The Travel Journal: Ireland

By Kaylie Farmer
Reporter

More than 250 million years ago, on the Pangea supercontinent, the Appalachian Mountains were formed but when Pangea split the mountains scattered the globe.

There are over 2,000 miles of the Appalachian Mountains from Central Alabama to Newfoundland, Canada. There are remnants of the Appalachian Mountains in several countries including Scotland, Wales, England, Norway, Spain, and **Ireland.**

I had the privilege to get to vacation in Ireland this summer for around a week. I didn't get to visit the official International Appalachian Trail within Ireland but the similarities in parts of the country to our old Kentucky home was uncanny. Though Kentucky is larger than the entire island of Ireland with the island being around 26,000 square miles and Kentucky at 39,000.

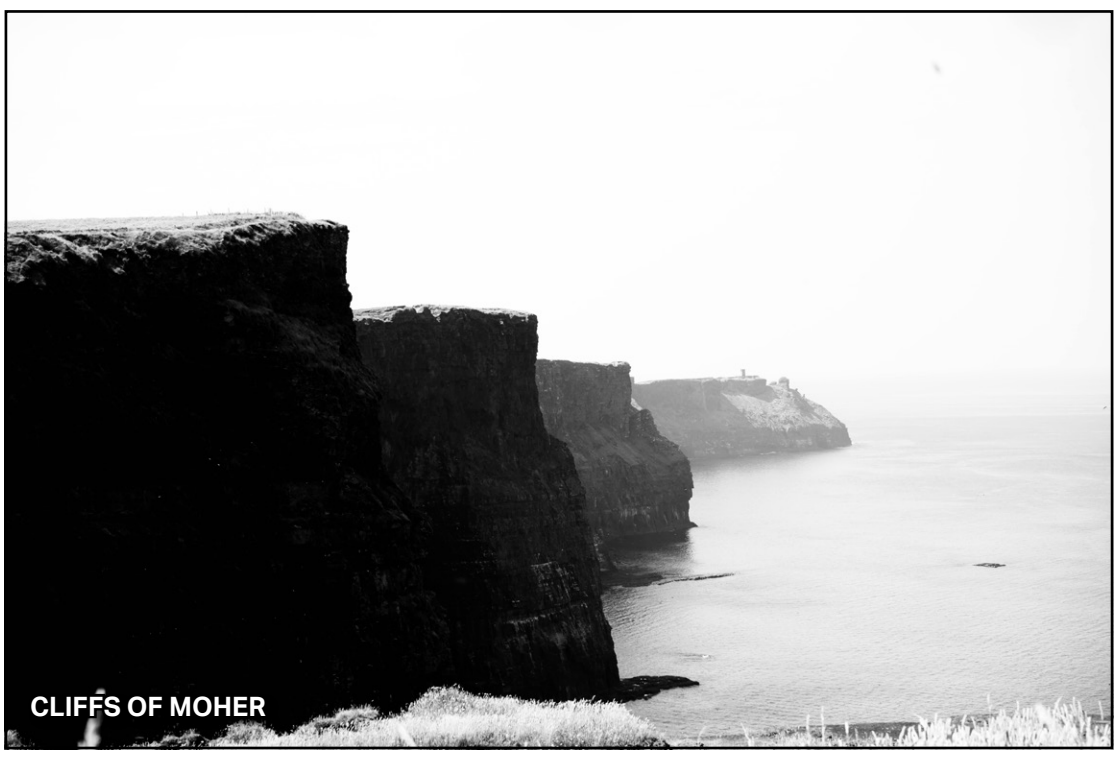
Being able to get away and see sights that make you feel as though you're in a cinematic masterpiece is something you will never regret.

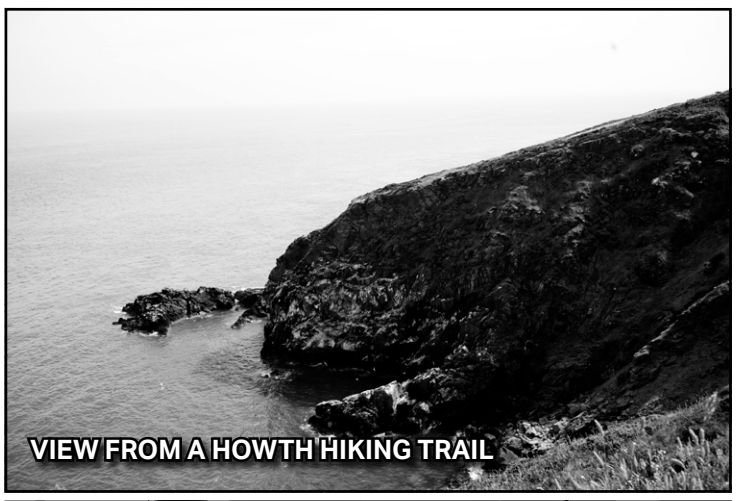
The rolling green hills of the country reminded me of home but offered new sights as well like the Cliffs of Moher, giant green topped cliffs that meet the Atlantic. The views remind one of fantastical movie settings even when bustling with hundreds of other visitors.

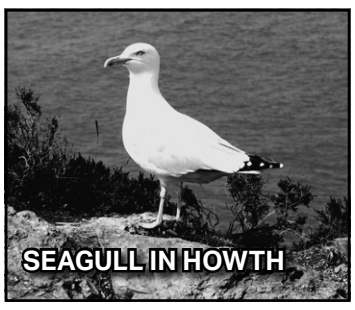
The site even featured several shops wedged into the side of a mountain right out of Tolkien's Middle-Earth.

During our visit we had a very clear day which allowed for great views of the entirety of the cliffs, but we missed out on some of the signature crashing waves.

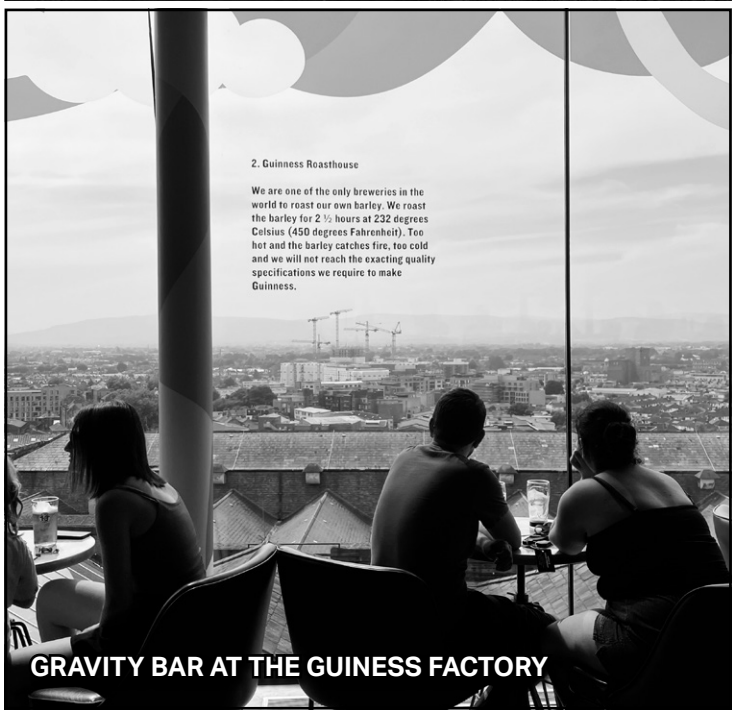
Our visit was centered around the city of Galway, the fifth largest city on the island located on the western coast. The city was just large enough to have plenty of things to do and a main public transport station to journey around the other parts of the country.


CLIFFS OF MOHER


VIEW FROM A HOWTH HIKING TRAIL


SEAGULL IN HOWTH

PHOTOS BY KAYLIE FARMER



GRAVITY BAR AT THE GUINESS FACTORY

Public transport played a pivotal role in our trip as we did not rent a car. Renting a car wasn't super necessary for our trip as most of the places we needed to go were on transit routes. The only shortfalls occurred when we were on a slightly tight schedule and the city buses would run late, never arrive at all or we were subject to cramped rides at busier times of day.

Longer bus rides do give you a chance to see even more of the country with views starting in the city and divulging into farmland.

We were able to visit the capital and largest city of the Republic of Ireland, Dublin, twice during our short trip. Only a 2 and half hour bus ride to the east coast of Ireland put us in a bustling city center where we were able to shop, eat, explore and of course visit the Guinness Factory.

Surprisingly, the Guinness Factory museum was one of the most immersing museums I have ever visited, even with a specific and narrow topic. The view from the gravity bar above the storehouse over the city of Dublin was nothing to sneeze at either.

If you ever find yourself with the opportunity or resources to visit the Emerald Isle, jump at the chance and put the following destinations on your list: the Cliffs of Moher, Stephen's Green Shopping Center, Howth, the Guinness Factory, Kylemore Abbey and Trinity College. I would also recommend getting food at Nando's, Supermac's, and a few local pubs.

P.S. If you do find yourself on Ireland's coasts don't be surprised by the constant chatter and squawks from the abundance of seagulls and other birds.

SHOPS AT THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

LINE OF TOURISTS AT THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

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Greg Helton, Clerk

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NAME OF WARD OR DECEDENT	NAME & ADDRESS OF FIDUCIARY	NAME & ADDRESS OF ATTY REPRESENTING FIDUCIARY	Date Appointed	Creditors must file by
26-P-178 KAREN ANN KING 144 SOUTH ALLISON AVE. BARBOURVILLE, KY 40906	JOSHUA KING 39 CHARIOT DR. BARBOURVILLE, KY 40906		8-24-2026	6 MONTHS