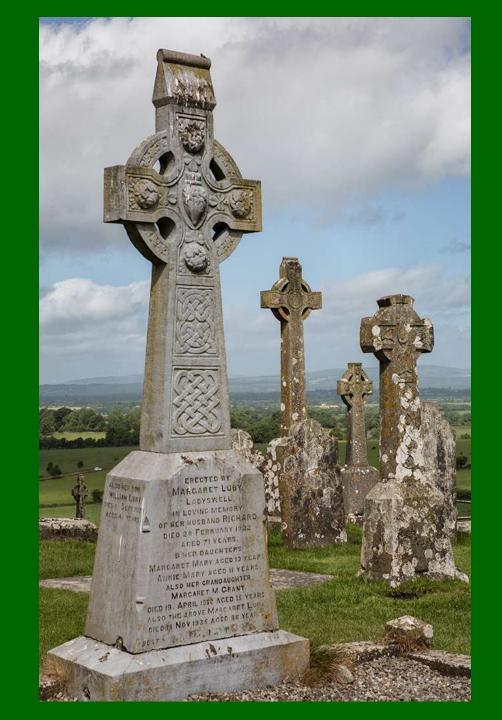














Interior detail

Cathedral







Hore Abbey, as seen from the Rock of Cashel



Rental house in Kenmare, with friends Mike and Mary Erickson



View from the porch to Kenmare Bay – 40 shades of green





Chaffinch

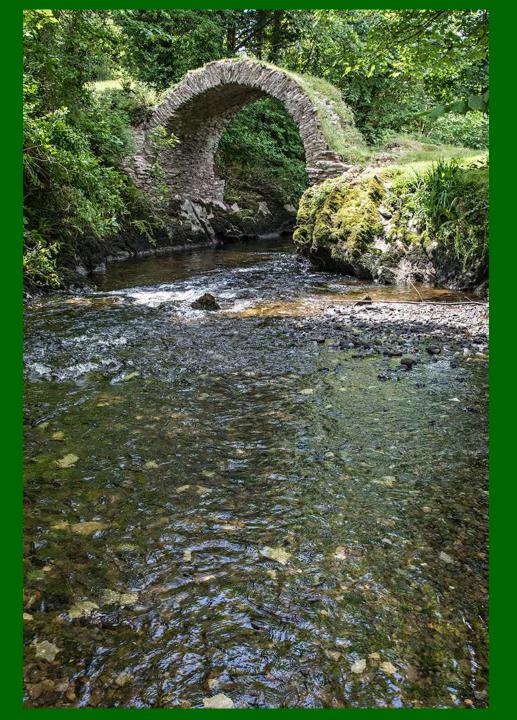


Kenmare

Kenmare



Cromwell's bridge. Perhaps dates from the 11th century. Not named for the genocidal Oliver Cromwell.





The Kenmare Stone Circle

Live music at the Coachmans in Kenmare



Tea and scones at the lovely Park Hotel





Kenmare



Live music at Molly Gallivan's Cottage in Kenmare.







Foxglove grows prolifically in Ireland

Sunrise from the house rental







European Robin





In Gortgarriff, on the Ring of Beara. Interesting that after the church fell into disrepair, people were buried inside the walls.



Gortgarriff

Eyeries, on the Ring of Beara



Eyeries







Bronze age stone circle at Bonane Heritage Park near Kenmare



Overgrown remains of a Famine Ruin, a farmhouse from which tenants were evicted because the potato crop failed due to the potato blight of the late 1840s. The owner would have destroyed the house to prevent the tenants from moving back in. Bonane Heritage Park.



A fairy house at Bonane Heritage Park. Of course it's real.



Countryside on the Ring of Kerry



Kerry Cliffs, Portmagee, on the Ring of Kerry





Kerry Cliffs



Kestrel hovering in high winds at the Kerry Cliffs



The Glanleam Standing Stone and the Valentia Island Lighthouse.



View from the Valentia Island lighthouse



View west to the Atlantic from the Skellig Ring Karen on Staigue Fort which is remarkably intact after 1700 years or so.



Fuchsia grows wild in Ireland





Killarney National Park Torc Falls Killarney National Park





Dingle



Dingle

Concert of Celtic music in Dingle



At the western edge of the Dingle Peninsula



Dingle Harbor





Cliffs of Moher



Cliffs of Moher



Galway







The Galway Street Band











Rossaveal harbor



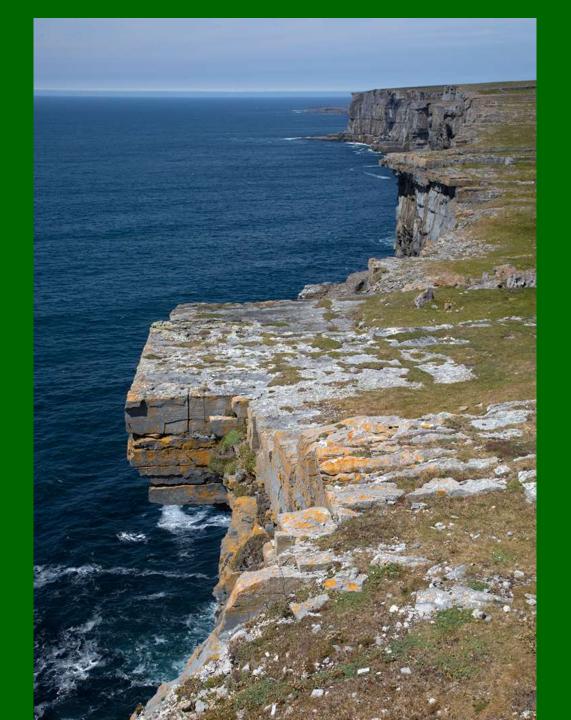
Jackdaw on a thatch roof

Inishmore Island



Typical geology of the area called the Burren, which includes Inishmore

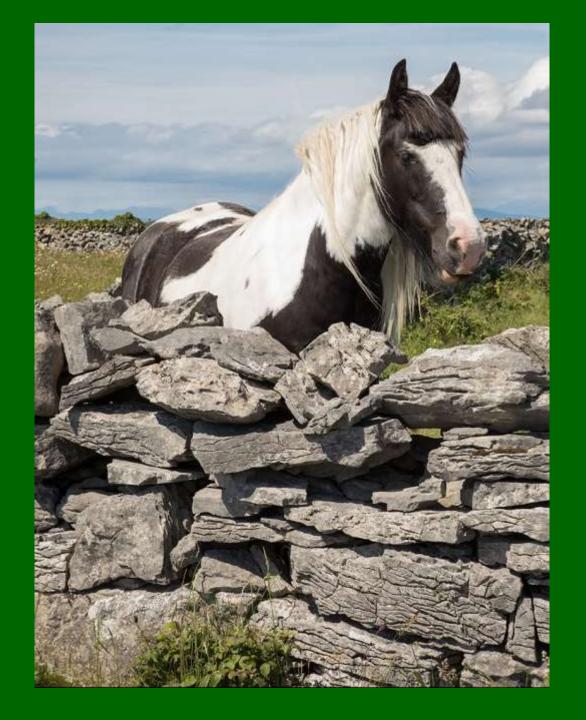




Inishmore

Dun Angus fort on Inishmore, initial construction 1100 BC









Actually this was Mike's Guiness. Karen just wanted to make her kids jealous.



Derryclare Lough





Roundstone





Roundstone



Roundstone

Peat, cut and stacked for drying

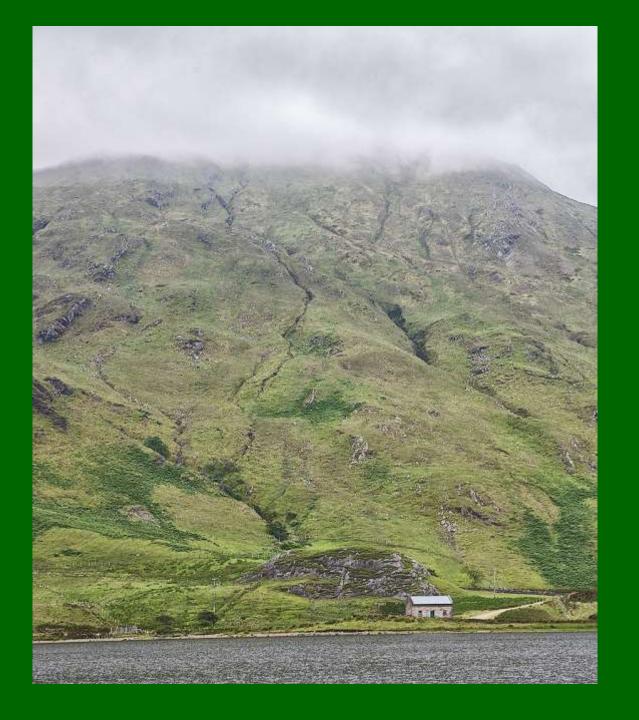


Connamara Pony colt



Kylemore Abbey

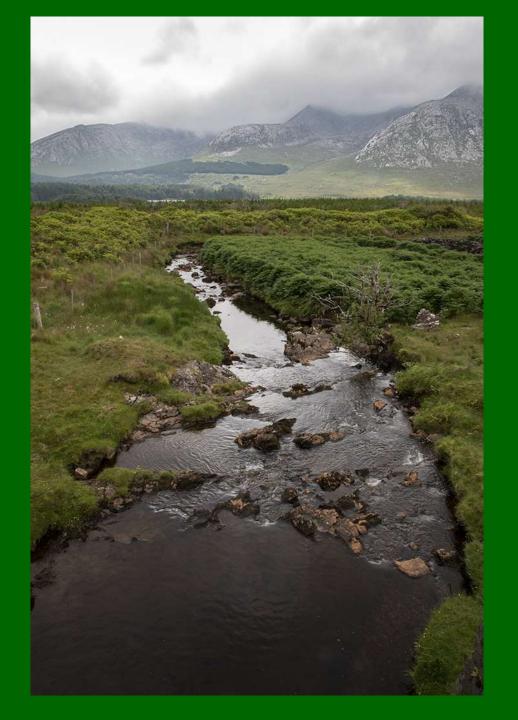




Connnamara Landscape

Derelict homes are a common sight.





Connamara Landscape

Glendalough monastary



Glendalough monastary



Scenery at Glendalough



Lower Lake at Glendalough



I'm pretty sure faeries live here.



Clonmacnoise Monastery





Clonmacnoise Monastery, on the river Shannon

Dublin, Trinity College



Library, Trinity College





Library, Trinity College

Dublin Ha'penny Bridge



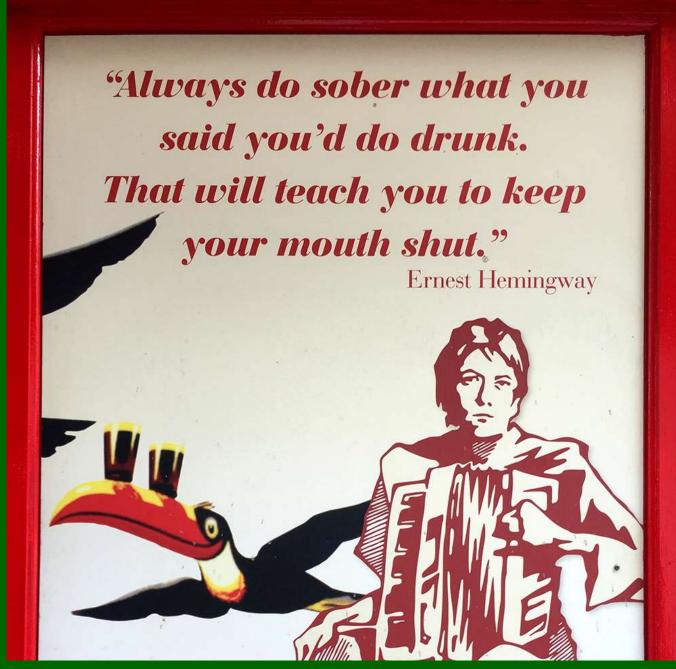
You know you're in a wet climate when you see Jupiter's Beard growing out of walls. A common sight.







Dublin









Dublin – cheap gallery space





Dublin



"Famine"

sculpture in St. Stephen' Green

Powerscourt Estate and Gardens in the Wicklow Mountains



Powerscourt Estate and Gardens



Powerscourt Gardens





Powerscourt Gardens



Howth, northeast of Dublin. Our final lodging rental.





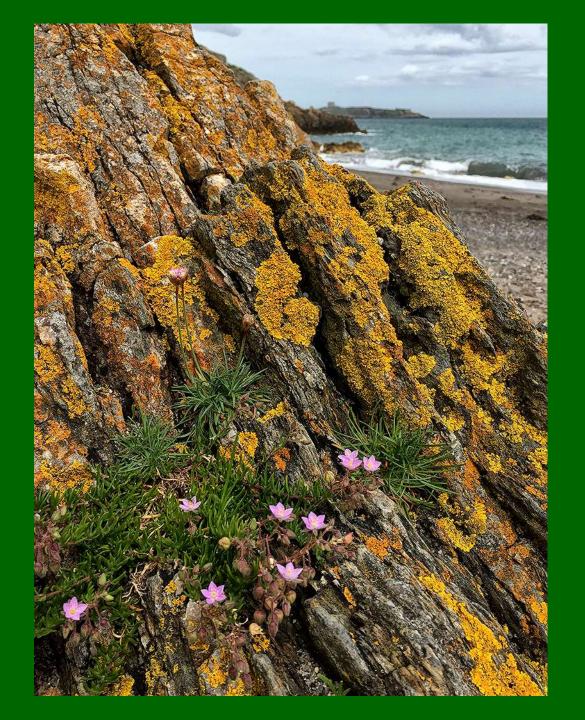
Howth



Howth Abbey

Herring Gull





by the Irish Sea