

Double S Travel

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**Double S Travel Worldchoice - Celebrating Twenty Four Years of service
to the residents and businesses in the South Bedfordshire area 1985 - 2009**

Steve of Double S Travel's Factsheet for 02 June 2009

Today's Exchange Rates

Euro. Our tourist sell rate today: £1 = 1.09821 better than last week
US Dollar. Our tourist sell rate today: £1 = 1.56131 better than last week

Stop Press

Channel Islands warning. The Department of Health has issue a warning to all Britons planning to travel to Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, Sark and Herm as these destinations are not covered by the EHIC (European Health Insurance Card). Although part of the UK, these islands are crown dependencies and are not part of the European Economic Area (EEA). Holiday-makers are therefore being urged to take out travel insurance.

Ryanair announced large losses in the last year. Even more reason to ensure you protect your money by booking through an ATOL holder and not direct with an airline.

Ireland's Ring of Kerry.

By Air and Coach.

Grand UK sells Killarney and the Ring of Kerry from Luton 5 days from Gatwick and Stansted to Cork. £349 to £439 per person sharing a twin room.

Shearings sell 8 days Killarney and the Ring of Kerry by air to Dublin from Luton and Stansted, then coach to Killarney from £689 to £769

Getting there.

By Ferry

Stena Line Fishguard to Rosslare August prices (based on 12 – 19 Aug) £214, based on 2 adults taking a standard sized car.

By air

Air Arran. Luton to Waterford £99 return

Ryanair. Stansted to Kerry

Where are these places?

Most companies recommend a tour of Killarney and the Ring of Kerry as the most scenic parts of Ireland. This area is in the South-West corner of the island and has a natural blend of mountains, lakes and waterfalls.

Members of ABTA, Association of Cruise Experts, Leading Cruise Agent
IATA accredited. CAA ATOL licence 6766.

Proprietor: **SJ Pattenden TD, BA (Hons).** VAT Number 449 3040 53.

Finalist Travel Agent of the Year 2009, 2006, 2005.

Finalist Business Travel Agent of the Year 2006. Nominated Travel Agent of the Year 2008, 2007.

Killarney is a town renowned worldwide as a tourist centre and sits at the edge of Lough Leane. This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Rose of Tralee Festival (21-26 Aug) and the Killarney Summerfest is 27th June -12th Jul. Jarveys (horse-drawn jaunting cars) ply through the narrow streets and byways as they have done since the 19th Century. Killarney is quite a small town and is geared up for sustainable tourism. It has many attractions such as the 15th Century Ross Castle and Muckross House Folkloric Museum. Apart from the Visitor Centre, there are many gardens, and signposted walks and nature trails.

The 'Ring of Kerry' is about 100miles of breathtaking Atlantic coastline with its views of the many small islands off the coast of Kerry, mountain and Lakeland scenery. The road circles round the Iveragh Peninsular, winds around cliffs, past idyllic beaches and quaint villages. The palm tree lined fishing town of Glenbeigh, the dunes of Rosbeigh Strand, colourful Sneem and George Bernard Shaws favourite Parknasilla.

Worth a visit.

Carhirsveen. (pronounced 'carharsaveen') The largest town at this end of the Iveragh Peninsula and a busy local centre for shopping, entertainment, eating and drinking. It's a good place for exploring this part of the Ring of Kerry and has some fine attractions of it's own. Every August it hosts a Celtic Music Festival. The Old Barracks Heritage Centre provides a good insight into Daniel O'Connell as well as local History. Other nearby attractions include Ballycarbery Castle, two ring forts, and Valentia Island. One of Europe's westernmost inhabited locations, lying off the Iveragh Peninsula in the southwest of County Kerry in Ireland. It is linked to the mainland by a bridge at Portmagee, as well as by a ferry which sails from Reenard Point to Knightstown, the island's main settlement. The permanent population of the island is 650, and the island is approximately 11 km long by 3 km wide.

Sneem. The word Sneem means 'knot' in Gaelic. The town – full of coloured buildings is at the head of the Sneam estuary. Today it is a peaceful and romantic village offering visitors unspoilt nature.

Glenbeigh. A palm tree lined fishing town. The picturesque village of Glenbeigh is a popular holiday destination nestled at the foot of a well wooded mountain and close to the head of Dingle Bay.

Parknasilla. A favourite of George Bernard Shaw's, he said - "It is a place of long sea views and intricate walks between ferns and fuchsias, rock and rhododendron, to burnt-out castles lost within the woods and along the various fingers of land that point South West into the warm Atlantic. I tell you this place does not belong to any world that you and I have ever worked or lived in. It is part of our dream world". Famous today for its golf course and Parknasilla Resort Hotel

Kerry Bog Village Museum. A recreation of a typical village of 100 years ago.

Molls Gap. A pass on the watershed of the Iveragh Peninsula and has fine views to the north of the MacGillycuddy's Reeks. It's a world famous panoramic beauty spot on the Ring of Kerry, in between Kenmare and Killarney

Ladies View. A scenic point along the N71 portion of the Ring of Kerry in Killarney National Park. The name apparently stems from the admiration of the view given by Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting during their 1861 visit.

Killarney National Park. Located beside the town of Killarney, County Kerry, Ireland. It was the first national park established in Ireland, created when Muckross Estate was donated to the Irish state in 1932. The park has since been substantially

expanded and encompasses over 102.89 km² (25,425 acres) of diverse ecology, including the Lakes of Killarney

Kerry Way. At 215km, the Kerry Way is currently Ireland's longest signposted walking trail and also one of the most popular. The trail starts and finishes in the busy tourist destination of Killarney. Looping around the Iveragh Peninsula, the Kerry Way goes anti-clockwise, passing through some of the most isolated and dramatic countryside in the country.

For more information The Tourism Ireland website is at www.discoverireland.com

Double S Travel Worldchoice 01582 752 752.
Visit our website at www.doublestravel.co.uk .

Always:

- Check that your passport does not expire within six months of your return date.
- Ensure you have taken out good travel insurance and if going to Europe, take your EHIC (European Health Insurance Card) with you too. www.ehic.org
- Put the 24hour UK Consular Assistance number - +44 020 7008 1500 into your mobile telephone – just in case you need emergency help.
- If hiring a car, don't forget to take both parts of your photo driving licence (the card and the paper counterpart) and a credit card with you. Some rental companies no longer accept the old-style green paper non-photo driving licences.
- Ensure you have all the visas you need in order to travel.
- If you have booked connecting flights, the baggage allowance may be smaller than your long-haul flights. To avoid extra charges, pack to the lowest baggage allowance.
- Tell your credit card and debit card issuer where you are going and for how long otherwise you may find your cards may be blocked. Take a Cash Passport instead of your debit card – much safer.
- Use public transport to get to the airport. Most travel insurance will only cover you for a missed departure if you used public transport.
- Take a photocopy of your passport with you. If you lose your original it is much simpler to replace if you have a copy available.
- Protect your money and your holiday by booking an ATOL protected holiday through a reputable travel agent. Even short-breaks using no-frills airlines can be covered if booked through and agent.
- Declare all medical conditions and hospital visits at the time of taking insurance and tell the insurer if you develop a medical condition before you travel otherwise they may not settle if you try to make a claim.
- Travelling to or through the USA? You need a visa (called an ESTA) in order to travel. www.usembassy.org.uk

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In brief:

Thinking of going to New Zealand next year? Join my group, we depart in late January! Places are limited. Call me on 01582 752752 or email me at steve@doublestravel.co.uk for details.

Interested in a cruise? Visit our cruise club website at www.upadeck.co.uk it contains details of over 20,000 cruises, port descriptions and ship details!

Do you Twitter? Follow Double_S_Travel.

If you would like to join my emailing-list to receive offers and news, simply email steve@doublestravel.co.uk and put 'Mailing List' in the subject box.

Remember, travel safely, protect your money by booking through and ATOL holder, but most of all - enjoy your travelling.

All the best, Steve Pattenden. steve@doublestravel.co.uk

Acknowledgements. DG&G Gazetteers for much of the destination information.
