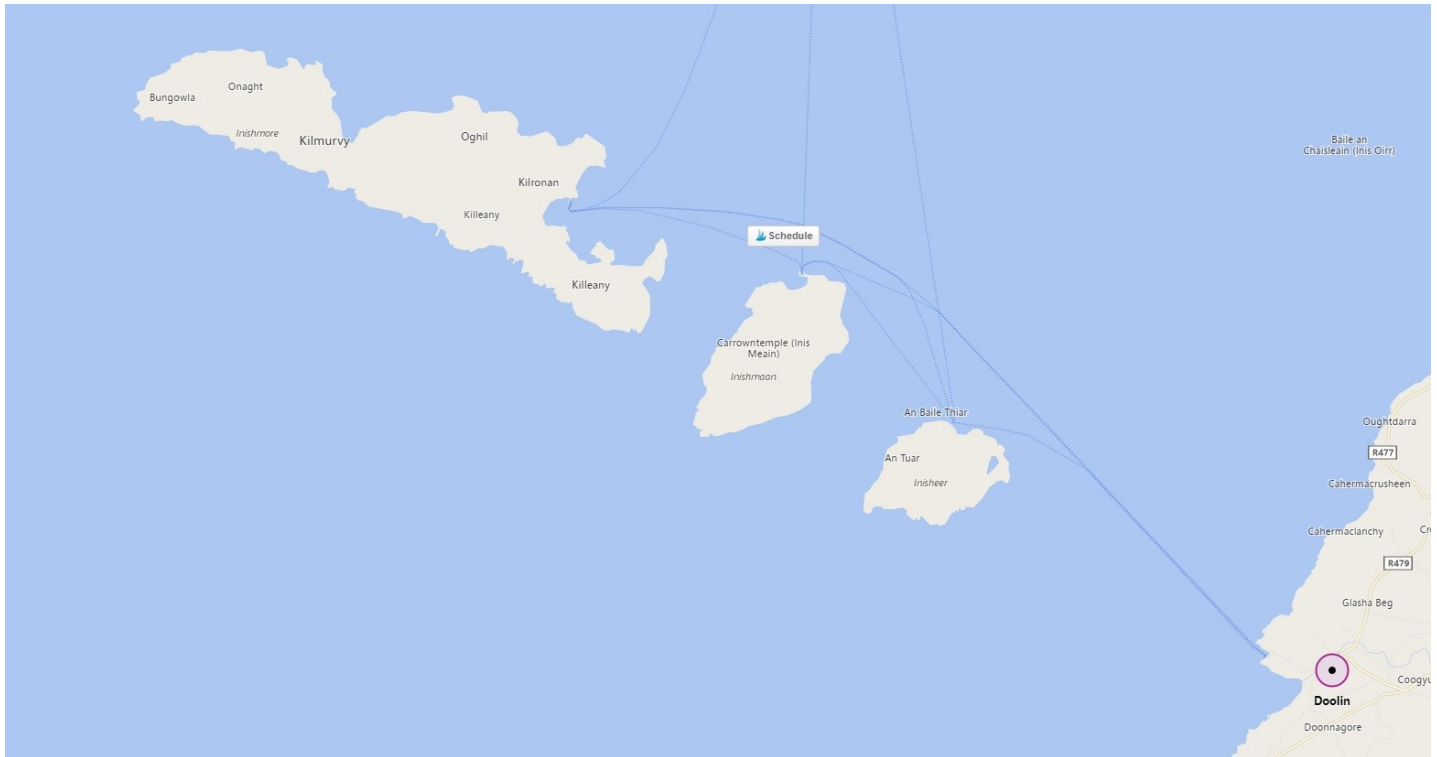


Itinerary 2: Aran Islands Day Trip

Choose the finest day of your stay in Doolin to spend a day on one of the Aran Islands. These three islands off the coast of County Clare are easily reached by ferry daily. I recommend [Doolin2Aran Ferries](#).



Because of their remote-ness the Aran Islands feel a bit like stepping back in time to an Ireland where life moves a bit slower. The islands are an official Gaeltacht, or Irish speaking area, so if you've an interest in hearing Irish spoken this is a terrific spot to visit.

The most difficult choice you have is which island to visit!

Inis Mór (Inishmore) is the largest island, and the furthest from Doolin; sailing time is approximately 1 hour 20 minutes. The island has over 50 monuments of Christian, pre-Christian, and Celtic heritage. The most well-known site on Inishmor is [Dún Aonghasa](#) (or Aengus), a prehistoric stone fort built on the cliff's edge. Near the base of the fort is the Worm Hole, a naturally formed rectangular pool that ebbs and flows with the sea. Inishmor is the most popular of the Aran Islands to visit.

Inis Meáin (Inishmaan) is the center island, and the least visited of the three; sailing time is approximately 1 hour 20 minutes. Though Inishmor has the largest fort, Dún Chonchúir on Inishmaan is the best example of a circular stone fort on the islands. Visitors to Inishmaan come for the tranquil cliff walks, fascinating ‘puffing holes’, and stunning clear water perfect for diving.



Inis Oírr (Inisheer) is the smallest of the three islands and the nearest to Doolin; sailing time is approximately 30 minutes. O’Brien’s Castle stands on the highest point of the island, circled by an ancient stone fort. At only 3km long and 3km wide, the island is easy to explore on foot or by hired bike. The Plassey shipwreck and St. Caomhan’s Church are popular sites on the island.

Tip: It is possible to add a Cliffs Cruise on to your return when booking your trip to any of the islands.