

# CARNEGIE MUSEUMS TRAVEL PROGRAM



*Shannongrove House, Carleton Varney's Private Residence*

## CARLETON VARNEY'S IRELAND

### PRIVATE PLACES, FRIENDLY FACES

Explore Ireland through the eyes of Carleton Varney, with exclusive visits, to private estates and castles in the countryside, including dinner at his own 18th-century Georgian property, Shannongrove House. Many of these visits are not accessible to the public. Step back in time with an intimate, once-in-a-lifetime stay at the country house hotel, Ballyfin. Designed by the great Irish architects, Sir Richard and William Morrison in the 1820s, Ballyfin is admired as the most lavish Regency mansion in Ireland. This 5-star hotel has just 20 rooms and is only open to hotel guests.

July 21-29, 2017

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## Meet Carleton Varney

### Carleton Varney | President, Dorothy Draper & Company



Carleton Varney is associated with the restoration and decoration of countless hotels and resorts all over the world. Formerly the design consultant for the Carter Presidential Library, he also restored and redecorated many diplomatic homes, including the Official Vice President's Residence. His versatility can be seen in the wide range of products that have borne his mark, from furniture, to lamps, dinnerware, crystal and linens. His fabric designs grace the private residences of his impressive roster of clients, including superstars from the worlds of entertainment (Joan Crawford, Van Johnson, Jimmy Nederlander), politics (Presidents Carter and Bush), royalty (Princess Yasmin Aga Khan), and business (Rockefeller). Carleton Varney's design philosophy stresses bright colors and the rejection of all that is impractical, uncomfortable, and drab. He continues the tradition of Dorothy Draper with his imaginative use of vibrant colors, floral patterns, and bold contrasts.

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## TOUR COSTS

**Cork Prelude: July 19 – 22**

From \$1,599\*/person

**Main Trip: July 21 – 29**

From \$8,999\*/person

**Train Postlude: July 29 – 31**

Double Occupancy | \$3,899/person

*\*Airfare and hotel accommodations are additional*



Ballyfin, County Laois, Ireland

## ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

### Optional Prelude: County Cork

July 19 – 22

Experience tranquility at a picturesque Georgian Country Hotel, Longueville House, located on 500 acres of wooded land. Optional activities include private fly fishing, falconry, equestrian, biking & hiking, and tours of the distillery, famed for its cider and Apple brandy. Finish your stay with a class at the Ballymaloe Cookery School, set in the picturesque Irish countryside.

### Adare Village and County Limerick

July 21 – 24

Enjoy intimate, insider visits at the private homes of distinguished local residents, including a tour of George and Michelina Stacpoole's garden and home and dinner with Lady Dunraven at her private residence. Experience Churchill House, built in the mid-18th century for the Denny family. Not open to the public, the residence is considered a 'total work of art', comprised of architecture, landscape design, interiors and one of the largest private collections of Irish art including masterpieces by Jack Butler Yeats, Paul Henry and Thomas Roberts. Our stay in county Limerick will culminate with a visit to Carleton Varney's country estate, Shannongrove House, where you will enjoy an evening of drinks, dinner, and entertainment.

### Ballyfin and the Midlands

July 25 – 26

Escape to Ballyfin, the 200-year old neoclassical house that has been restored to its original, resplendent condition. Each room is opulently furnished and decorated with Irish art and antiques from around the world. Set at the foot of the Slieve Bloom Mountains, with stone walls enclosing the parkland, the landscape is among the finest examples in Ireland of the natural style of gardening. Highlights include ancient woods, walled gardens, follies, and grottos. Spend a day at Birr Castle as a guest of Lord and Lady Rosse with a private tour of the exquisite rooms and picturesque gardens, and enjoy a lunch of local fare in the rich red dining room.

### County Kildare and Dublin

July 25 – 29

En route to Dublin, take an exclusive tour at Newbridge Silverware and Museum of Style Icons with Newbridge CEO William Doyle. Travel to Dublin's most luxurious five star hotel in the finest Georgian garden square, Merrion Hotel. Embark on a private tour of the National Gallery led by the Curator of British art. Have an insider look at designer Louise Kennedy's collection in the heart of Georgian Dublin.

### Optional Postlude: Belmond Grand Hibernian Train

July 29-31

Travel aboard the luxury, all-inclusive Belmond Grand Hibernian train from Dublin to Belfast where you will stay in an elegant, private en-suite cabin and experience evening entertainment by traditional local musicians. Visit the world's largest Titanic visitor experience, partake of an exclusive tour with afternoon tea at the stunning Curraghmore House, historic home of the 9th Marquis of Waterford, and take a tour of the renowned Waterford Crystal factory.

**ITINERARY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**