

Cruise 2018

*"Cead Mile Failte," - A Hundred Thousand Welcomes!
-Barge Cruising With a Unique Warm Irish Welcome.*



*Cruising On **Shannon Princess** Boutique Hotel Barge Ireland.*



Day 1 Sunday. Welcome to Waters & the Wild

The Barge Host will meet Guests at 3.00pm at the designated meeting point . The transfer will be in the Barge's private coach to the Shannon Princess in Glasson.

Family-owned and -managed, Shannon Princess delivers one of the warmest welcomes in European Barging.

We welcome you on board the elegant Shannon Princess with a Champagne Reception. There is time to relax on deck or to mingle and chat with fellow guests & local boat owners.

Watch the world float by, as you enjoy your first Gourmet dinner on board.



Day 2 Monday. Whiskey Galore

There's time for an early morning stroll through twisting country lanes, before we set out on our cruise on the River Shannon's "Inner Lakes".

Soon after arriving in the lively bustling River Town of **Athlone**, An Afternoon visit is made to a local Whiskey distillery. Dating from 1757 the **Kilbeggan Distillery** is the oldest licensed whiskey distillery in the world

Explore at your leisure, time for shopping, antiques or a visit to any of the towns impromptu traditional music pubs- don't forget to return on board for Gourmet Dinner!

Day 3 Tuesday..Land Of Saints & Scholars & The Fighting Irish & Ghosts!

After breakfast, we sail through "**The Callows**", lush grazing meadows that remain unchanged in over a 1000 years and are now a Wildfowl & Fauna Reserve. We moor below **Clonmacnoise** ruins for a visit to the ancient burial grounds of the High Kings of Tara & Connaught.

We sail onwards to our overnight mooring at the village of Shannonbridge.

After Lunch a visit to "**Leap Castle**" Reputed to be Ireland's most haunted house Leap Castle was once home to one of America's founding Fathers- John Carroll. You will be hosted by Sean Ryan, a renowned musician and his family who will invites us in to their unusual home. After Dinner, maybe go for a "**Pint**" in **Killeen's pub** for music and chat and pass some time with the Locals



Day 4 Wednesday. Historical Science & Gardens

A cruise through ever-changing landscape, crumbling ivy covered ruins, medieval garrisons & sleepy market villages.

Shannon Princess arrives at the quaint little village of **Terryglass**. This afternoon, we visit Birr Castle Gardens and Irelands Historical Science Center. See the Great telescope and revel the many achievements of the Parsons family who still reside in the Castle.

Day 5 Thursday: Galway Bay

Today take a morning excursion to the Walled Kitchen Gardens of **Portumna Castle**, and onto **Galway**, a lively Anglo-Norman university town and cultural centre of Irish speaking regions in the west of Ireland. Lunch is at an authentic **Guinness & Oyster Bar** with time to browse and explore the colourful shops and streets. Return to "Shannon Princess" for Gourmet Dinner as we meander through Lough Derg to **Mountshannon** – a lovely old estate village perched prettily above the Lough.

After dinner enjoy a moonlit ramble around Mountshannon or Dancing in the local Hotel

Day 6 Friday. Slainte- An Irish Farewell.

A Cruise through the charming lower stretches of Lough Derg and the River Shannon arriving into the pretty twin towns of **Killaloe & Ballina**, a prosperous town with art, history and foodie treats.

Later in the afternoon we drop in on a "**Traditional Irish Hand Weavers**" workshop and studio where Guests will experience a step back in time while also learning how these thriving small cottage industries are dealing with technology and the future. After Lunch ashore, a visit to Adare Manor and the "Birds of Prey", a unique experience. "Farewell" Gourmet Dinner showcasing local produce.



Day 7 Saturday

After breakfast transfer to Dublin Airport or
your Hotel

A Fond Farewell from
Ruairi & Olivia Gibbons,
Owners and Operators of the MV Shannon Princess