



## **2019 World Charolais Technical Congress**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Ireland**

### **Detailed Itinerary**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

Delegates arrive to Ireland and travel from Dublin Airport to our first Congress Hotel, The Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin. [www.thegrand.ie](http://www.thegrand.ie)



Ideally located by the sea in Dublin's most attractive town, Malahide, the Grand Hotel is also close to Dublin International Airport and the M1/M50 motorways. The Grand Hotel features the best accommodation in Malahide offering a range of bedroom types, some with sea views and all built and designed to a high four star standard. The Hotel has an

extensive leisure centre, the renowned Arena Health & Fitness Club, with swimming pool and gymnasium.

Malahide is a unique seaside retreat, home to a variety of stylish restaurants, cheerful bars, chic shops and many natural attractions including Portmarnock beach and stunning coastline.

On arrival our delegates will be welcomed by the Irish Charolais Society and an informal dinner will be available for all delegates on arrival.

## Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019

The first day of your trip begins with breakfast in the Grand Hotel, Malahide followed by a cultural excursion to the Historic Brú na Bóinne site, which is not only recognized as one of the world's most prehistoric landscapes but also contains The Brú na Bóinne tombs, the largest assemblage of megalithic art in Western Europe.



Following lunch, we proceed to our first farm visit the **Skidoo Pedigree Charolais** herd in Swords, Co. Dublin. One of Ireland's oldest and most recognized Pedigree Charolais herds.



The evening dinner will be held in a Traditional Pub in Malahide, where delegates can enjoy some Irish hospitality and traditional Irish music.

## Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Following breakfast, our first visit will be to the **Teagasc Grange Research Centre** in County Meath, for an overview of beef production in Ireland, the role Charolais plays within it, and an insight into research trials currently being undertaken in Grange. This will involve presentations from Teagasc Beef Specialists. [www.teagasc.ie/animals/beef/grange/](http://www.teagasc.ie/animals/beef/grange/).



After lunch we will visit the renowned **Guinness Storehouse Dublin**, to spend a couple of hours in the Guinness brewery experiencing the tale of Ireland's famous beer, with tastings and spectacular views from the rooftop bar. Housed in an old fermentation plant, this seven-storey visitor experience brings you on an unforgettable and magical journey deep into the heart of the world famous Guinness brand and company.

This evening following dinner we will go to Dublin city centre and the Gaiety Theatre where we will attend the show **"Riverdance"**. This show was made famous as the entertainment during the Eurovision Song Contest in 1994 and has played all over the world ever since, it is a very entertaining and fast moving show which we are sure you will enjoy.





## Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Today following breakfast, we leave Malahide for Meath and Kilkenny our next destinations.

Our visit this morning is to the **Kepak Feedlot** in Clonee, Co. Meath for an overview and explanation of the beef industry in Ireland, the current grading system and the performance of Charolais cattle going to slaughter. This is followed by a visit to the Tully Test Performance Centre in County Kildare for an update on current Research being undertaken at the Centre and a review of trials carried out there.



Following lunch, we will visit the **National Stud and Japanese Gardens** in Kildare. It is the home of equine royalty, immaculately-bred stallions who can be seen and admired alongside protective mares, frolicking foals and athletic yearlings. We will also visit the Japanese gardens, the gardens trace the passage of a soul from birth to death and beyond, at the same time providing a meeting place for the cultures of East and West.



We proceed to Kilkenny and the four star Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny. [www.lyrath.com](http://www.lyrath.com)



Lyrath Estate Kilkenny is unique, located on 170 acres complete with picturesque lakes, historic gardens and woodlands, it is the definitive country resort hotel while also boasting a location in Kilkenny City, the historic heartland of Ireland.

The historic 17th Century Estate House sits elegantly alongside the dramatic design of the contemporary extension in a striking architectural example of the successful marriage of old and new. Lyrath Estate boasts 139 unique bedrooms, the multi award winning Oasis Spa and the Kilkenny Convention Centre.



This evening we will travel into Kilkenny City for Dinner. Venue TBC.

## Thursday 8th August 2019

Following breakfast in Lyrath Hotel, delegates will have a choice whether they would like to attend the **Charolais Technical Conference 2019** or visit **Kilkenny Castle** in Kilkenny City.

The Technical Conference and Seminars will be held in the Lyrath Hotel Co. Kilkenny. The topic of the conference will be **“Genomics”** and will include presentations from various personnel involved in the cattle breeding industry in Ireland. Each Country will then get the opportunity to present on the topic of Genomics.





That evening we travel to the **Knockmahon Pedigree and Commercial Charolais herd** in Castlewarren, Co. Kilkenny, where they will host us for a barbeque and barn dance on the Farm.



## Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Today following breakfast, we leave the Lyrath Hotel and Kilkenny. Our first visit this morning is to the famous **Coolmore Stud**, Fethard, Co. Tipperary which is situated in Ireland's "Golden Vale". Coolmore Stud is generally acknowledged to be the world's biggest and best thoroughbred racehorse breeding operation.



We will now travel on to Tullamore, Co. Offaly to visit the Tullamore Distillery home to Tullamore Dew a very famous triple distilled whiskey. We will be guided by one of their whiskey experts through the distilling process, beginning with the birth of a blend and finishing with your very own tasting. [www.tullamoredew.com](http://www.tullamoredew.com)



We then proceed to our next hotel, the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, a four-star hotel in the centre of Athlone Town. [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gwysi-sheraton-athlone-hotel/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/gwysi-sheraton-athlone-hotel/)



A local landmark in Athlone thanks to its 12 storey glazed tower, Sheraton Athlone Hotel is a unique hotel in Ireland offering all of the comfort you can expect from a fourstar hotel, with many affording spectacular views over the River Shannon and Ireland's lakelands, as well as outstanding spa facilities. Health & Leisure facilities include a remarkable aquatics area with 18m pool, 3 feature pools and state of the art fitness equipment. Sheraton Athlone Hotel is located beside the Athlone Town Centre shopping centre giving it prime location.

To-night the Irish Charolais Society will host the Gala Dinner, this will be held in the **Wineport Lodge** on the River Shannon. We will travel to the venue by boat. Wineport Lodge is situated on the banks of Lough Ree and is renowned for its excellent food and wines.



## Saturday 10th August 2019

We start today at a more leisurely pace with breakfast at the hotel, then we travel north to Enniscrone Co. Sligo where we will visit the newly established **Bostonia Pedigree and Commercial Charolais Herd**.



Following the visit, we will have Dinner en-route back to Athlone. Venue TBC

Tonight you will have some leisure time to see Athlone, stroll down to the River Shannon and maybe visit one of the oldest pubs in Ireland "Seán's Bar".

## Sunday 11th August 2019

Today we attend the **National Charolais Show** which will be held at the Tullamore Agricultural Show, which is Ireland's largest one day agricultural show held on the second Sunday of August each year.

The success of Tullamore Show, has ensured its position as one of Ireland's major attractions and the program of Tullamore Show events incorporates many elements including cultural, commercial and competitive interests, ranging from livestock equestrian, home industries, inventions, vintage, fashion, style and performing arts.



Tonight the Irish Charolais Society will host a Farewell Dinner for all delegates in the Sheraton Hotel in Athlone.



## Monday 12th August 2019

Delegates will depart from Athlone today, shuttles to the Airport have been arranged and details can be found on the Registration form.