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## 2023 Irish Links Golf Cruise

10 Nights | 6 Rounds | Dublin - Southampton | August 29 - September 8

PerryGolf is proud to partner with **Azamara®** for an exceptional 11-night, 6-round golf and sightseeing voyage nearly circumnavigating the **Emerald Isle**. This cruise with less than 700 guests onboard the outstanding *Azamara Journey* will sail from **Dublin** for 6 diverse ports including **Belfast, Londonderry, Donegal, Galway, Foynes, Cork**, and finally, **Southampton**. The golf is exceptional with six of Ireland's most treasured clubs including **Portmarnock Links, Royal County Down, Royal Portrush, Donegal, Adare Manor** and **Fota Island**.

We begin in **Dublin** with an overnight which is an ideal arrangement permitting more time to explore the multitude of cultural, historical and entertainment options in this iconic city. Be certain to reserve time for a visit to the Church of Christ Cathedral - and later, enjoy a pint of Guinness at one of the many pubs. **Southampton** at the end provides convenient access to the charms of **London**, from **Buckingham Palace** to the streets of Chinatown with myriad dining and evening entertainment options to satisfy any taste. The golf exceptional. **Royal Portrush** the memorable host of The 148th Open in 2019. We'll also play world top five **Royal County Down** and the stunning **Adare Manor**, scheduled host of the 2026 Ryder Cup, and the delightful **Fota Island**.

*Azamara Journey*, which serves as our perfect floating boutique hotel and clubhouse, is a mid-sized luxury vessel nimble enough to access smaller ports yet large enough to provide every amenity you would expect, from a choice of fine dining and live entertainment, to a well-equipped gym and full-service spa. Forty-six suites are available with English butler style service which routinely book early. Sailing schedules often include extended stays in port plus the occasional overnight which allows for a truly immersive experience. Better still, these cruises are inclusive of a selection of beers, spirits, soft drinks, bottled water, specialty coffees plus wine with lunch and dinner along with gratuities for housekeeping, dining and bar staff. *Azamara* also proudly boasts two unique signature events on each cruise - an **AzAmazing Evening™** and the **White Night** party - complimentary to all guests and consistently well received.

Every aspect of the golf program is fully managed by PerryGolf staff onboard and ashore. Your clubs will be ready and waiting at each venue. Tee times and pairings arranged and posted in advance. A convenient transportation schedule affords suitable time to warm up at the range, and to make the almost inevitable pro shop merchandise purchase. Caddies are included (excluding caddie gratuity) for all our guests. A friendly competition is staged at a selected course, with prizes awarded at our farewell gathering. A snack lunch is included on-course plus an open bar operates in the clubhouse at the conclusion of the round. Our typical guest list which brings together like-minded individuals generally numbers between 40 and 50, with new friendships invariably formed during each cruise. Many guests are golfing couples but an equal number are golfers travelling with a non-golfing spouse. Specially arranged onboard golf group social functions, to which all accompanying non-golfing spouses are most warmly welcomed, further enhances the club-like environment. The award winning **Azamara Shore Excursions®** program, offering a wide variety of off ship excursions, also caters beautifully to our non-golfing guests during days when our golfing excursions are underway.

The "2023 Irish Links Golf Cruise" is a genuinely full-featured vacation and a special opportunity to enjoy yourself in the company of like-minded new friends!

Photo Album

## Detailed Itinerary

### AUGUST 29, TUESDAY: DUBLIN, IRELAND (EMBARK BY 4:30PM / IN PORT)

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Embark *Azamara Journey* beginning at 1:00PM. All aboard by 4:30PM.

Welcome Cocktails & Briefing this evening. Meet your fellow participants and PerryGolf staff.

#### Port Explorer Guide - Dublin

##### Overnight: In Port - Dublin, Ireland

### AUGUST 30, WEDNESDAY: DUBLIN, IRELAND (IN PORT / 10:00PM)

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GOLF: Today play **Portmarnock Links** designed by Bernhard Langer and opened for play in 1995. As a three-time winner of the Irish Open at nearby Portmarnock Golf Club and The Royal Dublin Golf Club it was fitting that Langer chose this magnificent setting to design his first links course set in the grounds of the old Jameson Estate of St. Marnocks. The course has played host to professional and amateur events including 2008 and 2009 Ladies Irish Open. *Note: Golf cart venue.*

SIGHTSEEING: This is one of our two overnights in port (Belfast is the other) which you'll appreciate because there is a lot to do in **Dublin**. A good place to begin is **The National Museum of Ireland** on Kildare Street for a well-designed archaeological collection featuring Bronze Age gold jewelry and Viking swords. The stars of the show are the "bog people" — preserved corpses of men who were killed (presumably sacrificed) and tossed into peat bogs during the Iron Age. The preservative qualities are remarkable. Dublin is home to St Patrick's Cathedral of course but much of Ireland's history can be read in **Christ Church Cathedral**, which dates back to circa 1030. Dublin's booming culinary scene is found along Exchequer Street where The Green Hen has won many admirers with its combination of French atmosphere and Franco-Irish cuisine made with locally sourced ingredients. Try the pan-fried duck breast. Finally, while craft beer is certainly the popular new thing, a pint of "the black stuff" is still required drinking on any trip to Dublin. **The Guinness Storehouse** museum at the St. James's Gate brewery explains how the stout is made and how to pull a proper pint at the correct 45-degree angle and waiting 119.5 seconds before topping it off.

Enjoy **Dublin** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions**®.

#### Port Explorer Guide - Dublin

##### Overnight: At Sea

### AUGUST 31, THURSDAY: BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND (8:00AM / IN PORT)

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GOLF: Today play **Royal County Down**. Located in the town of Newcastle to the south of Belfast. Consistently ranked in the top 10 courses in the world, this is a true test of links golf set against the magnificent backdrop of

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the Mountains of Mourne. Host to the 2007 Walker Cup Match featuring a young local by the name of Rory McIlroy, and an all-star USA line-up.

**SIGHTSEEING: Belfast** in the early 20th century had the largest and most productive shipyard in the world, gaining global renown with the launch of the RMS Titanic. Located on the slipways where she was built is a stunning new museum, opened in time for the 100th anniversary of Titanic's only voyage and tragic demise. Today the city and riverfront are undergoing a 21st century transformation, but many exuberant Victorian and Edwardian buildings still sport the carved heads of kings and queens. As you explore the city, keep an eye out for "the murals." These somewhat troubling freelance works appearing on building walls provide insight into the period known simply as "The Troubles."

Enjoy **Belfast** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

### **Overnight: At Sea**

#### **SEPTEMBER 1, FRIDAY: BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND (IN PORT / 8:00PM)**

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**GOLF:** Today play **Royal Portrush**. It holds the distinction of being the only course in Ireland to have hosted The Open which it did in 1951. Royal Portrush returned to The Open rota in 2019 following a 70-year absence. The Dunluce Course is as fine a links as you will find anywhere, with the 5th being a particularly memorable hole to a green hanging on the edge of a cliff. Consistently ranked in the top 20 of the world's best courses.

A second day to enjoy **Belfast** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

Port Explorer Guide - Belfast

### **Overnight: At Sea**

#### **SEPTEMBER 2, SATURDAY: LONDONDERRY, NORTHERN IRELAND (8:00AM / 8:00PM)**

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The city of Derry, or **Londonderry**, is the second largest in Northern Ireland behind the capital, Belfast. Said to have been founded in the 6th century by Saint Colmcille (or St. Columba), Derry was renamed Londonderry in 1613 upon the award of its Royal Charter by King James I. Through the siege of the walled city in 1689 to its key strategic role in World War II, Derry has been influential in the shaping of the world around it. In 2013, it holds the honour of being the UK's first City of Culture.

Enjoy **Londonderry** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

Port Explorer Guide - Londonderry

### **Overnight: At Sea**

#### **SEPTEMBER 3, SUNDAY: DONEGAL (KILLYBEGS), IRELAND (8:00AM / 6:00PM)**

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**GOLF:** Today play **Donegal Golf Club**, located on the Murvagh peninsula in South Donegal, which was originally designed by Eddie Hackett, a legend of Irish golf course architecture, and is often called the Muirfield of Ireland. Over the years the course has been re-molded by the 'Master of Links design' Pat Ruddy. Surrounded by the

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Atlantic Ocean, Donegal Bay and a designated Special Area of Conservation, the panoramic views of Donegal Bay and the surrounding countryside are sensational and the peninsula itself is steeped in local and ancient history. It has been a regular host to national Irish events.

**SIGHTSEEING:** Described by *National Geographic Traveler* as the “Coolest Place on the Planet for 2017,” **Donegal** is a nature lover’s paradise, located at the mouth of River Elke in NW Ireland. Any visit here must include a self-guided tour at **Donegal Castle**, which was built in the 15th century and is adjacent to the town square, providing convenient access to shopping and dining options. While you’re there, pick up a jacket or cap made of Donegal Tweed, hand-woven and unique due to its pattern and heathered effect. Sitting on the outskirts of town, the ruins of **The Abbey of the Four Masters** overlook the water where the River Elke flows into Donegal Bay. **Glenveagh National Park** is a lush, green oasis. A few miles north of town admire the majestic cliffs of Sliabh Liag and take a comfortable walk around the scenic and serene Lough Eske.

Enjoy **Donegal** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

### **Port Explorer Guide - Donegal**

**Overnight: At Sea**

#### **SEPTEMBER 4, MONDAY: GALWAY, IRELAND (8:00AM / 8:00PM)**

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**Galway** sits on the west coast of Ireland where the River Corrib meets the Atlantic Ocean. Start your day in the town hub of **Eyre Square**, a public park adjacent to a collection of shops and pubs where traditional Irish folk music provides the soundtrack during the afternoons and evenings. The **Galway Cathedral** is one of the largest and most impressive buildings in the city. This Roman Catholic church features a mosaic of U.S. President John F. Kennedy. **The Spanish Arch**, located on the River Corrib, was built in 1584. Those seeking something a little spookier might be interested in the Lynch Memorial Window, where in 1493 legend has it the town mayor hung his son for murdering a visitor.

Enjoy **Galway** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

### **Port Explorer Guide - Galway**

**Overnight: At Sea**

#### **SEPTEMBER 5, TUESDAY: FOYNES, IRELAND (7:00AM / 6:00PM)**

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**GOLF:** Today play **The Golf Course at Adare Manor**, a Robert Trent Jones Senior original that was renovated by Tom Fazio in 2018. The club will host the Ryder Cup 2027. Each hole could be crowned the feature hole: all have been entirely redesigned and reconstructed with the very latest technology and course innovations, creating a challenging, characterful, and profoundly satisfying playing experience for golfers of every level. The result is a course that is at once strategic and soulful, playable in all conditions, and future-proofed in preparation for premiere amateur and professional golf events. Cared for by an experienced, passionate team of devoted greenkeepers, the condition of this course and its velvet-smooth Pure Distinction bent grass greens is unrivalled.

**SIGHTSEEING:** **Foynes** is a tiny village but a major port in County Limerick in midwest Ireland. While there are

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less than 1,000 residents, Foynes is home to the **Flying Boat & Maritime Museum** which features historical archives and interactive exhibits. Tour the only replica B-314 Flying Boat in the world, enjoy a panoramic view in the reinstated control tower and learn about the movie stars and celebrities who spent time here in the 1930s and 1940s. Also discover the village's connection to the U.S. Civil War and discover the story behind the origin of Irish Coffee - enjoying a taste for yourself, of course.

Enjoy **Foynes** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

### **Port Explorer Guide - Foynes**

**Overnight: At Sea**

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#### **SEPTEMBER 6, WEDNESDAY: CORK (COBH), IRELAND (9:00AM / 10:00PM)**

**GOLF:** Today play **Fota Island Deerpark Course**, located on a 780-acre island in Cork Harbour. Routed through mature woodlands and highlighted by pot bunkers and double greens with undulating slopes. The course was host venue to the PGA European Tour Irish Open in 2001 and 2002.

**SIGHTSEEING:** Located on Ireland's southeast coast in County Cork, the quaint seaside town of **Cobh** (old Irish for cove) is known for its great maritime heritage and seafaring history. As Ireland's only dedicated cruise terminal, Cobh was the departure point for 2.5 million of the six million Irish people that immigrated to North America between 1848 and 1950. It remains a popular port of call today for cruise liners from all over the world in part due to the fact that Cobh was the last port of call for RMS Titanic. Cobh has remained largely unchanged since that fateful day in 1912 with brightly colored houses along streets that climb to the top of the hill which is crowned by the imposing **Cobh Cathedral**, St. Coleman's Cathedral with its carillon of 47 bells. On the waterfront there is a statue of **Annie Moore** who was the first person admitted to the United States through the new immigration center at Ellis Island on January 1, 1892.

Enjoy **Cobh** on your own or via **Azamara Shore Excursions®**.

### **Port Explorer Guide - Cobh (Cork)**

**Overnight: At Sea**

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#### **SEPTEMBER 7, FRIDAY: AT SEA**

Today it's time to relax and reset. Make your reservations early for **The Sanctum Spa**, a world-class wellness facility offering a full range of health, beauty and restorative treatments. Complimentary fitness and nutrition classes are available along with a fully equipped gym on Deck 9 offering magnificent sea views. There's room for everyone on the Pool Deck both in and out of the sun. Service to your lounge chair is available from **The Pool Bar** where the attentive staff is always ready to offer an inclusive cocktail, beer, bottled water, soft drink or fresh towel. **The Patio** restaurant serves casual fare during the day then completely transforms itself into a sit-down al fresco dining experience at night with table linens and candles. Elegant specialty dining is available for beef at **Prime C** and Italian at **Aqualina**. **Windows Café** serves casual buffet dining with every imaginable choice indoors and out at the sensational Sunset Bar.

What a way to spend a day!

**Overnight: At Sea**

**SEPTEMBER 8, SATURDAY: SOUTHAMPTON, UK (6:00AM / DISEMBARK AT 9:00AM)**

Disembark *Azamara Journey* at 9:00AM.

## Golf Schedule

### PORTMARNOCK LINKS: DUBLIN, IRELAND



Designed by Bernhard Langer, **Portmarnock Links** opened for play in 1995. As a three-time winner of the Irish Open at nearby Portmarnock Golf Club and The Royal Dublin Golf Club it was fitting that Langer chose this magnificent setting to design his first links course set in the grounds of the old Jameson Estate of St. Marnocks. The course has played host to professional and amateur events including 2008 and 2009 Ladies Irish Open. *Note: Golf cart venue.*

### ROYAL COUNTY DOWN GOLF CLUB: NEWCASTLE, NORTHERN IRELAND

Situated in the shadows of the Mourne mountains. A spectacular location and an outstanding links golf course. **Royal County Down's** charm lies in the old fashioned flavor of both the terrain and the layout. A mix of rugged dunes, colored by a blend of purple heather and yellow flowering gorse combine to a dramatic effect on what is one of the toughest courses in the British Isles. Venue for the Walker Cup in 2007 and consistently ranked in the top 10 courses in the world.



### ROYAL PORTRUSH - DUNLUCE COURSE: PORTRUSH, NORTHERN IRELAND



An outstanding course in a dramatic setting. **Royal Portrush** holds the distinction of being the only course in Ireland to have hosted the British Open, doing so in 1951, and the championship returned there in 2019. The Dunluce Course is as fine a links as you will find anywhere, with the 5th being a particularly memorable hole to a green hanging on the edge of a cliff. Consistently ranked in the top 20 of the world's best courses, nearly every legend of golf has accepted the challenge of Royal Portrush.



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## DONEGAL GOLF CLUB: MURVAGH PENINSULA, IRELAND

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**Donegal Golf Club** is located on the Murvagh peninsula in South Donegal, and was originally designed by Eddie Hackett, a legend of Irish golf course architecture, and is often called the Muirfield of Ireland. Over the years the course has been re-molded by the 'Master of Links design' Pat Ruddy. Surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, Donegal Bay and a designated Special Area of Conservation, the panoramic views of Donegal Bay and the surrounding countryside are sensational and the peninsula itself is steeped in local and ancient history. It has been a regular host to national Irish events.



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## ADARE MANOR GOLF CLUB: ADARE, IRELAND

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A complete remodeling of **Adare Manor** was completed after two years when Tom Fazio's newest masterpiece in Europe opened in the spring of 2018. The original routing remains intact but everything else is new; greens and tee complexes. All 42 bunkers have been rebuilt with the latest Capillary Concrete liner drainage technology. SubAir has been installed to compliment the club's Pure Distinction bent grass, providing the purest putting surfaces possible. Adare is thought to have its eye on a future Ryder Cup, and it shows.

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## FOTA ISLAND: CORK, IRELAND

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A past host of the Irish Open and Irish Masters, the Deepark course is part of 27 holes on this 780-acre estate in Cork County. Wide fairways and light rough are pleasing to the powerful player and the receptive greens provide ample scoring opportunities. Still, water hazards are abundant. The diabolical par-5 No. 10 features a tee shot through a narrow tree-lined opening and a green defended by a lake. The home hole is unforgettable as well, due to a water hazard and multi-tiered green.



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