

Be part of John Howie's and Travelrite's sensational 2024

# MUSIC TOUR OF **Ireland & Scotland** with **Craig Giles**



**including Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

**15 July - 8 August 2024**

A comprehensive tour of Ireland, Scotland & Liverpool, visiting Belfast, Derry/Londonderry, Donegal, Westport, Galway, Dublin, Liverpool, the Lakes District, Glasgow, Oban, Ullapool, Orkney Islands, Inverness and Edinburgh



**Tour also includes  
Liverpool, UK,  
visiting the fabulous  
*The Beatles Story* museum!**



TRAVELRITE  
INTERNATIONAL





# Music Tour of Ireland & Scotland

## with Craig Giles



including Royal  
Edinburgh  
Military Tattoo

The Music Tour of Ireland & Scotland, with Craig Giles, is an opportunity to enjoy a comprehensive sightseeing tour of Ireland & Scotland, plus Liverpool and the Lakes District (in the UK). Sightseeing highlights include Dublin, Belfast, Donegal, Westport and Galway, in Ireland, and Glasgow, Edinburgh, and the Orkney Islands, in Scotland. Ireland, Scotland & Liverpool are famous for their music, so there will be many musical highlights, including the spectacular Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo and The Beatles Story (a fabulous museum in Liverpool). The tour, fully escorted by Craig Giles and tour manager John Howie, is full of sightseeing & musical highlights, including the best of what John has discovered during his 26 years of taking tour groups to Ireland & Scotland.



**Craig Giles** is one of Australia's most popular entertainers. His rich singing voice, dynamic stage presence, and friendly personality have earned him a place as one of the top artists in Australian country music, rock 'n' roll, and rockabilly. He is well known for his outstanding Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash tribute shows. Craig has toured extensively, performing in thousands of places in Australia & NZ, plus performances in Memphis, Tupelo and Savannah (in the U.S.) and Ireland & Scotland. [www.craigiles.com](http://www.craigiles.com)



### DAY 1 Monday July 15, 2024

Depart Australia on Emirates flight, via Dubai, to Dublin.

Depart

### DAY 2 Tuesday July 16, 2024

*Early afternoon:* Arrive in Dublin. Travel by coach to Belfast, Northern Ireland. On arrival, check into our hotel, then free time. *Overnight:* Leonardo Hotel Belfast.

Belfast

### DAY 3 Wednesday July 17, 2024

*Morning:* Sightseeing coach tour of Belfast, with local guide. See the political murals on buildings in the Catholic and Protestant areas of West Belfast. See the Stormont parliament building and the impressive new Titanic Belfast building. Visit Belfast's iconic Crown Liquor Saloon (ornate 1880s pub). *Afternoon:* Free time. You may like to visit the excellent Ulster Museum, the Botanic Gardens (both free admission), or the Titanic Belfast museum/exhibition (optional). *Evening:* Enjoy Welcome Dinner, with a few songs from Craig Giles. After dinner, attend a music 'session' at one of Belfast's excellent music pubs; e.g., Madden's Bar. (B,D)

Belfast

### DAY 4 Thursday July 18, 2024

Travel along Northern Ireland's spectacular Antrim Coast, to Derry. See Carrickfergus Castle, the Glens of Antrim, and the ruins of Dunluce Castle. Visit the Giant's Causeway (famous natural rock formations). *Afternoon:* A coach tour of Derry with local guide, including a short walk on Derry's famous 17th-century walls. We will then visit one of Derry's famous music pubs, for afternoon drinks & live traditional music (if available). *Evening:* Enjoy an informal performance, by Craig Giles, at our hotel. *Overnight:* Accommodation to be confirmed. (B,MorningTea)

Londonderry or Letterkenny

### DAY 5 Friday July 19, 2024

Tour County Donegal, in the far north-west of Ireland. Lunch at Leo's Tavern. Leo Brennan (Enya's father) established this 'Singing' pub many years ago. We will be entertained by a local ballad singer and one or two of the pub's staff, including Leo's son Bartley (if available). Pass through Kincasslagh, internationally renowned singer Daniel O'Donnell's hometown. Visit the excellent Triona Donegal Tweed Centre (in town of Ardara). Continue south to the fishing port of Killybegs, before proceeding to Donegal Town. *Evening:* Prior to dinner visit a pub near our hotel, where you will enjoy a typical Irish music 'session'. *Overnight:* Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town. (B,Morning Tea,L,D)

Donegal



### DAY 6 Saturday July 20, 2024

Today we travel south, to the charming coastal town of Westport, Co. Mayo. Soon after leaving Donegal Town, enjoy a guided tour of the Belleek Pottery factory. Then travel through Co. Sligo. See Ben Bulbin (a distinctive mountain). On arrival in Westport free time to explore the town & go shopping. *Evening:* Attend an Irish music session in one of Westport's excellent music pubs. *Overnight:* Accommodation to be confirmed. (B)

Westport

### DAY 7 Sunday July 21, 2024

Travel south to Galway. On the outskirts of Westport see Croagh Patrick (a mountain, famous for an annual religious pilgrimage). Then travel through an unforgettable valley we have discovered, as we make our way to the Connemara region – famous for its unique, rocky landscapes. Visit much-photographed Kylemore Abbey. Tour Kylemore's main castle-like building & outstanding Victorian Walled Garden. Take a 'back roads' coastal route to Galway, through some of the most beautiful parts of the Connemara. On arrival in Galway, see the Claddagh region and sing *Galway Bay*. *Evening:* Explore Galway's renowned session pubs with John Howie and Craig Giles. *Overnight:* Accommodation to be confirmed. (B,MorningTea)

Galway

### DAY 8 Monday July 22, 2024

Optional day trip by ferry to the fascinating Aran Islands (cost approx. \$50). Tour the island of Inishmore by minibus, including the amazing stone Dun Aengus Fort (a cliff-top fortress dating back to the 5th century). Those not going on the Aran Islands excursion are free to spend the day exploring Galway city. *Evening:* Attend *Trad on the Prom*, fabulous Irish music and dance theatre show. (B)

Galway

### DAY 9 Tuesday July 23, 2024

Depart Galway and head east to Dublin. On the way, visit Athenry Castle (13th century), where we sing *The Fields of Athenry*. *Afternoon:* Sightseeing coach tour of Dublin. Then afternoon drinks (own expense) at O'Donoghue's (famous Dublin music pub), where Craig Giles will perform for us. *Evening:* Join John Howie on a walk through Dublin's famous Temple Bar precinct, including a visit to one or two of his favourite music pubs. *Overnight:* Hilton Garden Inn Dublin City Centre. (B)

Dublin

### DAY 10 Wednesday July 24, 2024

*Morning:* Visit Trinity College. See the Book of Kells (richly decorated Irish medieval manuscript) and the Old Library (1732). Also visit St Stephens Green, Grafton Street, & the statue of Molly Malone. Lunch at a well-known Dublin

Dublin



Irish pub music session.





The Beatles statue, Liverpool.



Ring of Brodgar standing stones, Orkney Islands.

music pub, including performance by one of John Howie's favourite Irish ballad groups. **Afternoon:** Free time. You may like to visit the National Museum, St Patrick's Cathedral, Kilmainham Gaol or the Guinness Storehouse (all optional). **Evening:** Attend fabulous Irish Cabaret show, featuring traditional Irish music & dancing. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 11 Thursday July 25, 2024

#### Liverpool

**Morning:** Fly to Liverpool, UK. **Afternoon:** Visit The Beatles Story exhibition. **Evening:** Free time. You may like to visit Mathew Street (location of the Cavern Club, where The Beatles performed, early days). Or, you may like to visit The Caledonia (a popular live music venue in Liverpool). **Overnight:** Radisson Blu Hotel, Liverpool. (B)

#### DAY 12 Friday July 26, 2024

#### Liverpool

**Morning:** Sightseeing coach tour of Liverpool, with local guide. Visit Penny Lane, Strawberry Fields, & Mathew Street. Visit the excellent bronze statues of John, Paul, George & Ringo, on the banks of the Mersey River (we will sing the Gerry & The Pacemakers song, *Ferry Cross the Mersey*). **Afternoon:** Free time. **Evening:** Enjoy an informal performance by Craig Giles. (B)

#### DAY 13 Saturday July 27, 2024

#### Glasgow

**Morning:** Travel north, to Glasgow, Scotland. On the way visit the beautiful Lakes District, in north-west England. **Afternoon:** Sightseeing coach tour of Glasgow. **Evening:** Enjoy an informal evening of music at The Scotia Bar, a famous Glaswegian music pub (Est. 1792). **Overnight:** Ibis Styles Glasgow George Square. (B)

#### DAY 14 Sunday July 28, 2024

#### Oban

Travel north, to Oban, a lovely port town in Scotland's Argyll region. On the way see Loch Lomond and sing *The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond*. Also, see spectacular Inveraray Castle & shop at Inveraray Woollen Mill. **Afternoon:** On arrival in Oban, free time to explore the town centre. **Evening:** Enjoy an informal performance by Craig Giles. **Overnight:** Premier Inn Oban. (B)

#### DAY 15 Monday July 29, 2024

#### Ullapool

Travel north, via Fort William, to the pretty west coast fishing village of Ullapool. On the way, see Eilean Donan Castle, Scotland's most photographed castle. Afternoon tea at Ledgowan Lodge, a luxurious hotel in Scotland's remote, but beautiful north-west region. **Evening:** Dinner and local music performance at The Ceilidh Place, one of the best live music venues in the west of Scotland. **Overnight:** Royal Hotel, Ullapool. (B,AfternoonTea,D)

#### DAY 16 Tuesday July 30, 2024

#### Orkney Islands

Travel along the spectacular north-west coast of Scotland. Travel by ferry to the Orkney Islands. Orkney is famous for its prehistoric sites and beautiful scenery. **Afternoon:** Visit Skara Brae (remains of 4,500 year old village), and the Ring of Brodgar standing stones. Then proceed to Kirkwall, the largest town in the Orkneys. **Evening:** Have our own informal music 'session'. Please bring your instruments & voices and join Craig Giles & John Howie for this fun-filled singalong type session! **Overnight:** Accommodation to be confirmed. (B,MorningTea)

#### DAY 17 Wednesday July 31, 2024

#### Orkney Islands

**Morning:** Travel across the Churchill Barriers causeway to the island of South Ronaldsay. Visit the fascinating Italian Chapel (Built by Italian POWs in 1943), and Scapa Flow (important wartime anchorage for British fleets). Return to Kirkwall, where we visit spectacular St Magnus Cathedral and The Orkney Museum. **Afternoon:** Free time in Kirkwall, or you may like to visit Maeshowe (5,000 year old chambered tomb) (optional: see further details, back of brochure). **Evening:** Attend Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club concert. Hear some lovely Jimmy Shand type music. (B)

#### DAY 18 Thursday August 1, 2024

#### Inverness

**Morning:** Return to Scottish mainland by ferry. **Afternoon:** Travel south, by coach, to Inverness. **Evening:** Enjoy a group dinner. **Overnight:** Accommodation to be confirmed. (B,D)

#### DAY 19 Friday August 2, 2024

#### Inverness

**Morning:** Visit Loch Ness and spectacular Urquhart Castle. Then visit charming Fort Augustus (southern end of Loch Ness). **Afternoon:** Return to Inverness. Free time for lunch & shopping. You may like to visit The Victorian Market, a beautiful & historic indoor market (1890). **Late afternoon:** Visit Culloden Battlefield, where Prince Charlie's forces were defeated in 1746. **Evening:** Enjoy a performance by one of John Howie's favourite Scottish ballad groups, *On the Wagon*. (B)

#### DAY 20 Saturday August 3, 2024

#### Edinburgh

Travel to Edinburgh. On the way, visit St Andrews, famous for its golf courses & its university. Visit the ruins of St Andrews Cathedral. See the famous St Andrews Old Course and the beach where some scenes from the movie *Chariots of Fire* were filmed. Afternoon tea at a clubhouse overlooking one of St Andrews' famous golf courses. **Evening:** Attend an Edinburgh Fringe Festival concert (optional). **Overnight:** Accommodation to be confirmed. (B,AfternoonTea)

#### DAY 21 Sunday August 4, 2024

#### Edinburgh

**Morning:** Coach tour of Edinburgh with local guide, including: historic Old Town area; New Town area (Georgian architecture); drive through Holyrood Park (Arthur's Seat area) if possible. Also, visit port of Leith. Tour concludes with a walk down the 'Royal Mile'. Sense Edinburgh's medieval past as you explore the alleys & closes that run off the Royal Mile. See the festival's colourful street performers in action. **Afternoon:** Free time for you to explore Edinburgh and attend Fringe Festival concerts. **Evening:** Enjoy a traditional Scottish dinner at one of Edinburgh's best restaurants. (B,D)

#### DAY 22 Monday August 5, 2024

#### Edinburgh

**Morning:** Visit historic Edinburgh Castle. **Afternoon:** Free time for you to further explore Edinburgh & enjoy the outstanding Fringe Festival. **Evening:** Attend the world-famous Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo – a unique blend of music, ceremony, entertainment and theatre. (B)

#### DAY 23 Tuesday August 6, 2024

#### Departure

**Morning:** Travel by coach to Glasgow, where we commence our flights back to Australia, mid-afternoon. On the way to Glasgow, see the Falkirk Wheel, an impressive rotating boat lift (constructed in 2002).

#### DAY 24 Wednesday August 7, 2024

#### In flight

In flight. Short stopover in Dubai.

#### DAY 25 Thursday August 8, 2024

#### Arrival

Arrive back in Australia and the tour concludes.



#### John Howie - tour manager

John was a secondary school music teacher for 23 years (taught Kylie Minogue). He and his twin brother, Graeme, perform as The Howie Brothers. John has been leading successful music tours and cruises for 28 years. John is passionate about his music tours and a huge amount of attention to details goes into each tour.

# Music Tour of Ireland & Scotland with Craig Giles

15 July – 8 August 2024

Including Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Per person, twin-share                      | \$ 13,495        |
| Air taxes as of 20/9/2023                   | \$ 390           |
| <b>Total package per person, twin-share</b> | <b>\$ 13,885</b> |
| Single supplement                           | \$ 2,495         |

## Included in the Ireland & Scotland Music Tour:

- Return economy airfare to Ireland/Scotland/Brussels ex Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Sydney. Also, one-way economy airfare from Dublin to Liverpool.
- Ferry trip. Return ferry voyage from Scrabster (Scotland) to Stromness (Orkney Islands).
- 21 nights' accommodation in centrally located first-class and moderate first-class hotels, with private facilities, on twin share basis. Full Scottish or Irish breakfast daily. There may be 1 or 2 continental breakfasts, but it's more than likely all breakfasts will be full Scottish or Irish cooked breakfasts. 6 dinners. 2 lunches. 4 morning teas. 2 afternoon teas.
- Entertainment, Ireland: Belfast: 2nd night: Welcome Dinner with a few songs from Craig Giles; after dinner, music 'session' at one of Belfast's music pubs. Derry: afternoon live traditional music at one of Derry's famous music pubs; evening: an informal performance by Craig Giles. Donegal: lunch, local music at Leo's Tavern; evening, prior to dinner, typical Irish music 'session' at The Reel Inn. Westport: attend music 'session' at one of Westport's excellent music pubs. Galway: 1st night: explore Galway's renowned session pubs; 2nd night: Trad on the Prom. Dublin: 1st afternoon: Craig Giles performance at O'Donoghue's Pub; 1st night: visit music pubs with John Howie. 2nd afternoon: Irish ballad group at well-known music pub; 2nd night: Irish Cabaret Show. Entertainment, Liverpool: 2nd night: informal performance by Craig Giles. Entertainment, Scotland: Glasgow: local Scottish folk music at Scotia Bar. Oban. Evening: informal performance by Craig Giles. Ullapool: local Scottish music at The Ceilidh Place. Orkney Islands: 1st night: our own music 'session'. 2nd night: Orkney Accordion & Fiddle Club concert. Inverness: 2nd night: On the Wagon performance. Edinburgh: various Fringe Festival concerts (optional); Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.
- Entry to all sightseeing attractions mentioned in the itinerary, except for those marked 'optional' or 'own expense'. If the itinerary says 'see' a particular attraction, it means we simply see it, rather than paying for entry and 'visiting' it.

- All tours, as per itinerary. Aran Islands tour is optional, and paid for on day of tour.
- Transport by luxury, air-conditioned motor coach throughout. All airport/hotel transfers.
- Hotel taxes and service charges.
- Tour leadership by John Howie, of The Howie Brothers, including the organisation of excursions to hear the best of Irish & Scottish music, most nights of the tour. Also, tour escorted throughout by popular Australian entertainer, Craig Giles.
- You can extend your stay at the end of the tour (or start of the tour) for minimal extra cost. Please check with us for other tours, car hire, hotels, bed and breakfasts, etc.

## Not included in the price:

- Insurance – travel insurance is strongly recommended.
- All items of personal nature such as drinks, room service, laundry and phone calls.
- Meals and drinks, unless specified in the itinerary. Meals included are marked B,D,L, 'morning tea', etc, in brackets, at the end of each day's text in the itinerary.
- Entry to concerts, pubs, and other musical entertainment not listed above. All Fringe Festival concerts are 'optional'. Also, not included in the price is entry to musical entertainment marked 'optional' in the itinerary.
- International airport and departure taxes above the rate quoted.
- Domestic flight connections to and from departure and arrival cities.

## Optional visit to Maeshowe (Orkney Islands)

Maeshowe is a 5,000 year old burial mound, with an underground chamber (room) in the centre of the mound. To get inside the mound you have to bend down (to half your size) and shuffle along a low, narrow corridor (about 5 or 6 metres long). Once inside the chamber (room) you can stand up. You go in with a guide, and only about 18 people at a time can go in. It's a bit like going inside one of the pyramids, in Egypt. It costs about £8.50 per person to go on this guided tour. They can only take a limited number of people each day, so it's quite difficult to get booked in. We have to book people in, a fair bit in advance. So, if you book on our tour, and would like to do the optional visit to Maeshowe burial mound, please let John Howie know at least 2 months in advance, and he will try to get you booked in.

## General information and booking conditions

It is important that all tour participants have a basic level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd. ABN 64 005 817 078 (Travelrite International) is the tour operator.

**TOUR COSTS:** The tour costs are based on transport, accommodation costs and entrance costs at 19 June 2023. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to costings will be made within 60 days prior to departure.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS:** A deposit of \$900 per passenger is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 60 days prior to departure. A 1.5% administration fee will be charged on payment by Visa, Mastercard and Amex Cards.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations within 60 days of departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellation outside 60 days from departure will result in a cancellation fee of \$900 per person. Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS:** The tour has been costed on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 60 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost if the minimum number is not achieved.

**REFUNDS:** The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd. is the tour organiser. Travelrite International acts only as agents in making of arrangements with

carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or any other events which are beyond our direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, flood, fire, civil disturbance, acts of God, acts of government, or any other authorities, terrorism, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial action. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and the passengers. Baggage is at own risk throughout the tour. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be taken in the State of Victoria.

**DELAYS AND UNFORESEEN EVENTS:** You engage Travelrite International to book this tour on your behalf and you acknowledge that Travelrite International acts as your agent for the purpose of making contracts between you and the various providers of accommodation, transportation and other services that comprise the tour. Travelrite may without reference to you provide or make available to you, any good or service which Travelrite reasonably believes is necessary for your benefit to maintain the tour itinerary, repatriate you or otherwise accommodate, transport or sustain you in circumstances in which the tour itinerary fails wholly or partly for any reason. You appoint Travelrite International your attorney for this purpose. You agree to pay Travelrite any cost thereof and you indemnify Travelrite in respect of any cost it incurs in this

regard. Travelrite advises you to obtain travel insurance generally including in respect of the risk that any such good or service may become required.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a deposit of \$900 per person to:

**Travelrite International P/L**  
**423 Whitehorse Road**  
**Balwyn, Victoria 3103**

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

**Toll Free: 1800 630 343**  
**Phone: (03) 9836 2522**  
**Email: sales@travelrite.com.au**  
**www.travelrite.com.au**

**ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is a well-established family-owned business that's been operating in Melbourne's eastern suburbs for more than 40 years. Travelrite International is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA), is fully Accredited with ATAS (A10538) and IATA. As such they directly represent the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators.



www.musicstours.com.au