

CTA Fam Trip

6th- 8th February 2026

Option 2 Mid Ulster

Friday 6th February 2026

Arrive at your leisure and check-in to The Maldron Hotel, Derry

The Maldron Hotel Derry is a stylish 4-star hotel located right inside the historic City Walls

Address- Butcher St, Londonderry BT48 6HL, United Kingdom

Saturday 7th February 2026

09:00 Depart for Mid Ulster with your guide

09:50 Ulster American Folk Park

Trace the journey of Irish emigrants from homesteads in Ulster to new lives across the Atlantic at the Ulster American Folk Park. Wander through authentic 18th and 19th-century buildings, board a full-scale emigrant ship, and discover the hardships and hopes that fueled generations of migration. This immersive outdoor museum reveals how Ulster's people helped shape the American frontier, forging bonds that still endure today.

11:00 Depart

12:15 Gorta- Swatragh's Famine Story

In the atmospheric setting of Friels Bar and Restaurant, explore one of Ireland's most poignant historical narratives. Led by Dermot Friel, this experience titled 'Gorta' unearths the local impact of the Great Famine. Prompted by the discovery of a famine pot and hidden window, Dermot worked with historians to bring forth the village's story of survival and loss. This thought-provoking journey merges hospitality, heritage, and remembrance in one compelling visit.

13:15 Lunch in Friels Bar and Restaurant

Friels Bar & Restaurant in Swatragh, County Londonderry, is a five-generation family-run pub and eatery dating back to 1837, famous for its warm welcome and rich history. Originally a village shop and famine soup kitchen, the building still displays its old bar counter, log fires, and historic photographs, creating a cosy, heritage-filled atmosphere. Today it serves hearty, locally sourced dishes—from traditional Irish roasts to fresh seafood—alongside a well-stocked bar, and offers indoor dining, a snug, and outdoor seating. Friels has won multiple hospitality awards and is developing a visitor centre highlighting its Great Famine story, making it both a beloved dining spot and a living piece of Northern Ireland's cultural history.



14:15 Depart

14:35 Glenshane Country Farm-Sheepdogs at work

Join James as he shares his tales of farming life, and points out Slemish Mountain, where Saint Patrick, Ireland's patron saint, worked as a shepherd 1,500 years ago. Help him open gates to lead the flock into traditional wooden pens, make friends with the working sheepdogs, breathe in the scent of fresh hay, and reach over to touch the sheep, their springy wool like candy floss. Take shelter in the viewing gallery, built with Donegal quartz stone and timber, and marvel at the panoramic views of Slieve Gallion mountain, Lough Neagh and the Mourne mountain range.

16:00 Depart

16:45 Arrival back to Derry-Londonderry

18:45 Depart for dinner

19:00 Stitch and Weave

Discover Stitch & Weave, Derry-Londonderry's newest culinary and cultural gem nestled in the heart of Ebrington Square. Set within a beautifully restored historic building, this vibrant venue blends the city's rich textile heritage with modern elegance. With stunning views of the River Foyle and the iconic Peace Bridge, it's the perfect spot to relax, connect, and celebrate the spirit of Derry-Londonderry.