



Your Latest Update from Fáilte Ireland

Last month was another busy month for Fáilte Ireland. We published our [2016 Tourism Facts](#) and the list of [Ireland's Top Attractions](#) and revealed the new [Shannon Estuary Way](#) route.

The [Women's Rugby World Cup](#) trophy is making the rounds and we were delighted to announce more [conference wins](#).

Finally, we are busy hosting international media and operators, we've announced our [renewal dates for accommodation](#) (so if this affects you please take note), and the application process for [EDEN Competition](#) is now open - this year's theme is cultural tourism.

Tourism Facts 2016

We've published our preliminary Tourism Facts 2016 - a compilation of key findings on tourism performance in Ireland in 2016. With data from a number of sources, the report tells us that we have, for the first time surpassed the 1million mark for North American visitors and our biggest source market for holidaymakers is now Mainland Europe. [Get all the latest tourism facts here.](#)



Shannon Estuary Way Route Revealed

The route for the Shannon Estuary Drive was revealed this month with the help of former Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Patrick O Donovan. The route is hoped to be the first of a series of drives off the Wild Atlantic Way is being developed to encourage visitors to discover the variety of inland visitor experiences as they travel along the Wild Atlantic Way. [Get more details on the new route, and download the brochure here.](#)



Women's Rugby World Cup Kick Starts with a Quick Tour of Ireland

With the clock ticking down to Dublin's hosting of the 2017 Women's Rugby World Cup, tourists visiting the capital last week had the chance to get up and close and personal with the coveted trophy as it continues its tour of the country. This is just the start of a whistle-stop tour. Visitors can see the trophy in the following Ireland's Ancient East locations next week:

Waterford Crystal – Tuesday, 4th July 1.30-3.30pm

Castletown House – Thursday, 6th July, 1.30-3.30pm

[Find out more about Fáilte Ireland's role in the Women's Rugby World Cup here.](#)





Most Popular Visitor Attractions

We've published our annual list of Ireland's top visitor attractions this month. Most attractions registered strong growth reflecting the strong tourism growth in tourism during 2016.

[Find out what attractions feature on the list here.](#)



From Kells to Kilkenny

A group of tourism trade representatives from Kells in Co. Meath completed a fact-finding visit to Kilkenny this month where they learned all about Ireland's Medieval Mile and how it was developed to drive more visitors to the city through experience development and storytelling. [Find out more about their trip here.](#)



Another Conference Win for Dublin

The European Congress for Obesity - International Congress on Obesity (ECO-ICO) has chosen Dublin as the destination for their 2020 conference, delivering a €3.2million boost.

[Find out more about the latest conference win for Dublin here.](#)



International Media Take in Ireland

International media and **operators** have been touring the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Ancient East and Dublin over the last few weeks taking in **gorgeous gardens, great houses** and galleries. They've also been making the most of **new flight routes** and some of our visitors even came from as far as **China**.



Renewal Dates for Accommodation Out Now

The renewal deadlines for our statutory and listed accommodation sectors are now available. If your accommodation requires renewal the following dates will be important to you:

- Statutory Renewals - 15 October 2017
- Listed Renewals - 11 September 2017

[Find out how to renew and more here](#)



The Search is on for the Best Cultural Destination in Ireland

The search has begun to find the destination in Ireland which has best used its local cultural assets as potential to grow visitor numbers. The 8th EDEN competition has launched and applications will be accepted up until 31st July 2017. **[If you have a great cultural asset, find out how you can apply here.](#)**

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