

January 3, 2005

Volume 3, Issue 1

SHADES OF IRELAND—April 30—May 9, 2005

The countdown is on for our trip to Ireland. As of the date of this issue (January 3, 2005), we are **117 days** from our departure from Newark's Liberty International Airport. Now we have to start getting serious about the final details of our trip.

First, the important deadlines:

Saturday, January 29 - 90 days from departure—This is the final day for anyone who has not taken the cancellation insurance to cancel and receive a full refund of the money they've paid to date. It is also the last date for anyone who has paid for the insurance to cancel and receive both the deposit paid to date AND the cost of the insurance. However, anyone who purchased the insurance can cancel right up until the day of departure and receive a full refund (less the cost of the insurance).

Monday, February 28—60 days from departure—This is the date that your balance is due at Collette Vacations. I am asking that you get it to me no later than **70 days from departure**, which is **February 19**. I am enclosing an Invoice which reflects your balance. You may send it in anytime before February 19—the sooner the better.

Sunday, April 17—13 days from departure—Optional pre-trip meeting at the **Flying W Airport** in Medford, NJ. At this meeting I will distribute the official documents for the trip, including airline tickets and other related information. It will be an opportunity to



"The world is a great book of which they who never stir from home read only one page." . . . St. Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430 A.D.)

ask questions and to meet your fellow travelers. Those who live at a distance are obviously not expected to attend—I will share the information and materials in a manner we'll work out in advance.

Saturday, April 30—4:30 pm—Free hometown pickup via coach from Vinentown to Newark for those opting for it. Pickup at Vinentown Firehouse. Long term free parking available at Laufer's.

8:30 pm—Departure from Newark Liberty International Airport on Continental Flight 24—non-stop to Shannon Airport in Ireland, arriving at 7:45 a.m. on Sunday, May 1.

CURRENCY IN IRELAND

The Euro is the official currency of Ireland. If you would like to learn more about the Euro, including the various coins and notes you can visit the Official Euro website:

<http://europa.eu.int/euro/entry.html>

As of this writing, the exchange rate was:

\$1.00 US = 0.74 Eros
1 Euro = \$1.36 US

Translation: The dollar isn't as healthy as we would like it to be! Let's hope things improve over the next 4 months.

"At our age, we've got to start taking some risks if we want to see the world. There's trouble all over."

- Ted Esteves, 71

AIRLINE INFORMATION

DEPARTURE:

Continental Airlines

Flight CO 24 L

Leave Newark - Sat. 4/30/05—8:30 P.M.

Arrive Shannon - Sun. 5/1/05—7:45 A.M.

RETURN:

Continental Airlines

Flight CO 23 L

Leave Dublin - Mon. 5/9/05—9:15 A.M.

Arrive Newark - Mon. 5/9/05—11:20 A.M.

WHO'S WHO ON THE IRELAND TRIP?

There are 32 people on our trip: 19 from New Jersey, 10 from Pennsylvania, 2 from Michigan and 1 from Oregon.

Charles and Lois Uetz, Mount Holly, NJ
Joe and Carolyn Mazzilli, Tabernacle, NJ
Dolly Marshall, Eugene, OR and Emma Marshall, Palmyra, NJ
Fred Horner, Vincentown, NJ
Janet Bakely, Marlton, NJ and Ann Stella, Southampton, NJ
Gorge and Eileen Potsko, Wilkes-Barre, PA
Olga Cross and Barbara Margulis, Southampton, NJ and Rose Maise, Westville, NJ
Joe and Penny Laufer, Vincentown, NJ

Peg Amico, Mercerville, NJ and Carol Morea, Hamilton NJ
Mary Lou Letner, Ashley, PA & Karen Gayewski, Mountaintop, PA
Bill and Ellenrose Laufer, Richboro, PA
Ted and Patricia Szanajda, Richboro, PA
Linda and Fred Eberlein, Rochester Hills, MI
June Cruz, Princeton Junction, NJ and Carol Golden, Princeton, NJ
Douglas Ghaul, Burlington, NJ
Myra Hunter, Southampton, NJ
Catherine Orth, Philadelphia, PA and Robert Orth, Warren, PA

\$ 60 SURCHARGE ADDED TO INVOICE

The letter to the right is self-explanatory and describes the reasons for a change in the bottom line for your trip to Ireland. All travel agencies (such as Collette Vacations) have been forced to implement this surcharge. The invoice included with this newsletter reflects this change.

We regret the need for this change, but it is part of the reality in this period of turmoil in both the travel and airline industries.

FREE TRAVEL BROCHURES
Irish Tourist Board
345 Park Ave.,
New York, NY 10154
800-223-6470
212-418-0800

TRAVEL WEBSITES ON IRELAND

<http://www.travel.yahoo.com/Destinations/Europe/Countries/Ireland/>

A clear & readable guide to Ireland, including up to the minute weather checks.

<http://www.ireland.travel.ie/home/index.asp>

The Irish Tourist Board ('Bord Failte') homepage.

<http://www.browseireland.com>

A large directory of sites on all things Irish.

<http://www.visit.ie/dublin/>

Dublin tourism website.

Collette Vacations

162 Middle Street, Pawtucket RI 02860
401-728-3805

November 11, 2004

Joe Laufer's ICQ Tours
9 Smith Court
Vincentown, NJ 08088

Joe Laufer
Re: 691429, Shades of Ireland

Dear Valued Client:

Increases in oil rates have caused skyrocketing fuel costs which you may have already noticed at your gas stations and in your oil bills. Unfortunately, these increases have also impacted air travel.

Airlines have implemented an increase in fuel taxes due to these increased rates. This increase affects travel to most Collette destinations, as well as internal flights within our tour programs. Collette Vacations is obligated to add/or increase the fuel surcharges associated with our tour packages. Your new fuel surcharge is \$60pp, which is additional to existing air/fuel taxes you have already been charged. This surcharge has been added to your group.

In the event oil rates stabilize and the airlines reverse the fuel surcharges, Collette will remove the charge from your invoice.

We sincerely appreciate you choosing Collette Vacations and wish you a wonderful trip to Ireland.

Best Regards,
Collette Vacations

Travel's triple reward:

ANTICIPATION

REALIZATION

REMEMBRANCE