MYSTERIES OF CELTIC ANCESTRAL LANDS

A Pilgrimage to Ireland

September 17-25, 2025

Sacred Sites of Ireland
County Sligo, Ireland
Fall Equinox 2025

Ireland's celtic history is rich with myths and legends of the ancient gods and goddesses of the Tu'atha Da Danaan, the people of the Light. The battles between ancient kingdoms left energetic scars on the land and on the people.

Join us in exploring the legends and their impact on current culture. Find your place in the story as you engage with the spirit of place and time and assist in the healing of ancestral wounding.

Mary Francis Drake

Rt. Rev. Mary Francis Drake, MA, MSW, D-Min madevi.org



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Audrey Drake

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\$3000 per person including private stone hermitage accommodation at <u>holyhill.ie</u>, food, ground transport and 3 catered dinners.

Non-refundable deposit of \$1000 due May 1, balance due July 1.

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LODGING

https://www.holyhill.ie/ Private or double hermitage

COST

Cost \$3000 per person includes ground transport, private hermitage with staple foods (no meat or alcohol provided), 3 evening community meals, admission to sites. Non-refundable deposit of \$1000 due May 1, balance due July 1.

Not included: airfare, tips, spa services, meals while traveling, souvenirs. Please plan to arrive in Dublin before 9 am local time on 9/17 and depart after 1 pm local time on 9/25.

REGISTRATION

Email to register or inquire for more info:

Mary Francis Drake madevi@madevi.org

Audrey Drake audrey@audreydrake.com

ITINERARY

September 17 – Pick-up at Dublin Airport, 9 am local time. Our first day will be spent at the sacred Celtic land at Tara. We will gather at Tara's Holy Well to be blessed in the sacred waters before walking the processional way to the Stone of Destiny where the Stone of Destiny was said to shout out when the next King approached. Once the water and the ancestral kings are honored, we will walk the faerie field and make offerings to the elemental beings and ask for their blessings on our journey and our work. Then, we head to Holy Hill and settle into the hermitages for the evening community dinner.

September 18 – We explore the beautiful grounds at Holy Hill, taking in the gardens, woodland paths and a 3-mile loop across the countryside with pastoral and ocean views. Teaching time in the library to prepare for the week's work of reparation, reconciliation and reconnection. Cloite-making and gathering of local objects for offerings. Meals on your own today in your hermitage or picnicking in the countryside or at the local beach.

September 19 – Travel Day to County Roscommon to the monument to Eriu and Lugh, Celtic Gods, at the Hill of Ushneich. Descend into the Cave of Cats, birthplace of Queen Maeve. A stop off at Loch Lugh to continue the story of the Sun God, Lugh. If there's time, we will visit Clonmacnoise, the early Catholic monastery on the Shannon River.

September 20 – Our day in Sligo Town will begin with another Holy Well at Tobernault, followed by a tour of the Sligo Cathedral and downtown area for shopping, food, and entertainment.

September 21 – Another day of gentle hiking up to the passage tombs of Carrowkeel and the Cave of Kesh, ancient burial sites and a final stop at Shee Lugh, burial site of Lugh with a view of Loch Arrow.

September 22 - Holy Well at Aughris Head for Equinox Service

September 23 – Early morning hike up Knocknarea to the burial cairn of Queen Maeve. The rest of the day will be spent at the seaside village of Strandhill where you can shop, eat and schedule a spa treatment at Voya Seaweed Spa.

September 24 – Final day at Holy Hill enjoying the grounds and the local beach. Evening program and dinner. Packing for early departure.

September 25 – Early departure to Sligo bus station. Bus to Dublin Airport arrival at 11 am.