GENERAL INFORMATION AND TOUR CONDITIONS

Price: The cost of this tour is $2199.00 for members and $2399.00 for non-members. A non-refundable deposit of $400.00 is required to make a reservation on this tour. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payments may be made to the World Affairs Council by cash, check or credit card. Tour cost is based on a minimum of 20 paying passengers. If number of tour participants drops below the minimum number (20), a price adjustment may be necessary.

Transportation: Via jet economy service from Charlotte to Dublin, roundtrip, on scheduled service on Continental Airlines. Tickets cannot be changed once issued. Deviations/stopovers and upgrades are permitted subject to availability and may require additional charge. All deviation requests must be made in writing to Knight Travel.

Not included: Passport fees; items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, laundry, meals and beverages other than those specified as being included; tips to the motor coach driver/guide; sightseeing and entrance fees not specified as included.

Insurance: Trip cancellation/Medical and Emergency Evacuation Insurance is available and IS RECOMMENDED. By special arrangement, with Travelex Insurance, a non-age specific comprehensive group policy is available for this group. Retail travel insurance packages are also available and may be purchased through your preferred carrier. Additional information will be supplied upon registration.

Documentation: A valid U.S. Passport is required for entrance into Ireland and must be obtained by each tour member prior to departure. Non-U.S. citizens should contact Knight Travel for entry requirements.

Payments: The balance should be paid to the World Affairs Council of Charlotte, and must be received by February 23, 2008. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted. Payment of deposit or any partial or full payment for a reservation constitutes consent to all provisions listed herein.

Cancellations and refunds: All deposit are non-refundable once processed. Cancellations received between deposit and 65 days before departure date - initial tour deposit. Cancellations received between 65-31 days before departure date - passenger will incur 50% penalty. Cancellations received between March 24, 2008 and departure - passenger will incur 100% penalty.

Liability: Knight Travel, The World Affairs Council of Charlotte and their agents, affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized in any country cannot be responsible for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond its control, including with limitation, acts of God, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, terrorism, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulation, and in the absence of its own gross negligence arising from the use of any vehicle or from Knight Travel Inc’s selection of, or from any act or omission by any bus or car rental agency, steamship, airline, railroad, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency or company or individual. Knight Travel reserves the right to decline, to accept and/or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time and a refund for the unused portion of the tour is the limit of its liability in such an instance.

For payments and general information, please call the Council at 704-687-7762. For other travel details, call Knight Travel at 704-366-5525.
Wed, April 23 UNITED STATES TO DUBLIN

Depart your hometown and enjoy an overnight flight to Dublin with in-flight entertainment and meal service.

Thurs, April 24 DUBLIN ARRIVAL & SIGHTSEEING

Ambassador Ed Brynn will lead the Council’s customized tour to Ireland and will share with us throughout the trip his vast knowledge of Irish history, politics, culture and heritage, narrating all the sites we are visiting.

Upon completion of customs and immigration formalities, you will be met by your coach driver and welcomed to Dublin with an orientation drive around the City Center. See the main thoroughfares of O’Connell Street and Nassau Street, the shopping areas and some lovely public parks. After check-in at the conveniently located Trinity Capital Hotel, enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure for independent activities.

Tonight, a special welcome dinner is arranged at the hotel.

Fri, April 25 DUBLIN HIGHLIGHTS

Set off with a local guide to enjoy the many historic buildings and monuments in Dublin which began as an ancient settlement, founded by the Vikings in the 9th century. View the architectural treasures and tour St. Patrick’s Cathedral, almost as old as the city. As we tour Trinity College we will see the 8th century Book of Kells. Ambassador Brynn has arranged for a local expert to provide you an insider’s tour of the College and the library, which is said to be one of the most beautiful in the world and houses many Gaelic treasures.

Lunch and dinner on an independent basis today.

Sat, April 26 BRÚ NA BOINNE VISITOR CENTRE & NEWGRANGE

Travel north to County Meath to enjoy the archaeological heritage of the Boyne Valley which includes the megalithic passage tombs of Newgrange and Knowth. The visitor center contains extensive interpretative displays and viewing areas. The Tomb at Newgrange was built around 3200 B.C., covers a one acre area and is surrounded by 97 kerbstones, some of which are richly decorated with megalithic art. It is estimated that the construction of the tomb would have taken a work force of 300 at least 20 years to complete. Return to the hotel in late afternoon and enjoy dinner.

Lunch and dinner on an independent basis today.

Sun, April 27 MALAHIDE CASTLE AND HOWTH

The castle was both a fortress and a private home for nearly 800 years and sits on 250 acres of park land in the lovely seaside town of Malahide. The house is furnished with beautiful period furniture and includes an extensive collection of Irish portrait paintings, mainly from the National Gallery. You will also be able to enjoy the beautiful Talbot Botanic Gardens which cover many acres. One of the most poignant legends of the castle concerns the morning of the Battle of the Boyne in 1690 when fourteen members of the Talbot family breakfasted together and then never returned.

Next stop is Howth, a fishing village and yachting port which is a popular resort destination on the coast. Howth Head gives fine views of Dublin Bay, the Wicklow Mountains and the Boyne Valley beyond.

Lunch and dinner on an independent basis.

Mon, April 28 - DUBLIN

Independent day in Dublin.

There are a great many things to see and do in Dublin including Dublin Castle and several art galleries. Our hotel is within walking distance of St. Stephen’s Green, Merrion Square and the surrounding Georgian Streets. Many shops and boutiques are located nearby. We will also offer a special optional tour entitled “Discovering James Joyce’s Dublin Haunts.” Led by our local Irish experts, you will be able to see Dublin through the eyes of one of Ireland’s most famous authors.

In late afternoon we will be joined by an Officer from the US Embassy in Dublin for “An American Perspective on Ireland”, an inside perspective and discussion of U.S. – Irish relations.

Lunch and dinner on an independent basis.

Tue, April 29 - GLENDALOUGH

Drive across the Wicklow Mountains to see the 6th century monastic ruins of Glendalough. This settlement was the centre of Christian religious practice from the 6th until the 13th century. The visitor center houses a comprehensive exhibit detailing the history, archaeology, wildlife and much more. From the center you may set out on your own to explore the site which includes a round tower and two beautiful lakes. This day will also include a stop at the Avoca Woolen Mills which produces high quality woolens and also has a good café.

This evening enjoy a farewell dinner at the 16th century Abbey Tavern which overlooks Howth Harbor and is famous for its traditional Irish music and tasty Irish cuisine.

Wed, April 30 - RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

All too soon, your vacation in Ireland has come to the end. Transfer to Dublin Airport in plenty of time to check in for your flight, clear security and claim your VAT refund. You may do some last minute shopping at the duty free stores. Then clear U.S. Immigration before boarding your aircraft and fly west across the Atlantic Ocean back to the United States.

For more detailed information, please visit our website at:
www.charlotteworld.org/travel/ireland2007/ireland.htm

Ambassador Edward Brynn
Ambassador Brynn is Teaching Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. A graduate of Georgetown University, he received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in British history from Stanford University and also holds Master of Letters and Ph.D. degrees in Irish politics and history from Trinity College in Dublin. He has published two books and numerous scholarly articles on Ireland and on the British Empire.

In addition to serving in the U. S. Air Force, Ambassador Brynn had a distinguished career in the Foreign Service including assignments in Sri Lanka, Mali, Mauritania, The Gambia, the Comoros Islands, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, and Ghana. He was Chief of Mission in The Gambia and the Comoros Islands and Ambassador to Burkina Faso and Ghana. He also served as Diplomat in Residence at the Air Force Academy, as a staff member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and foreign policy adviser to Senator Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont.

Reservations Application:

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