



The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Office of College Advancement

UGA Garden and Farm Tour of Ireland 2009

Dear Friend,

Dean Scott Angle of the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and I invite you to join us on a tour of some of the great gardens, farms, and cultural and historical sights of Ireland from **July 20th until July 27th**. The Irish tour host and I have carefully selected farms, gardens, meals, and activities to provide tour participants with the quintessential Irish cultural immersion.

I have led five other garden tours of Ireland, and I have narrowed our list to the **must-see** gardens for the first time visitor to Ireland. Ireland is the Garden Isle, and we will spend our first day understanding the influence of geology and climate on the plant palette of Ireland. The moonscape topography and the plant life of The Burren is other worldly, and I am excited that we will have a local guide to tell us The Burren's story. At Muckross and Powerscourt, we will see the world's finest examples of a picturesque and Italian revival style garden, respectively. Harold Peto is one of England's finest arts and crafts designers, but little known. We will be transported to Eden on our ferryboat ride to his island garden of Ilnacullin. At Helen Dillon's garden in Dublin, we will be served tea and biscuits at Ireland's most famous small residential garden.

Yes, aspiring professional horticulturists will enjoy learning about garden history, design, and culture on our tour, but anyone will be wowed by the beautiful plants and gardens, not to mention our extracurricular activities. The tour of the Irish National Stud farm is fascinating, and I can't wait to learn how to cook scones with Greta Power, which our Irish tour host says are the best in Ireland. The dinner and overnight at an Irish farm will allow us to experience the warmth and charm of the Irish people, the friendliest people in the world. After numerous visits with my students to Ireland, I know where the best Irish music can be found in Killarney, Blarney, and Dublin.

I have included copies of the tour itinerary and tour registration form for your convenience. Please call or email me if you have any questions. I'm looking forward to meeting you on our Ireland adventure!

Dr. Tim Smalley
Associate Professor
1111 Plant Sciences Building
Horticulture Department
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
706-542-0788
TSmalley@uga.edu

CAES Activity Center, Four Towers, Athens, Georgia 30602
Telephone (706) 542-3390 • Fax (706) 542-1899 • www.uga-caesalumni.com
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution