

# Annual Visitor Attractions Survey

Analysis of 2022 Performance and Attendances

# Method

## Background

The annual visitor attraction survey was conducted in two phases, with attractions usually open year-round contacted in February, and more seasonal attractions contacted in May.

An email with an online questionnaire was sent out to 385 visitor attractions, informing them of the survey and how to participate.

This was followed by telephone calls to non-responders and to those for whom there was no email address.

There were additional targeted reminder contacts directly from Fáilte Ireland where contact could not be made with certain attractions.

OPW figures were collated separately and combined with the survey responses.

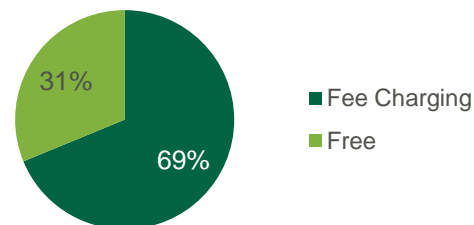
## Multiple response methods

Responses via the multiple survey channels are as follows:

- Online survey (155 attractions)
- Telephone survey (127 attractions)
- OPW (94 attractions)
- Spreadsheet (24 attractions)
- Email (6 attractions)

A total of 406 attractions responded from a population of 505 (80% response rate). More than two thirds of those attractions were fee charging, with the remainder being free attractions.

Responding Attractions in 2022



# Analysis of 2022 Performance



# Sample Make-up by Attraction Type

## Attraction type split largely unchanged

Fáilte Ireland has categorised attractions into 8 types. Their categorisation may vary from year to year due to changes in the attractions' offerings.

Historic sites remain the largest category in the responses, accounting for over one-third of all attractions surveyed (37%).

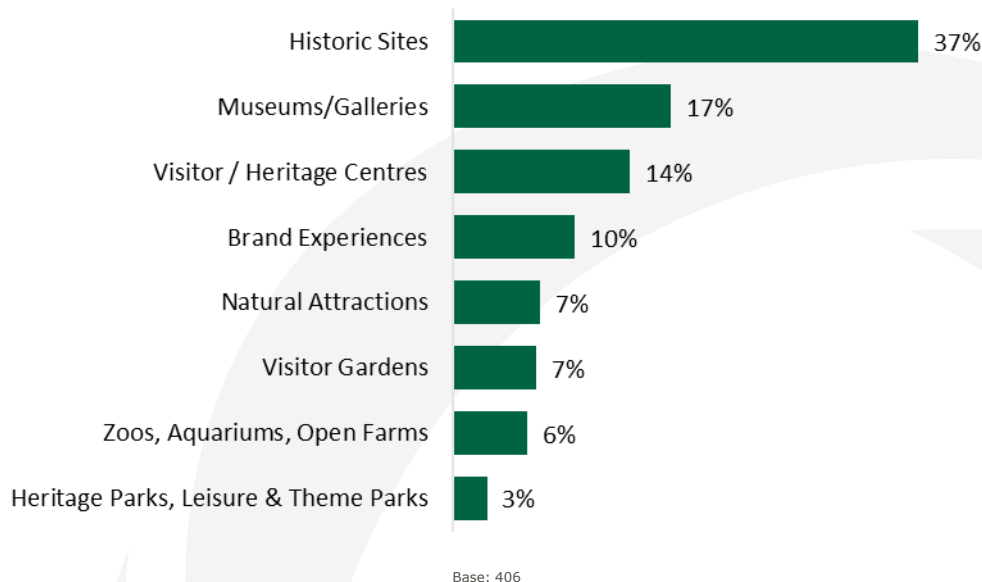
The survey response is generally consistent with the wider population of attractions.

## Regional variations

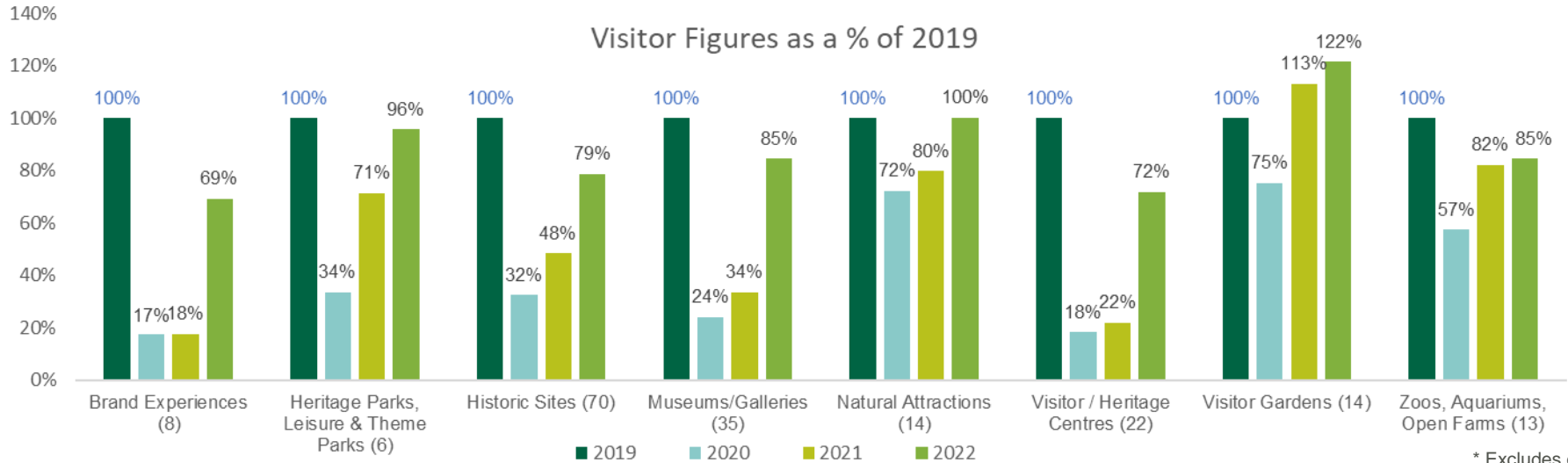
Ireland's Hidden Heartlands has the highest proportion of historic sites of any region (43%), followed closely by Ireland's Ancient East (42%).

Museums/Galleries continue to form the largest category in Dublin (38% of attractions).

Response by Attraction Type



# Year on Year by Attraction Type



## Visitor Gardens continue to grow

Having suffered less of a drop in visitors over the pandemic, visitor gardens had more visitors in 2022 than they did in 2019, with 9 of 14 visitor gardens experiencing increased attendances.

Natural attractions were also back to where they were in 2019.

Other attractions which tend to have outdoor spaces (zoos, aquariums and open farms; and heritage parks, leisure and theme parks) also received greater shares of visitors in 2021 and performed close to pre-pandemic levels in 2022.

Meanwhile brand experiences and visitor/heritage centres had the fewest visitors in both 2021 and 2022 compared to their 2019 levels, once the outlier had been excluded.

# Opening Dates - 2022



## Strong offering from March to November

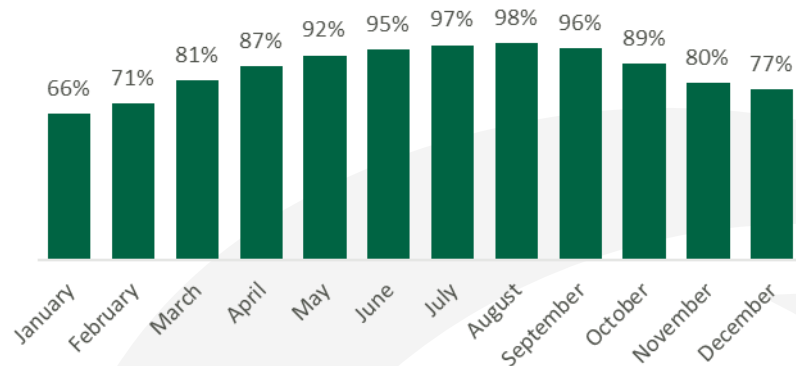
Similar to pre-pandemic times, March to November had high levels of open attractions, but this was followed by a decline over the winter season, particularly in January.

While by August 2021 the proportion of attractions that were open had returned almost to normal levels, a notably lower proportion of attractions were open in November and December (70% each) in 2021 compared to 2022.

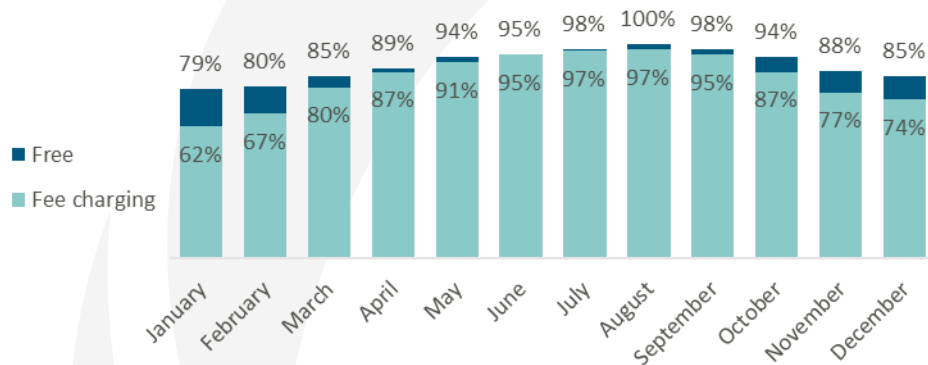
## Free vs. Fee Charging

Free attractions tended to be less seasonal than fee charging attractions, with almost four fifths of free attractions open in January (79%), compared to around three fifths of fee charging (62%).

% of attractions open each month in 2022



Base: 301



# Visitor Origin

## Upsurge in international visitors

In 2022, the proportion of international visitors outnumbers ROI visitors for the first time since the pandemic.

Overall, the percentage of international visitors has increased by 35%pts since 2021, with Wild Atlantic Way experiencing the greatest increase (42%pts) and Ireland's Hidden Heartland the smallest (16%pts).

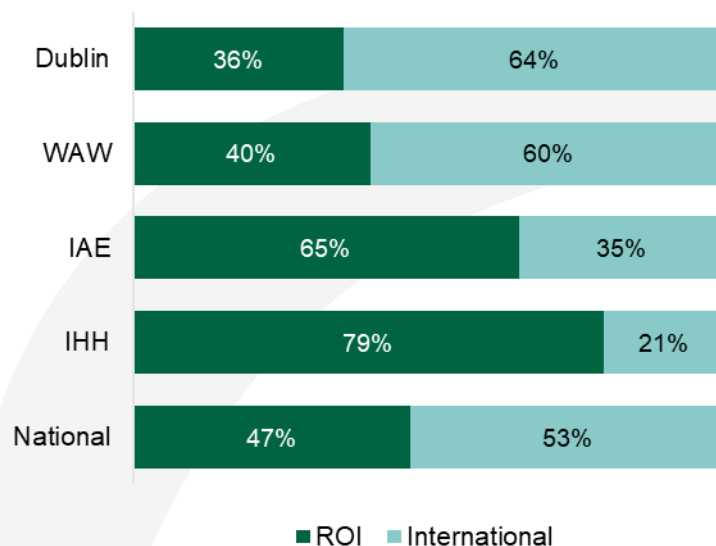
## Pre-pandemic comparisons

The percentage of international visitors has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels, with 2019 seeing a 61% share for international visitors compared to 53% in 2022.

Dublin continues to host the greatest share of international visitors of all regions (64%), whilst Ireland's Hidden Heartlands hosts the smallest (21%).

However, the balance of visitor origin has become more disparate across the regions since 2019.

2022 Make-up of Visitors by Origin



# Recording Visitor Numbers

## Half recorded visitor numbers through ticket sales

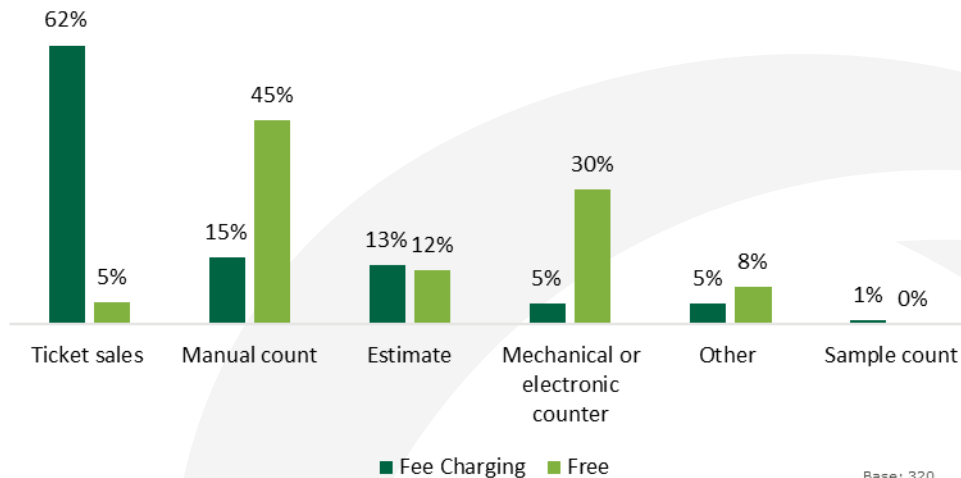
Ticket sales were the most common method of recording visitor numbers among fee charging attractions in 2022 (62%). This has remained relatively consistent year on year.

Meanwhile only 5% of free attractions used ticket sales to record attendance in 2022.

Manual counting was the most common method used by free attractions (45%), which has increased by 15%pts since 2021 while estimates have decreased.

Levels of estimation as a method to record visitors were similar between free and fee charging attraction.

Recording Visitor Numbers



Base: 320



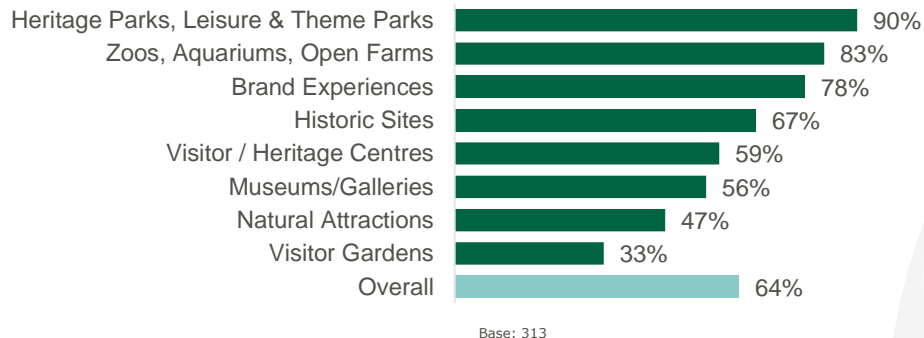
# Booking Online

## Online booking facilities up, but utilisation down

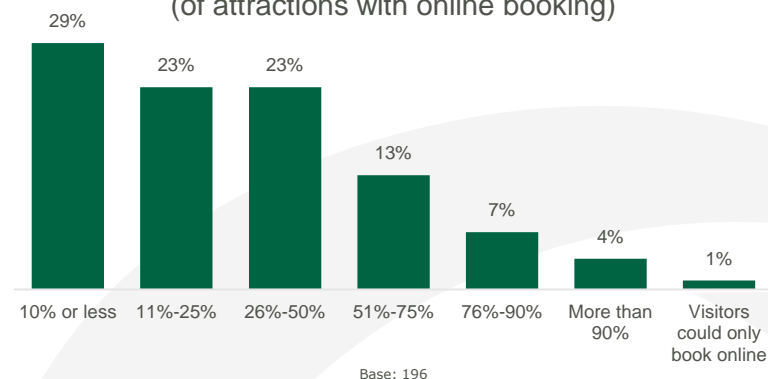
Almost two-thirds (64%) of attractions offered online booking in 2022, a proportion that has increased by 21%pts since 2019 and continued to rise by 4%pts since 2021.

Of all attraction types, heritage parks, leisure and theme parks were most likely to offer online booking in 2022 (90%), while visitor gardens were the least likely (33%).

% of attractions offering online booking



% of bookings made online  
(of attractions with online booking)



However, the utilisation of online booking has decreased, with a quarter (25%) of attractions having at least half of their bookings made online in 2022 compared to 46% in 2021.

Of the attractions that offered online booking in 2022, over a quarter (29%) reported that 10% or less of their bookings were made online, and around three-quarters (76%) had half or less of their bookings made online.

# 2022 Attendances by County

## Introduction

The following pages provide a record of Attendances at Visitor Attractions in 2022. This data is not strictly comparable with previous years due to the impact of Covid and associated restrictions. Please note, participation in the survey is voluntary and therefore this is not a complete record of all Visitor Attractions open in Ireland in 2022. The following information is categorised alphabetically by county and can also be accessed through the [Visitor Numbers to Attractions Dashboard](#)

### CARLOW

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Altamont Gardens	114,175	Visitor Gardens	Free	n/a
Carlow County Museum	14,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	8
Delta Sensory Gardens	5,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
Huntington Castle and Gardens	12,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	11

### CAVAN

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of admission	No. of months open in 2022
Belturbet Station	1,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Castle Saunderson	12,739	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Cavan Burren	13,148	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Cavan County Museum	10,035	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Corravahan House & Gardens	30	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	6
Cuilcagh Mountain (Cavan side only) <sup>1</sup>	4,113	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Shannon Pot	17,115	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a

1. This was the number provided for Ballyvalley Gap. There were 63,070 on the Fermanagh side.

# 2022 Attendances by County

## CLARE

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of admission	No. of months open in 2022
Aillwee Burren Experience <sup>2</sup>	57,967	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	9
Ardnacrusha Power Station	694	Historic Sites	Free	5
Bunratty Castle & Folk Park	311,383	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	12
Burren Farm Experience	500	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Caher Bridge Gardens	1,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	6
Clare Museum	11,500	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience	1,136,868	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Craggaunowen - The Living Past	15,388	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	6
Doolin Cave	109,500	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Ennis Friary	11,032	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Loop Head Lighthouse	10,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	1
McKernan Woollen Mills Ltd	2,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Michael Cusack Centre	5,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Scattery Island	4,758	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Shannon Aviation Museum	4,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
The Burren Centre	27,800	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	6
The Burren Perfumery	50,000	Brand Experiences	Free	n/a

2. April - October. Closed for other months to facilitate upgrades

# 2022 Attendances by County

## CORK (1 of 2)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission <sup>1</sup>	No. of months open in 2022
Allihies Copper Mine Museum	25,300	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	8
Annesgrove Gardens	6,811	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	n/a
Ballymaloe Gardens Cookery School Organic Farm and Gardens	2,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
Bamboo Park	3,187	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	8
Bantry House	25,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	7
Bere Island Heritage Centre	2,815	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Blarney Castle & Gardens	390,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Bryce House - Garinish Island	6,261	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Charles Fort	86,704	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Clonakilty Black Pudding Visitor Centre	6,200	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Clonakilty Distillery	5,978	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Cobh - The Queenstown Story	51,487	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Cork Butter Museum	13,690	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Cork City Gaol	52,273	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Crawford Art Gallery	205,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	11
Doneraile Park	485,000	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Dún na Sead Castle	6,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	8
Elizabeth Fort <sup>3</sup>	50,391	Historic Sites	Free	9

3. Closed for renovations October to December

# 2022 Attendances by County



## CORK (2 of 2)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission <sup>1</sup>	No. of months open in 2022
Fota Arboretum & Gardens	135,775	Visitor Gardens	Free	n/a
Fota Wildlife Park	415,045	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Garnish Island	63,027	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	n/a
Jameson Distillery Midleton	100,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Kilmurry Independence Museum	2,164	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Kinsale Mead Co.	2,600	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	8
Leahy's Open Farm	102,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Michael Collins Centre Castleview	3,332	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Michael Collins House	26,890	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Nano Nagle Place	8,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Old Cork Waterworks Experience <sup>4</sup>	8,905	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Old Head of Kinsale Signal Tower	9,794	Historic Sites	Fee charging	9
Shandon Tower & Bells & Tower St Anne's Church	24,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	11
Skibbereen Heritage Centre	10,700	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	8
Spike Island	66,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	9
St Fin Barre's Cathedral	3,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
The Glucksman, University College Cork	54,834	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
The Titanic Experience	94,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Toy Soldier Factory Visitor Centre	5,300	Brand Experiences	Free	12
West Cork Model Railway Village	54,184	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	12
Youghal Clockgate Tower	1,245	Historic Sites	Fee charging	7
Youghal Heritage Centre	20,810	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12

4. closed weekends from September to December

# 2022 Attendances by County

## DONEGAL

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Campview Farm	504	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Colmcille Heritage Centre	400	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	2
Doe Castle	34,370	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Donegal Castle	55,476	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Donegal County Museum	6,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Donegal Railway Heritage Centre	6,500	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Fanad	19,965	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Fort Dunree Military Museum <sup>5</sup>	100,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Glebe House and Gallery	39,337	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	n/a
Glencolumbkille Folk Village Museum & Heritage Ctr.	56,194	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Glenveagh Castle and Grounds	165,079	Historic Sites	Free	12
Grianan of Aileach	16,592	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Inishowen Maritime Museum and Planetarium	6,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
IOSAS - Celtic Gardens	23,400	Visitor Gardens	Free	12
John Molloy Woollen Mills	20,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Lifford Old Courthouse	2,209	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Lurgybrack Open Farm	55,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	6
Malin Head	46,521	Natural Attractions	Free	12
Newmills Corn and Flax Mill	1,604	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Sliabh Liag Cliffs	81,768	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Triona Design Donegal Tweed Centre	24,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Tropical World	40,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	6
Wild Ireland	10,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12

5. Change in counting method.

# 2022 Attendances by County



## DUBLIN (1 of 3)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
14 Henrietta Street	31,163	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Airfield Estate	122,601	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Áras an Uachtaráin	1,521	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Arbour Hill Cemetery	66,104	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Ardgillan Castle	4,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Book of Kells	835,065	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Casino Marino	6,443	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Chester Beatty Library	434,407	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Christ Church Cathedral	152,239	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Custom House	14,976	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre	13,327	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Drimnagh Castle	5,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Dublin Castle	371,858	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane	147,027	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Dublin City Hall	20,646	Historic Sites	Free	12
Dublin Liberties Distillery	6,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	7
Dublin Zoo	1,242,556	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Dublinia	134,178	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum	264,688	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Farmlough Estate	316,786	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	n/a
Farmlough House	53,149	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Freemasons' Hall Museum	500	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	9

# 2022 Attendances by County

## DUBLIN (2 of 3)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Gallery of Photography	55,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Glasnevin Museum	33,316	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
GPO IEC Witness History	47,227	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Grangegorman Military Cemetery	20,904	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Guinness Storehouse	1,110,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Irish Architectural Archive	6,225	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Irish Museum of Modern Art	567,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Irish Whiskey Museum	56,874	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	10
James Joyce Cultural Centre	2,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	8
Jameson Distillery Bow St.	248,640	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Jeanie Johnston Tall Ship/Famine Museum	36,579	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Kilmainham Gaol	254,768	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Malahide Castle & Gardens	181,501	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Marsh's Library	29,875	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
MoLi Museum of Literature Ireland	40,992	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
National Botanic Gardens	390,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Free	n/a
National Gallery of Ireland	786,315	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology	309,820	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History	249,932	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
National Museum of Ireland - Natural History	137,705	Museums/Galleries	Free	n/a
National Photographic Archive <sup>6</sup>	22,418	Museums/Galleries	Free	11

6. "Ireland on the Box" exhibition, which ran from Dec. 2021 until the end of Nov. 2022.



# 2022 Attendances by County

## GALWAY

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Aran Goats Farm	6,000	Brand Experiences	Free	7
Athenry Castle	12,534	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Aughnanure Castle	28,041	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Battle of Aghrim Interpretative Centre	489	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	3
Carna Immigration Centre	7,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Connemara Celtic Crystal Visitor Centre	10,760	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Connemara National Park	232,443	Natural Attractions	Free	12
Connemara Smokehouse	5,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Dún Aonghasa	119,893	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Galway Atlantaquaria	113,697	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Galway City Museum	102,798	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Glengowla Silver & Lead Mines	9,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Hall of the Red Earl	25,149	Historic Sites	Free	12
Irish Workhouse Centre	6,360	Historic Sites	Fee charging	9
Killary Sheep Farm	12,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	9
Kylemore Abbey & Garden	426,738	Historic Sites	Fee charging	10
Lettermullen Seaweed Centre/Heritage Centre	3,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Micil Distillery Experience	4,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	10
Patrick Pearse's Cottage	19,292	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Portumna Castle	33,527	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Rathbaun Farm	9,562	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
St Nicholas Collegiate Church	7,865	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
The Sheep & Wool Centre	74,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	8
Turoe Pet Farm and Leisure Park	94,740	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Woodville Walled Garden	450	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	7

# 2022 Attendances by County

## DUBLIN (3 of 3)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
National Print Museum	43,714	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Newbridge House & Farm	109,705	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church	82,000	Historic Sites	Free	12
Pearse Lyons Whiskey Distillery	24,366	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Pearse Museum	17,759	Museums/Galleries	Free	n/a
Phoenix Park Visitor Centre	2,013,211	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	n/a
Rascals	1,227	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Rathfarnham Castle	9,713	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Skerries Mills	117,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
St Patrick's Cathedral	443,536	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
St. Audoen's Church	19,150	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Teeling Whiskey Distillery	115,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
The GAA Museum & Croke Park Stadium Tour	91,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
The Little Museum of Dublin	75,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
The National Library of Ireland <sup>7</sup>	56,193	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
The National Wax Museum Plus	76,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Windmill Lane recording studios	10,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	n/a

7. Attendance at 'The Life and Works of William Butler Yeats' exhibition, excludes the readers and researchers to the Reading Room which may have been included in previous years

# 2022 Attendances by County



## KERRY(1 of 2)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Ardfert Cathedral	9,526	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Blasket Island	12,000	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Blasket Visitor Centre	43,348	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Blennerville Windmill	11,200	Historic Sites	Fee charging	7
Bonane Heritage Park	8,000	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	12
Bromore Cliffs	1,500	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Crag Cave	62,500	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Derreen Gardens	10,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
Derrynane House	16,866	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Derrynane Parklands	288,267	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Dick Mack's	10,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Dingle Oceanworld	110,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Falconry Kerry	1,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	9
Gallarus Castle and Oratory	19,591	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Glanleam Gardens	500	Visitor Gardens	Free	3
Kennedy's Open Farm	23,500	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	8
Kerry Bog Village Museum	25,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Kerry County Museum	40,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Kerry Writers Museum	7,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Kilgarvan Motor Museum	3,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Killarney House	36,930	Historic Sites	Free	12
Killarney National Park	199,121	Natural Attractions	Free	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

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## KERRY (2 of 2)

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Lartigue Monorail & Museum	4,104	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	6
Listowel Castle	8,847	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Muckross House and Traditional Farms	162,459	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Muckross House Gardens and Grounds	764,534	Historic Sites	Free	12
Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne	662	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	4
Portmagee Whiskey and The Spirit of the Sea Experience	6,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	6
Ross Castle	86,324	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Siamsa Tire	38,606	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Skellig Michael	14,197	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Skellig Six18 Distillery	10,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	10
Tarbert Bridewell Courthouse and Jail Museum	2,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	9
Tarbert House	700	Historic Sites	Fee charging	4
The Skellig Experience	20,542	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	9
Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre	329,000	Natural Attractions	Free	12
Vintage Wireless Museum	30	Museums/Galleries	Free	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

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## KILDARE

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Castletown House	18,118	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Castletown House Parklands	958,921	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens	140,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	11
Kildare Town Heritage Centre	8,422	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Lullymore Heritage and Discovery Park	52,850	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	10
Maynooth Castle	26,505	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Newbridge Silverware	200,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

## KILKENNY

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Castlecomer Discovery Park	171,532	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	12
Jerpoint Abbey	20,938	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Jerpoint Park	5,500	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	n/a
Kells Priory	29,121	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Kilkenny Castle	486,073	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Kilkenny Castle Parklands	1,418,171	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Medieval Mile Museum	15,509	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Nicholas Mosse Pottery	24,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Nore Valley Park	13,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	8
Rothe House & Garden	15,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
St. Canice's Cathedral	25,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
St. Mary's Church, Gowran	1,311	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
The Butler Gallery	44,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
The National Reptile Zoo	40,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
The Smithwicks Experience at St Francis Abbey Brewery	15,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	6

# 2022 Attendances by County

## LAOIS

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Abbeyleix Heritage House	250	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Ballintubbert Gardens & House	1,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Ballykilcavan Farm and Brewery	827	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	7
Donaghmore Famine Workhouse Museum	1,800	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Emo Court House	17,506	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Emo Court Parklands	350,000	Natural Attractions	Free	n/a
Gash Gardens	694	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	5
Rock of Dunamase	45,215	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Timahoe Round Tower & Heritage Centre	18,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Margaret of New Orleans Cottage	150	Historic Sites	Free	2
Parke's Castle	14,849	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
St. George's Heritage Centre	3,500	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
The Shed Distillery, Drumshanbo	50,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12

## LEITRIM

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Margaret of New Orleans Cottage	150	Historic Sites	Free	2
Parke's Castle	14,849	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
St. George's Heritage Centre	3,500	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
The Shed Distillery, Drumshanbo	50,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

## LIMERICK

Type	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Adare Heritage Centre	56,064	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	121
Askeaton Castle	799	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Desmond Castle, Adare	2,839	Historic Sites	Fee charging	4
Desmond Hall	25,928	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum	19,858	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	6
King John's Castle <sup>8</sup>	8,854	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Limerick City Gallery of Art	55,000	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Limerick City Museum	19,545	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	7
Lough Gur Lakeshore Park & Visitor Centre <sup>9</sup>	105,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Old Irish Ways Museum	300	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Saint Mary's Cathedral	10,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
The Hunt Museum	93,938	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12

<sup>8</sup> KJC was transferred to Limerick City & County Council in early 2022. Full statistics not available.

<sup>9</sup> Some counters were faulty



# 2022 Attendances by County

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## LONGFORD

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Cloughan Farm & Cookery School	240	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	11
Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre	11,430	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Knights and Conquests Heritage Centre	1,200	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Lough Ree Distillery	3,000	Brand Experiences	Free	10
Maria Edgeworth Centre	3,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12

## LOUTH

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Carlingford Castle	641	Historic Sites	Fee charging	8
Carlingford Heritage Centre	4,935	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Mellifont Abbey	26,256	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Millmount Museum & Martello Tower	4,731	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12

# 2022 Attendances by County



## MAYO

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Achill Experience	28,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Ballinglen Museum of Art	2,643	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Ballintubber Abbey	9,412	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Blacksod Lighthouse	3,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	8
Céide Fields	22,396	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Connacht Whiskey Distillery	1,752	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Foxford Woollen Mills Visitor Centre & Factory Tour	150,000	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Granuaile Centre	916	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	7
Ionad Deirbhile	3,500	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	5
Jackie Clarke Collection	27,372	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Knock Museum	31,432	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Lough Mask Distillery	1,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Mayo North Heritage Centre	8,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	n/a
Michael Davitt Museum	3,337	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
National Museum of Ireland - Country Life, Turlough Park	55,037	Museums/Galleries	Free	11
The Marshall Doran Collection at Belleek Castle	1,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
The Quiet Man Museum	4,000	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	5
Westport House	150,639	Historic Sites	Fee charging	10
Wild Nephin National Park	22,972	Natural Attractions	Free	8

# 2022 Attendances by County

## MEATH

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre	71,154	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Battle of the Boyne/Oldbridge Estate	415,016	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Bru na Boinne (incl. Newgrange & Knowth)	109,439	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Bru na Boinne Dowth	19,852	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Emerald Park	751,000	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	9
Francis Ledwidge Cottage Museum	701	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	10
Hill of Tara Grounds	169,488	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Hill of Tara Visitor Centre	9,076	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Kells Courthouse Tourism and Culture Centre	3,266	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Loughcrew Gardens	14,286	Visitor Gardens	Free	n/a
Slane Castle	2,793	Historic Sites	Free	12
Trim Castle	110,913	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a

## MONAGHAN

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Brehon Brewhouse	1,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Carrickmacross Lace Gallery	3,966	Brand Experiences	Free	12
Carrickmacross Workhouse	1,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Monaghan County Museum	11,971	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Patrick Kavanagh Centre	4,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

## OFFALY

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Birr Castle Gardens and Science Centre	101,401	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Clonmacnoise	94,677	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Durrow Abbey	1,446	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Lough Boora Discovery Park	89,000	Natural Attractions	Free	8
Tullamore Dew Visitor Centre	14,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	10

## ROSCOMMON

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Arigna Mining Experience	21,322	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Boyle Abbey	6,425	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Derryglad Folk and Heritage Museum	3,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Dr. Douglas Hyde Interpretive Centre	3,000	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	2
Drum Heritage Centre	700	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Glendeer Pet Farm	26,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	7
King House	13,026	Historic Sites	Fee charging	5
Rathcroghan Visitor Centre	26,500	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Roscommon County Museum	1,180	Museums/Galleries	Free	6
Shannonbridge Fort	15,500	Historic Sites	Free	5
Strokestown Park House & Famine Museum & Walled Garden	34,772	Historic Sites	Fee charging	6

# 2022 Attendances by County



## SLIGO

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Carrowmore	29,236	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Coleman Irish Music Centre <sup>10</sup>	44,765	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
County Sligo Museum	5,583	Museums/Galleries	Free	9
Sligo Abbey	27,367	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Sligo Folk Park	4,782	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	10
The Model, Home of the Niland Collection	38,400	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Yeats Society Sligo - Yeats Building	1,011	Historic Sites	Fee charging	7

10. Increase in visitors due to an advertising campaign and big concert events put on in 2022.

# 2022 Attendances by County

## TIPPERARY

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Cahir Castle	70,692	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Famine Warehouse 1848	600	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Fethard Horse Country Experience	320	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	5
Holycross Abbey	916	Historic Sites	Fee charging	7
Hore Abbey	59,017	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Main Guard	2,801	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Mitchelstown Cave	11,700	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	12
Nenagh Jail	2,550	Historic Sites	Free	12
Nenagh Castle	18,316	Historic Sites	Free	12
North Tipperary Genealogy Centre & Heritage Services	721	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Ormond Castle	4,791	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Rock of Cashel	278,803	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Roscrea Heritage Centre Grounds	9,712	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Slieveardagh Heritage Centre	450	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Free	12
Swiss Cottage	31,353	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Tipperary County Museum	5,966	Museums/Galleries	Free	12

# 2022 Attendances by County

## WATERFORD

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Bishop's Palace (Waterford Treasures Museums)	18,579	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Cappoquin House & Garden	897	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Curraghmore House & Gardens and Shell House	2,931	Historic Sites	Fee charging	5
Dungarvan Castle	9,768	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Greyfriars Municipal Gallery	1,560	Museums/Galleries	Free	12
Irish Silver Museum (Waterford Treasures Museums)	7,428	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
King of Vikings VR Adventure (Waterford Treasures Museums)	8,917	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	7
Lafcadio Hearn Japanese Gardens	36,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
Lismore Castle Gardens	32,210	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	8
Lismore Heritage Centre	24,210	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Medieval Museum (Waterford Treasures Museums)	55,280	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Mount Congreve Gardens	3,086	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	3
National Museum of Time (Waterford Treasures Museums)	14,326	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	12
Reginald's Tower	27,910	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Reginald's Tower - French Church	1,533	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
The House of Waterford Crystal	75,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	12
Tourin House	1,100	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	6
Waterford and Suir Valley Railway	26,546	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	9

# 2022 Attendances by County

## WESTMEATH

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Athlone Castle & Visitor Centre	29,202	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Belvedere House Gardens and Park	129,783	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Kilbeggan Distillery Experience	35,000	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	10
The Hill of Uisneach	1,300	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12

## WEXFORD

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Colclough Walled Garden	17,479	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
Dunbrody Abbey and Visitor Centre	20,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	5
Dunbrody Famine Ship	40,665	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Duncannon Fort	963	Historic Sites	Fee charging	2
Enniscorthy Castle	15,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Ferns Castle	5,138	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Hook Lighthouse	36,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Irish National Heritage Park	59,524	Heritage Parks, Leisure & Theme Parks	Fee charging	11
Johnstown Castle Estate, Museum & Gardens	152,547	Museums/Galleries	Fee charging	12
Kennedy Homestead	5,829	Historic Sites	Fee charging	9
Kia Ora Mini Farm	48,000	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	10
Kilmokea Gardens	20,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	8
The JFK Memorial Park and Arboretum	137,419	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	n/a
Tintern Abbey	18,121	Historic Sites	Fee charging	n/a
Wells House & Gardens	75,564	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Wexford Lavender Farm	10,000	Natural Attractions	Fee charging	6



# 2022 Attendances by County



## WICKLOW

Attraction	2022	Category	Type of Admission	No. of months open in 2022
Glendalough Monument & Site	335,853	Historic Sites	Free	n/a
Glendalough Visitor Centre	44,481	Visitor / Heritage Centres	Fee charging	n/a
Kilmacurragh Gardens	139,960	Visitor Gardens	Free	n/a
Mount Usher Gardens	30,000	Visitor Gardens	Fee charging	12
National Sealife Centre	123,500	Zoos, Aquariums, Open Farms	Fee charging	12
Powerscourt Distillery	14,500	Brand Experiences	Fee charging	9
Powerscourt House, Gardens & Waterfall	418,203	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12
Russborough House & Parklands	200,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	11
Wicklow's Historic Gaol	25,000	Historic Sites	Fee charging	12