



Wilderness Group

Insider Experiences  
Across Ireland

Explore



# Wilderness Group

## **Our approach to private travel:**

As a luxury active and experiential travel specialist, our focus is on creating unforgettable, end-to-end, 5-star holiday experiences across Ireland. And whilst active or nature based activity often forms the core of our customised adventure holidays, each also includes a strong and impactful element of rich, cultural immersion, or what we like to call “insider experiences” many of which would otherwise not be bookable on your own.

To give you a flavour of just what we mean by insider experiences, we’ve pulled together a few of our favourites, so explore the pages that follow.

*Patricia*

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Island lighthouse exclusive use



Wild seashore foraging



Birdwatching on a private island



Gourmet fishing on the Wild Atlantic Way



Nature & archeology hike with a Burren farmer



Forage and make your own Gin



Foodie walk in Northern Ireland



Sea stack climbing in the coolest place on earth



Stargazing in Mayo's dark skies



Tailor made suit of Donegal tweed



Explore an oyster farm



Moonlight kayak & camp under the stars in Yeats Country



## Island lighthouse exclusive use

For a remote Ireland retreat, enjoy exclusive use of a magnificently restored lighthouse perched on the edge of a 400 ft sea cliff. Once home to the feared Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley, the island still houses her castle, as well as the 12th century abbey with a remarkable series of medieval wall and ceiling paintings from animals to men to dragons - and the reputed final resting place of the Pirate Queen. Discover some of the island's ancient heritage from the stone age to the medieval age to recent times, as well as flora and fauna on guided hikes.



## Wild seashore foraging

The coasts of Kerry are rugged, wild and windswept. Meet an equally rugged, wild and windswept local for a day exploring the shoreline, rocky and sandy beaches where he will teach you how to forage for edible seaweeds and learn about the myriad wildlife that lives along the coast. Taste this surprisingly delicious superfood and learn about different ways to include seaweed in our diets. During the walk, he'll regale your clients with tales of Irish legends to get a true understanding of how the Atlantic landscape impacts local life in these parts.



## Birdwatching on a private island

The rugged Irish coast is littered with islands big and small. One such group is the Saltee Islands, off the shore of Co Wexford. These privately owned islands are widely recognised as one of the best seabird sanctuaries in Europe - and even the world. While hiking around these deserted islands, you'll get the chance to spot over 220 species of birds, including the adorably iconic puffin. While you're there, make a pilgrimage to the throne of the late Prince Michael the First - the island's self-appointed royalty.



Saltee Islands

# Gourmet fishing on the Wild Atlantic Way

Among the secret coves and rocky inlets, your mission is to catch and eat a gourmet fish feast. Your skipper will locate the best places to find the catch of the day along the rugged Irish shores before whipping up just-caught fish into delicious seafood dishes such as ceviche. Clients can enjoy their banquet on board the boat or along the shores of any number of the beautiful yet deserted islands where you'll have a beachside picnic all to yourself.



# Nature & archeology hike with a Burren farmer

The Burren National Park is a seemingly barren, rocky moonscape. However, this region is known worldwide as a unique biosphere where over 40 species of Arctic and Mediterranean wildflowers grow side by side. Explore millennia of ancient human history such as megalithic sites, holy wells and archeological heritage while walking the land with a local Burren farmer. Perhaps joining him for a cup of tea in his kitchen, clients get a real feel for what life is like in the Burren region. Head out to the fields to find out how local farmers maintain long-held (and sometimes lost) traditions such as winterage - the practice of herding cattle to winter pastures, and how through such farmers, the very landscape itself is kept alive.





## Forage and make your own gin

Though whiskey is perhaps the most famous Irish liqueur, gin is a solid second. Think alcohol and wild landscapes don't go together? Think again. Head to Ireland's Ancient East to learn how gin is made. Hike through the hills with an expert guide who will interpret the landscape as your clients forage for local gin ingredients. Then it's back to school. Attend an exclusive gin school to learn how to use your newly foraged ingredients to distill your very own bottle of gin to bring back home.



## Foodie walk in Northern Ireland

Tickle your taste buds along the Causeway Coast on a walking tour led by passionate local foodies. Indulge all five senses: drink in the dramatic landscapes, listen to the sound of crashing waves, feel the soft grass underfoot and smell the seaweed in the air. Then, rub elbows with the producers, artisans, bakers and chefs leading the way for Northern Ireland's up-and-coming foodie culture as you taste their wares.



## Sea stack climbing in the coolest place on earth

Heading into Donegal's remote Gaeltacht (Gaelic speaking) regions, gain an unrivalled insight into the history and culture of the land. Through tales of famine, emigration and community, you will come away with a real sense of place and introduction to the Gaelic language. Windswept and rugged Donegal, National Geographic Traveller's Coolest Place on Earth, contains more climbable rocks than the rest of Ireland combined. Clients will get their adrenaline pumping with a heart-stopping Tyrollean traverse, suspended above swelling Atlantic waves. Rappelling down sheer cliff faces to churning ocean waves, climb to the top of a sea-stack located off a tiny island on Europe's western fringe - a place that puts the 'wild' into Wild Atlantic Way.



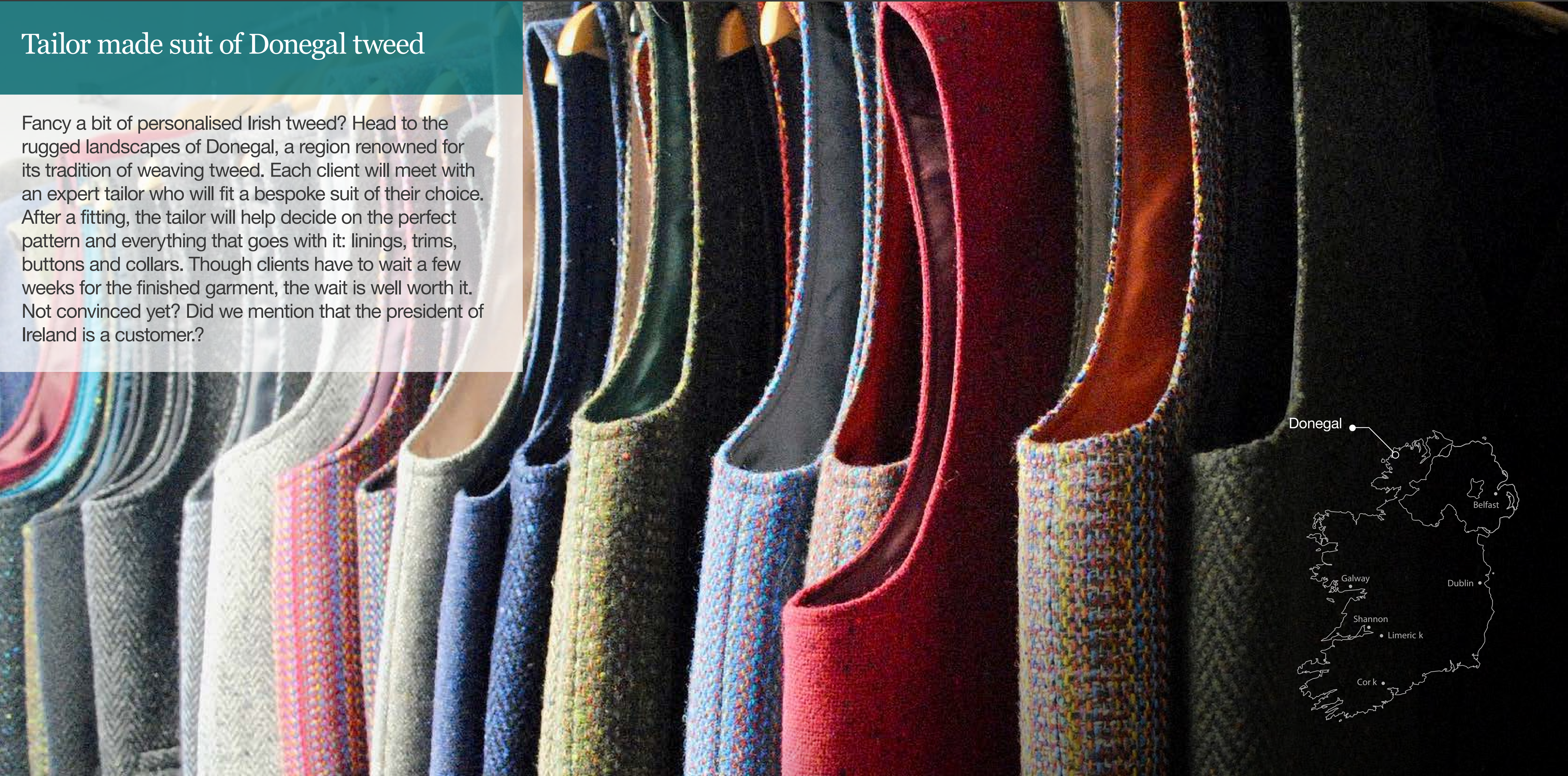
## Stargazing in Mayo's dark skies

Head to County Mayo, among Ireland's most rural open spaces, for a chance to experience Ireland's first International Dark Sky Park, showcasing some of the darkest and most pristine skies in the world. On a good dark night, gaze up at roughly 4,500 twinkling stars, a few planets, the Milky Way and the occasional meteor shower - all without a telescope. Light pollution in most urban areas means this is something few people today still get to experience. Join one of the founders of the park for a unique stargazing experience in the most wild and remote Irish national park to revel in a view few people get to enjoy.



## Tailor made suit of Donegal tweed

Fancy a bit of personalised Irish tweed? Head to the rugged landscapes of Donegal, a region renowned for its tradition of weaving tweed. Each client will meet with an expert tailor who will fit a bespoke suit of their choice. After a fitting, the tailor will help decide on the perfect pattern and everything that goes with it: linings, trims, buttons and collars. Though clients have to wait a few weeks for the finished garment, the wait is well worth it. Not convinced yet? Did we mention that the president of Ireland is a customer.?



## Explore an oyster farm

Most people associate oysters with banquets and fine dining. But in Ireland, start at the beginning of the process with a hands-on experience. Pull on the waterproofs and step out into the water with an oyster farmer as he does his rounds. Learn how oysters grow, and about the local aquaculture industry so important to Ireland's coasts. After learning how to shuck oysters, try a traditional oyster and Guinness tasting, or go upscale and pair oysters with a flute of champagne.



# Moonlight kayak & camp under the stars in Yeats Country

Explore the romantic, windswept landscapes of Yeats Country immortalized by Ireland’s famous poet WB Yeats. After sunset, clients will experience a moonlight kayak along the quiet lake shores of Yeats’ “Lake Isle of Inishfree” to a deserted island. There, enjoy a fine dining and glamping experience, learning about local tales and legends - then sleep under a canopy of stars on this beautiful island.



A map of Ireland is shown in the bottom right corner. A white dot on the western coast of Ireland is labeled "Yeats Country". Other major cities in Ireland are marked with dots and labeled: Belfast, Dublin, Galway, Shannon, Limerick, and Cork.

# Get in touch now to start planning your clients bespoke adventure

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