



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

BUYERS GUIDE FOR GROUP AND FIT ORGANISERS



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GROUP & FIT
EXPERIENCES



INTRODUCTION

This guide will act as a source of information on a range of experiences available across Ireland. It will provide you and your travel partners with practical information to support you in developing new programmes to Ireland.

The experiences featured in this guide are presented according to Ireland's three distinctive yet complementary signature programmes; Ireland's Ancient East, Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, Dublin.

ABOUT FÁILTE IRELAND

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. Our role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive tourism destination.

We provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses better manage and market their products and services. We also work with other state agencies and representative bodies, at local and national levels, to implement and champion positive and practical strategies that will benefit Irish tourism and the Irish economy.

We promote Ireland as a holiday destination through our domestic marketing campaign (DiscoverIreland.ie) and manage a network of nationwide tourist information centres that provide help and advice for visitors to Ireland. We work closely with our sister agency Tourism Ireland, who are responsible for marketing the Island of Ireland.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Fáilte Ireland Business Development Team is responsible for supporting the Irish tourist industry to grow their revenue from international sales. This is achieved by continually reviewing current sales channels internationally; identifying new sales opportunities in partnership with Tourism Ireland, sourcing new and niche tour operator business for Ireland and expansion of existing tour operator programmes in partnership with Irish based tour operators. For the Irish industry it includes provision of business supports and trade platforms to maximise their performance, build market share and grow their international revenue in a sustainable manner.

The Business Development Team offer a range of practical supports for international buyers and those wishing to expand their existing programmes:

- Recommendations for approved ground handlers/DMC partners
- Digital Library of video and imagery assets (freely available to use) to help promote programmes
- Online buyer tools – programming suggestions and directory of saleable experiences
- Pre-qualified supplier introductions
- Familiarisation visits and support in itinerary development related to our core brands, Wild Atlantic Way, Dublin and Ireland's Ancient East
- New Products News
- Opportunities to meet Irish industry at in Ireland and in market events



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM



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For further information/assistance:

Email us at: businessdevelopment@failteireland.ie

Or visit: www.failteireland.ie/international-sales



SIGNATURE PROGRAMMES



Ireland's Ancient East

Ireland's Ancient East is a unique touring region taking in an amazing 5,000 years of history. From passage tombs like Newgrange (older than the Egyptian pyramids) to Palladian Mansions like Powerscourt and Castletown; from monastic sites to medieval castles and high crosses harking back to Early Christian Ireland, nowhere in Europe offers such a wealth of heritage in such an intimate geographical space. This is the perfect opportunity to have a personal journey of discovery in this relaxing, off the beaten track, lush beautiful landscape that has attracted warring settlers for millennia. Meet the locals and get ready to have a memorable immersive experience meeting the best storytellers in the world who will enthral with stories of a time of contrasts, a time of empire, rebellion, innovation and industry. Walk around incredible monastic sites where Early Christians established flourishing communities. Stand inside castles battered by brutal sieges and bloody battles, and wander the gracious manor houses and delightful gardens of the aristocracy. You can do everything from board a replica Famine ship to follow in the footsteps of the Vikings. With some of the best storytellers in the world, the intrigue, romance and incredible tales of Ireland's Ancient East are yours to discover.



The Wild Atlantic Way

The longest defined Coastal Touring Route in the World... Here, the ocean's force has carved a coast of wild, raw beauty. Huge Atlantic rollers crash and churn, shaping jagged ocean crags, archipelagos and inlets, sea loughs, surfing strands, and the sheer granite walls of cliffs that are amongst some of the highest in Europe. Right along this spectacular drive you're aware of the elemental power of the Atlantic Ocean, turning from grey to green to azure blue as great weather fronts roll in and through. You'll drive on routes that ring great peninsulas, reaching out into the ocean. Tiny roads hug the shoreline then switch back high above the Atlantic swell. You'll probably see a lifetime's rainbows in just one trip. You'll want to stop often at the many small settlements and towns along the route. Every few miles there are places to stretch your legs and have a bite to eat. Maybe you'll hunker down and stay a night or two to get to know the places and the people... to climb cliffs, surf waves and ride bikes. You could join in the craic at sessions and festivals, go island-hopping and visit ancient sites or sit by turf fires in traditional pubs, where you'll eat the freshest seafood and hear the Irish language, songs and stories. Out here in the west coast's remote Gaeltacht regions, Irish is the mother tongue for many folk – and they'll tell you "fáilte romhat isteach – you're most welcome here". It's out on these western extremities – drawn in by the constant rhythm of the ocean's roar and the consistent warmth of the people – that you'll find the Ireland you've always imagined.



Dublin

Dublin is both a place and a state of mind. This is Ireland's vibrant capital, a bayside beauty as famous for its heritage as its thriving nightlife. It's a city where the Book of Kells, Trinity College and medieval city walls are a stone's throw from the home of Guinness. It's a hotbed of hip cafés, of sizzling restaurants, a place where you'll feel as comfortable sipping cutting-edge cocktails as cosying up in a centuries-old snug. It's a UNESCO City of Literature whose stories range from the pages of Ulysses to the songs of U2. Regularly voted one of the world's friendliest cities, crammed with quality accommodation and expert guides, it never fails to provide a warm welcome. Whether kayaking the river, kicking back at a festival, taking a Viking Splash tour or venturing into the undercroft of Dublin Castle, we guarantee a Facebook feed full of extraordinary days and happening nights.

ACCESS IRELAND



FLIGHTS TO IRELAND PER WEEK

High season – 2,402 flights
Low Season – 1,798 flights

AIRLINES FLYING INTO IRELAND PER WEEK

High season – 34 airlines
Low Season – 25 airlines

SAILINGS TO IRELAND PER WEEK

High season – 120 sailings
Low season – 112 sailings



Lonely Planet voted Ireland one of its hottest countries to visit in 2015, and ranked the Smithwick's Experience in Kilkenny as one of the year's hottest attractions.

Newgrange, a 5,000-year-old passage tomb was engineered 500 years before the Egyptian pyramids, and 1,000 years prior to Stonehenge!



IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

*Wander through Time in your own
immersive journey of 5,000 years of
European History*

Discover a world of ancient history, of intrigue and of myth. In Ireland's Ancient East, 5,000 years of stories are waiting to be told by the best storytellers in the world – the locals.

Enter the tombs of Stone Age man, be awed by vast castles and beautiful big houses, and hear compelling tales of invasions, rebellions, alliances and betrayals. As you move around this incredible part of the country, get off the beaten track into silent fields filled with ancient ruins, explore bogland rich with the secrets of our ancestors and walk in the footsteps of the Vikings. Wander through time like you never have before, in Ireland's Ancient East.

Nine signature stories have been created to showcase what visitors to Ireland's Ancient East can experience. Itineraries have been designed around these stories to engage and deliver immersive and memorable personal journeys.

Catapult back to prehistoric times inside structures that are older than the pyramids, and discover the world of prehistoric man where ritual ruled supreme.

Explore the land of saints and scholars, where monks lived in fear of Vikings and hermits sought peace in some of the country's most picturesque locations.



**IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST™**
Wander Through Time



Athlone Castle Visitor Centre & Museum

Business Contact Details

Athlone Castle, St. Peter's Square, Athlone, Co Westmeath

Postcode N37 A6D7

Tel +353 (0) 90 6442130

Email info@athlonecastle.ie

Web www.athlonecastle.ie

Business Contact Carmel Duffy

Experience Description

Experience a magnificent immersive journey through 5,000 years of history at Athlone Castle where you will explore tales of fierce battles fought, territories won and lost and tales of bravery and sacrifice. Our friendly staff and volunteers will be on hand to guide you as you explore our handling collection, test replica weapons, enjoy games and take photographs dressed in period costume. Learn about the Siege of Athlone brought to life in a 360 degree cinematic experience. Enjoy stunning views of Athlone, castle battlements and play outdoor chess medieval style! Tour: 1hr 15mins.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Adults €8; Senior/Student €6.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Min. group size, 12 people; max. 80 people

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Mary Bannon

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Jan. & Feb., Nov. & Dec. Wednesday-Saturday 1100-1700hrs; Sunday 1200-1700hrs.

March-May; Sept. & Oct. Tuesday-Saturday, 1100-1700hrs; Sunday 1200-1700hrs.

June-August: Monday-Saturday 1000-1800hrs; Sunday 1200-1800hrs.

Open 7 days.

Open Bank Holidays at 1200hrs from March to Oct. Christmas & New Year opening times published on website in autumn.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking on Grace Road. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Slightly steep ramp at entrance to castle grounds. There is a lift in visitor centre.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Athlone – 5 minutes walk

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr 20mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Luan Gallery – 3 minutes walk

Boat trip cruises of Lough Ree/Clonmacnoise – 3 minutes walk



Bishop's Palace – Treasures of Georgian Waterford

Business Contact Details

Viking Triangle, Waterford City

GPS 52.259712 – 7.107703 X91 E279

Tel +353 (0)51 849650

Email granaryrecep@waterfordcouncil.ie

Web www.waterfordtreasures.com

Business Contact David Rodgers

Experience Description

A 45 minute guided tour. Experience authentic grand 18th century living in this beautiful Georgian building. Don't miss the oldest surviving piece of Waterford Crystal dating back to 1789 and Napoleon Bonaparte's Mourning Cross; the only one to survive of the original twelve that were made on his death. Take the multi-media handheld guide or enjoy a family friendly tour with a costumed performer.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €7.00 Adult (>18); €6.00 Senior/Student; FREE Child with paying adult (<15)

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Yes

Ad-Hoc Group Yes >10 pax

Tour Series Yes >10 pax

Group bookings rates contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above plus 353 (0)87 4141794

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days (except 25th/26th Dec. & 1st Jan.).

Opening times

June-Aug. Mon.-Fri: 0915-1800hrs; Sat. 0930-1800hrs;

Sun. 1100-1800hrs (last admission 1720hrs); May-Sept. Mon.-Fri. 0915-

1700hrs; Sat. 1000-1700hrs; Sun. 1100-1700hrs (last admission

1620hrs). Opening outside of normal hours facilitated by prior arrangement.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. Wheelchair access. Coffee shop onsite. Bolton St Public Car Park less than 3 mins away. On street parking (pay by meter) on the Quays; the Mall; Parnell St and City Square Shopping Centre all nearby. Free coach parking available outside the Bishops' Palace, all size coaches, 8 bays.

Public Transport

Irish Rail Expressway coaches; local buses from train station.

Accommodation Hub

Waterford City

Nearest Airports

Dublin 2hrs; Cork 1hr

Other Experiences Nearby

Reginald's Tower; Waterford Crystal Visitor Experience



Journeys of Exploration

Business Contact Details

CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory, Castle Road, Blackrock, Cork
GPS 51.89988, -8.40287
Tel +353 (0) 214326120
Email info@bco.ie
Web www.bco.ie

Business Contact Clair McSweeney

Experience Description

Blackrock Castle is a 16th century fort turned robotic observatory and science centre with panoramic views of Cork Harbour. Journeys of Exploration tells the story of Cork's maritime heritage through 400 years of history. Discover how science has shaped history in new tours, animations, workshops and exhibits. Discover a time of Merchant City Traders & Defended Treasures with our expert explainers. Open your eyes to the wonders of the Universe with Cosmos at the Castle. Take a tour of the night skies with our in-house astronomers. You can even send a message to Space! Duration: 1hr 30mins – 2hrs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €6.50 per person; free for under 5s

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes All group bookings require advance booking

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Angela Falvey
Email info@bco.ie
Tel +353 (0)21 432 6120

Opening Details

Open daily: 1000-1700hrs. Open all year round but some of the experiences weather dependent.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available. Experience ideally suited to children 5+ years. There is no wheelchair access to Gunnery or Tower Top. Fully licensed on site bar and restaurant.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie
www.irishrail.ie

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 20mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Cork City Centre – 10 minute drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Cork Butter Museum – 6km
 Blarney Castle – 14.8km
 Fota Wildlife Park – 16.9km



Celtic Tree Trail Experience

Business Contact Details

Blackstairs Ecotrails, The Old Rectory, Killedmond, Borris, Co Carlow
Postcode R95 N1K7
Tel +353 (0) 87 2707189
Email blackstairsecotrails@gmail.com
Web www.blackstairsecotrails.ie

Business Contact Mary White

Experience Description

The Celtic Tree Trail is located in the beautiful surrounds of the Old Rectory, a protected structure with heritage gardens. Here you will walk the trail with an experienced guide, learn about the Celts and their worship of certain trees. Learn about the 'Noble Trees', the Ogham and Irish languages. Specially commissioned film is currently being produced which will be part of the Celtic Tree Trail Experience in summer 2016. We have a strong ecotourism policy, being awarded Gold Standard by Ecotourism Ireland. Trail includes lunch in the restored heritage barn at Killedmond. Duration of tour: 3 hours.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €40 per person

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate No

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes – Minimum group of 5 people; max. up to 15 people. Bookings required in advance

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open by prior request for group bookings. Year round experience. Suitable clothing required for inclement weather.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Parking available for small and medium coaches. Basic fitness level required. Recommended clothing: rain gear and sensible outdoor shoes. Refreshments provided as part of the experience.

Public Transport

www.irishrail.ie
www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr 30mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Osbornes Storehouse Rathanna, 2km, 5 minute drive
 Borris Stephouse Hotel – 4 km, 10 minute drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Borris House, home of the Kings of Leinster – 10 minute drive
 Walk the Barrow River Track – 10 minute drive
 Osbourne's Heritage Pub, Rathanna – 5 minute drive



Cobh Heritage Centre "The Queenstown Story" The story of Irish Emigration

Business Contact Details

Cobh Heritage Centre "The Queenstown Story"
Deepwater Quay, Cobh, Co Cork
GPS 51 50' 55.68 N 8 17' 57.72 W
Tel +353 (0) 21 4813591
Email jack@cobhheritage.com
Web www.cobhheritage.com

Business Contact Jack Walsh

Experience Description

The Queenstown Story engages the visitor in a journey through Irish emigration with real stories about real people – from indentured servants in Virginia and the West Indies plantations in the 17th century; the early settlers in upper Canada; the Famine victims of the 1840s to the large scale emigration of the 19th and 20th centuries. Cobh has close connections with two great liners of the 20th century, the Titanic and Lusitania. The visitor will see the conditions aboard the early coffin ships; the bottle and note thrown from the Titanic by a young Irish emigrant and letters written by survivors of the Lusitania. Self-guided tour: 45mins – 1hr.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €10.00 per person

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Min. group size 10 persons

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Gillian Murtagh / Jack Walsh
Email info@cobhheritage.com
Tel As above

Opening Details

June-Sept. 0930-1800hrs. Oct-May 0930-1700hrs. Closed 24th-27th Dec; 30th Dec.-10th Jan. Subject to availability earlier opening/closing for private tours can be arranged.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking for up to 4 coaches. Café/restaurant on site; pre-booking would help especially during peak season.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 30mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Cobh – 3 hotels and many guesthouses

Other Experiences Nearby

Fota House and Gardens – 13 minute drive
Jameson Experience Midleton – 22 minute drive
Blackrock Castle – 30 minute drive
Lifetome Labs – 30 minute drive



Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience & Restaurant

Business Contact Details

Dunbrody Famine Ship & Restaurant, South Quay, New Ross, Co Wexford
GPS N 52.39354, W 006.94770
Postcode Y34 A786
Tel +353 (0)51 425239
Email bookings@dunbrody.com
Web www.dunbrody.com

Business Contact Sean Connick

Experience Description

Dunbrody Famine Ship is one of the premier tourist attractions in the South East of Ireland. Centred on an authentic reproduction of an 1840's emigrant vessel, it provides a world-class interpretation of the famine emigrant experience. Incorporating **guided tour, costumed performers and themed exhibitions** of the highest quality, 'The Dunbrody' provides a unique insight into the bravery and fortitude with which Irish people faced up to a desperate situation. As well as the Ship's Tour the Dunbrody Visitor Centre houses a charming river-view café and the Irish America Hall of Fame.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €8.50 – adult; €7 – senior; €5 – child/student.
No minimum or maximum group size, advance booking preferable.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Carmel/Maura
Email carmel@dunbrody.com / mauramurphy@dunbrody.com
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open 7 days a week 0900-1800hrs. Experience is not weather dependent.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Fully accessible. Coach parking available – 12 dedicated Bus Parking Spaces across from Visitor Centre; 2 in Bus Bay at Visitor Centre. No minimum age requirements. Refreshments, restrooms and retail outlet available onsite.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

New Ross Town
Waterford City (24kms/30 mins)
Kilkenny City (52kms/44mins)
Wexford Town (36kms/44mins)

Nearest Airport

Cork City (1hr 48 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

New Ross Tapestry (500 Metres/5 mins walk); The Kennedy Homestead (8Km/10mins); The John F Kennedy Memorial Park & Arboretum (12Km/15 mins)



Dunleckney Maltings

Business Contact Details

Dunleckney Maltings, c/o Carlow Brewing Company,
Muine Bheag Business Park, Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown, Co Carlow
GPS 52.7069540,-6.9545100
Tel +353 (0) 59 9720509
Email amanda@carlowbrewing.com
Web www.carlowbrewing.com

Business Contact Amanda Murray

Experience Description

Dunleckney Maltings was originally built as a water powered brewery, later becoming a significant Malthouse. The tradition of craft brewing using old original recipes and locally sourced ingredients was revived by the O'Hara's in Carlow, now one of the largest craft breweries in the country. Here we will walk you through history on our guided tour and you get to experience the art of malting and what life as a maltster was like. At the end you can sit back and relax in our tasting bar and enjoy a sample of your choice of one of the O'Hara's locally brewed beers. Guided tour: 1hr.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Guided tour €12; Self-Guided €10

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes – Min. group size 5; max. 25. Pre-booking essential.

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

March-Oct: Mon-Sun, 1000-1700hrs; November-February: 1100-1600hrs.
Last admission 1 hour before closing. Café open off season from 1000-1600hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Car and coach parking available. Fully accessible site. Visitors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. A soft drink will be served for under 18 year olds. Café on site.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr 30mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Leighlinbridge – 5 minutes drive

Borris – 10 minutes drive

Carlow Town – 15 minutes drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Carlow Brewing Company – 5 minute drive

Kilkenny City – 25 minute drive

The Barrow Way – 2 minute drive

Borris House – 17 minute drive



Hill of Uisneach – Mythological and Archaeological Tours of Ireland's Sacred Centre

Business Contact Details

Hill of Uisneach Management Ltd, Lunestown House,
Loughnavalley, Co Westmeath
GPS N 53.48381 / W 007.55606

Postcode N91 D7XW

Tel +353 (0) 87 3207619 [Alan] or +353 (0) 87 7189550 [Tours]

Email nicejob1@gmail.com; info@uisneach.ie

Web www.uisneach.ie

Business Contact Alan Hill

Experience Description

Uisneach provides a memorable guided experience through 5,000 years of Ireland's history, archaeology, myth and folklore. Known widely as the centre of Ireland the 150 acre sacred site gives the country its official name Eire (from the goddess Eiru who rests on the hill). Tour includes the Royal Palace, St Patrick's Bed and the famous Catstone portal to Mide the 5th province of Ireland. Uisneach is one of the five Royal Sites of Ireland and it is on the Government's 'tentative list' for UNESCO World Heritage status. New Visitor Centre opens end July 2016.
Tour: 1hr 30mins – 2 hrs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €10 per person (children under 12 free).

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate No

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates No

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email nicejob1@gmail.com

Tel +353 (0) 87 3207619

Opening Details

Season: 1st April-31st Oct. Daily Tour at 1300hrs. Private tours upon request.
Centre Open: 1000-1600hrs
Shoulder/off season private tours available on request.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available. Guides can cater for groups of up to 50 people. Sensible footwear essential. Moderate level of fitness necessary but provision can be made for shorter tour. Café on site; picnics can also be arranged.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Mullingar – 15 minutes drive

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr 10mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Kilbeggan Distillery – 14 minutes drive

Belvedere House Park & Gardens, Mullingar – 15 minutes drive



Day Tour of Wicklow with Activity Options

Business Contact Details

Hilltop Treks, 17 Dodder Lawn, Dodder Valley Park,
Firhouse, Dublin 24
Tel +353 (0) 87 7849 599
Email info@hilltoptreks.ie
Web <http://www.hilltoptreks.ie>

Business Contact Terry Lambert

Experience Description

Fully guided day tour of Wicklow from Dublin, visiting Glendalough and the Powerscourt Gardens. Visitors will have the options of a guided walk (approx. 1.5hrs); horse riding (approx. 2hrs) or Powerscourt Gardens (approx. 1.5hrs). Tour starts Dublin at Suffolk St at 0930hrs, then travels to Enniskerry, Co Wicklow for visit to Powerscourt or chosen activity. Lunch Enniskerry. Tour takes scenic route through Wicklow Mountains visiting Glencree, Sally Gap and on to Glendalough to visit the 6th century monastic site. Return to Dublin by 1730hrs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Tour only €25 (does not include admission into Powerscourt €7); Tour with guided walk €35; Tour with horse riding €75. Minimum of 6 people and a maximum of 16, although this can be increased with prior notice.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

Tour Operator Rate/FIT Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Terry Lambert / Dara
Email bookings@hilltoptreks.ie
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days. Tour times 0930-1730hrs

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age but min. age for horse riding is 8yrs. Lunch included. Average level of fitness required for guided walk and horse riding. Recommend walking boots or old trainers for walking; jeans for horse riding and some rain gear just in case! We stop for lunch along the way in Enniskerry.

Accommodation Hub

Dublin City

Over 25 different movies and TV series have been shot around the Palladian mansion and estate at Powerscourt, County Wicklow.



Experience 800 Years of Lighthouse Keeping at Hook Lighthouse the Oldest Working Lighthouse in the World

Business Contact Details

Hook Lighthouse, Fethard on Sea, Hook Peninsula,
New Ross, Co Wexford
GPS N52.12.48.75 W6.93.06.15
Tel +353 (0) 51 397054/5
Email info@hookheritage.ie
Web www.hookheritage.ie

Business Contact Ann Waters

Experience Description

The Visitor Centre at Hook Lighthouse offers guided tours of the medieval lighthouse tower, built by William Marshall, the Earl of Pembroke, known as the Greatest Knight of his time. Purpose built as a lighthouse 800 years ago and still fully operational today. Guided tours take you through the Medieval lighthouse and modern watchtower with fascinating insights, stories and facts of this unique building. Enjoy the spectacular views from the balconies. Relax by the sea and keep an eye out for seals, dolphins and even whales. In clear weather you can see for miles and in a storm the spray often reaches the top of the lighthouse. Tour: 1hr-2hrs 30mins.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €6.00

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Daily, all year round. June-Aug. 0930-1800hrs, guided tours every 30mins. Sept-May: 0930-1700hrs; guided tours every hour. Closed Christmas. Some areas may be restricted during extreme weather conditions.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Parking for one coach and one minibus. Large car park. Full café and bakery on site. Outdoor BBQ during summer months.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

New Ross – 40 minutes drive
Wexford – 45 minutes drive
Waterford via Passage East Car Ferry, approx. 1 hour

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 2hrs 25mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Loftus Hall – 5 minutes drive
Hooked Kitesurfing, Duncannon Village – 10 minutes drive
Dunbrody Abbey & Maze – 20 minutes drive



Ireland's Ancient Eats – Taste through time

Business Contact Details

Ireland's Ancient Eats – at Maperath Farm,
Maperath Farm, Kells, Co Meath
Tel +353 (0) 469293199 / +353 (0) 87 6167546
Email irelandsancienteats@gmail.com
Web www.maperathfarm.ie (under construction, new website will be live in May)

Business Contact Olivia Duff & Eoin Sharkey

Experience Description

Welcome to Maperath Farm, a working Irish farm in the Boyne Valley. Step back in time and experience Irish food, farming techniques and cooking traditions through chapters of time. Imagine you are an Irish warrior or lady. Salute the High Kings of Tara in the distance and light the open fire to start your journey of tradition and taste through time. Try your hand at cooking in the fulacht fiadh (under ground clay oven) with wild Irish rabbit or lamb. Walk in the steps of our forefathers who foraged for wild herbs and plants for survival and medicinal purposes. Enjoy a medieval celebration. Fully guided tour: 2hrs with tastings included. Extended 3hrs programme may be arranged to include visit to working farm.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €25.00 per person (minimum group rate 250 euro to stage 'Ireland's Ancient Eats' experience)

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Max. group size 24 persons. Advance booking essential.

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Olivia Duff
Email irelandsancienteats@gmail.com
Tel +353 (0) 87 616 7546

Opening Details

April to October, Monday-Saturday, 1000-1800hrs. Booking essential.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available. General programme suited to children 8 years plus. Terrain challenging for wheelchair users. Walking shoes/boots recommended. Refreshments available.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 45mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Headfort Arms Hotel – 5 minutes drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Walking Tour of Kells – 5-7 minutes drive
Loughcrew Megalithic Cairns – 20 minutes drive
Causey Farm – 15 minutes drive



Irish National Heritage Park

Business Contact Details

Ferrycarrig, Co Wexford
GPS 52.3482 – 6.5171
Tel +353 (0)53 9120733
Email info@inhp.com
Web www.inhp.com

Business Contact Maura Bell

Experience Description

1.5hr guided tour. The world you enter is an authentic recreation of Ireland's heritage. From campsite to Ringfort; Mill to Fulacht Fiadh; Crannog to Viking site, every activity is an adventure into 9000 years of history. Children can experience fun activities such as panning for gold; wattle your own house. Includes two adventure playgrounds and an activity scramble. Stay a night or two in a replica of a 1,500 year old ringfort (Cert. of Tourist Accommodation, Approved by Fáilte Ireland). Restaurant, craft and gift shop.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €9.00 Adult (>18); €8.00 Senior/Student; €25 per family (2 adults and up to 3 children (<16))

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Yes

Ad-Hoc Group Yes >20 pax

Tour Series Yes >20 pax

Group bookings rates contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days (except 24th, 25th/26th Dec).
Opening times: May-Aug. 0930-1830hrs (last admission 1700hrs);
Sept-April 0930-1730hrs (last admission 1600hrs).

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age but persons under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Wheelchair access. Park is outdoors so suitable clothing advisable. Car and coach parking available. Restaurant, restrooms and retail outlet onsite. Set menus for groups available on request.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie; www.irishrail.ie; taxi from Wexford train station (10mins)

Accommodation Hub

Wexford Town (5 mins)

Nearest Airport

Dublin (2hrs)

Other Experiences Nearby

Enniscorthy Castle & 1798 Rebellion Centre (18mins); Dunbrody Emigrant Ship, New Ross (34 mins); Wexford Wild Fowl Reserve (35 mins)



Ancient Loughcrew Experience

Business Contact Details

Loughcrew Megalithic Centre, Summerbank, Oldcastle, Co Meath

GPS 53.74544972123938 -7.121260911226273

Tel +353 (0) 867361948 or +353 (0) 873974295

Email info@loughcrewmegalithiccentre.com

Web loughcrewmegalithiccentre.com

Business Contact Niall Short or Fechin Heery

Experience Description

Upon arrival visitors will get a feel for the architecture and surroundings of an old Irish homestead. They will be greeted by our friendly young staff and tour guides. The visitor will enter Maggie Heaney's cottage where the old turf fire will be blazing and they will be told about the authentic items in the cottage. Next they will see a short video from a previous inhabitant and what they will see on their short walk to the highest point in Meath including views of up to 18 counties. They will hear about the Children of Lir and where they spent 300 years. They will get to touch and feel Loughcrew Ancient Passage tombs including Cairn T with its beautifully decorated ancient carvings. Tea/coffee, homemade scones provided. Tour including refreshments: 2 hrs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €12.00 per person

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes – No minimum, maximum large 57 seater coach

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

All year 1100-1700hrs. Tombs are only accessible from 1000-1600hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Two coach parking bays available plus two bays 2 minutes walk away. Loughcrew Passage Tomb not accessible by wheelchair. Outdoor footwear and clothing. Refreshments on site.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport – 1hr 5mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Hostel/camping/campervan facilities on site
B&B and hotels all 5-15 minutes drive away

Other Experiences Nearby

Cavan County Museum – 25 minute drive

The Kells Experience – 20 minute drive

St Fechin's Monastery – 18 minute drive



Floating through Time with Louth Adventures

Business Contact Details

Louth Adventures, 63 Meadow Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth

Tel +353 (0) 87 8208985

Email info@louthadventures.ie

Web www.louthadventures.ie

Business Contact Shane Reenan

Experience Description

Our unique sea tour experience of Carlingford Lough which gives you an insight into the myths and legends of the Cooley Peninsula and Viking times. Experience stories on our 'Floating through Time' safari on board our new addition to Louth Adventures. Cruiser departs from Carlingford Harbour under King John's Castle. On this trip you will hear the story of Cuchulainn and Queen Maeibh; also the story of the Vikings arriving into Carlingford. All told by the Skipper and local tour guide on board. There will be audio of the Vikings sailing and props on board. Tour: 1hr 30 mins.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €22 per adult/senior. €12 for children 16 and under.

€14 students aged 17-23 with valid student photo ID.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes – max. group 12 persons

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Saturdays & Sundays, expanding into weekdays as the season opens fully. Only operating 3 hours either side of high tide in Carlingford. All trips are subject to tides and weather conditions on the Lough.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Parking for one coach at the Harbour. Minimum age 5 years. Passengers with mobility limitations will be picked up at Carlingford Marina. All passengers will be given a life jacket while on board. Refreshments available in Carlingford Town.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Carlingford Village – 2 minutes walk

Other Experiences Nearby

Golf; Horse Riding; Mountain Biking – within walking distance



Explore an Irish Peatland full of Secrets and Stories

Business Contact Details

Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park, Lullymore,
Rathangan, Co Kildare

Postcode R51 E036

Tel +353 (0) 45 870238

Email ray@lullymoreheritagepark.com

Web www.lullymoreheritagepark.com

Business Contact Ray Stapleton

Experience Description

Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park encompasses 60 acres of meandering trails through peatlands, lakes and ancient woodland. A Bog Train journey and a walking tour with local experienced guides take visitors on a journey unique to this part of Ireland. Discover how the peat bogs formed, the gruesome secrets of the bog bodies and the unique flora and fauna living on the Peatlands. Try your hand at traditional turf cutting and afterwards enjoy tea/scones and a chat around a turf fire in a thatched cottage. Tour: 1-3 hrs; tailored to suit groups' needs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €9.00 per adult / €30 family of 4 (€7.50 per extra child)

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes – Min. group size 15. Groups need to book in advance.

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open every day, March to September, 1000-1800hrs.

Open for pre-booked groups anytime of year except January.

Open to general public weekends only October to December and February.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

6-8 bays available for large coaches. Turf cutting not suitable for people with limited mobility. Refreshments available on site.

Public Transport

www.irishrail.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 1hr

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Clane – 15 minutes drive

Kildare Town – 20 minutes drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Kildare Village Retail Outlet – 20 minutes drive

National Stud & Japanese Gardens – 20 minutes drive

Newbridge Silverware – 25 minutes drive



Medieval Museum – Treasures of Medieval Waterford

Business Contact Details

Viking Triangle, Waterford

GPS 52.259919, -7.106772 X91 K10E

Tel +353 (0)51 849501

Email medievalreception@waterfordcouncil.ie

Web www.waterfordtreasures.com

Business Contact David Rodgers

Experience Description

45min. tour, currently ranked #1 attraction in Waterford on Tripadvisor.com. Only museum in Europe built on National monuments, the 13th century Chorister's Hall and the 15th century Mayor's Wine Vault. Don't miss the Unique Cloth of Gold vestments, lost for centuries after they were hidden from Cromwell's army; the Great Charter Roll viewed by Queen Elizabeth II on her visit to Ireland and the only piece of clothing to survive King Henry VIII's reign, 'The Cap of Maintenance'. Take the multimedia handheld guide or enjoy a family friendly tour with a costumed performer.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €7.00 Adult (>18); €6.00 Senior/Student; under 14 free with paying adult.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Yes

Ad-Hoc Group Yes >10 <35 pax

Tour Series Yes >10 <35 pax

Group bookings rates contact

As above

Email drodgers@waterfordcouncil.ie

Tel +353 (0)51 849646/353 (0)87 4141794

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days (except 25th/26th Dec. and 1st Jan). Opening times: Mon-Fri 0915-1800hrs; Sat. 0930-1800hrs; Sun. & Bank Holidays 1100-1800hrs. Last admission 1720hrs (Sept-May 1620hrs). Opening outside of normal hours facilitated by prior arrangement.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. Wheelchair access. Coffee shop. Free coach parking outside the Bishop's Palace, all size coaches, 8 bays. Metered parking on the Quays, the Mall, Parnell St.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie; www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Waterford City

Nearest Airports

Cork (1hr); Dublin 2hrs

Other Experiences Nearby

Bishop's Palace; Reginald's Tower; House of Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre Experience – within 5 mins walking distance



Horses & Horticulture

Business Contact Details

Irish National Stud, Tully, Kildare Town, Co Kildare

Tel +353 (0)45 521617

Email dwardell@instourism.net

Web www.irishnationalstud.ie

Business Contact David Wardell

Experience Description

From horses to horticulture the Irish National Stud & Gardens offers you a unique experience that may be enjoyed at your own leisure or as part of a guided tour. Daily guided tours of the Stud. Browse through the world famous Japanese Gardens. Visit the award winning Irish Garden – St. Fiachra's Garden and also our Horse Museum. Restaurant with home baking onsite.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €12.50 Adult; €9.50 Senior/Student; children under 5 go free. No min or max group size, larger numbers divided into smaller groups. Pre booking is essential.

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Marie/Siobhan/Caroline/Mary

Email reservations@instourism.net

Tel As above

Opening Details

7 days a week from 0900-1700hrs between 1st February and 6th November. Duration of experience – minimum time 1.5 hours, recommended time to visit 3 hours.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available for 25 buses and car parking for over 200 cars. The Japanese Gardens are partially wheelchair accessible as they were designed in 1906. The remainder of the property e.g. Stud, Museum & St. Fiachra's Garden are wheelchair accessible. Comfortable walking shoes required. Advisable to bring a light raincoat and umbrella. Refreshments and restrooms available onsite.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.dublincoach.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Newbridge (12 minutes drive)

Nearest City

Dublin (50 mins)

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (1hr)

Other Experiences Nearby

Newbridge Silver and Museum of Style Icons (5 miles); Kildare retail Village (1 mile); Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park (10 miles)



Ireland's World Famous Gardens and Historic House

Business Contact Details

Powerscourt House & Gardens, Powerscourt Estate, Enniskerry, Co Wicklow

GPS 53°11'05"N 6°11'13"W / 53.18472°N 6.18694°W

Tel +353 (0) 1 204 6000

Email Aoife.odriscoll@powerscourt.net

Web www.powerscourt.com

Business Contact Aoife O'Driscoll

Experience Description

Beautiful world renowned Powerscourt Gardens, set in the rugged Wicklow countryside, is located within the 1,000 acre Powerscourt Estate, only 30 minutes from Dublin. Explore 47 acres of gardens, our authentic Irish craft retail outlets and indulge in delicious food at the Avoca terrace café. Two championship golf courses, Ireland's highest waterfall and the luxurious Powerscourt Hotel are also located on the estate.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price Varies depending on whether you visit the gardens/house/waterfall. Minimum group numbers of 20+ per group to avail of group rates. Advance booking is preferable to avoid congestion in visitor facilities areas, but we welcome ad hoc groups as well.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Carmel Byrne

Email carmel.byrne@powerscourt.net

Tel As above

Opening Details

Ballroom & Garden Rooms: Sundays 0930-1330hrs – All Year;

Mondays 0930-1330hrs – May to September.

Avoca Terrace Café: Daily: 0930-1700hrs.

Powerscourt Waterfall: Jan/Feb/Nov/Dec 1030-1600hrs; Mar/Apr/Sept/Oct

1030-1730hrs; May/Jun/July/Aug 0930-1900hrs; Closed two weeks before

Christmas. Duration of experiences – allow at least one hour.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Partial wheelchair access to the House and Gardens. Ample coach parking on site.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Dublin City – 30 minutes drive

Nearest Airport

Dublin 50mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Powerscourt Waterfall 6km (10 mins)

National Sea Life Centre 8km (15mins)

The Wicklow Way walking trail 7km (13mins)



Slane Food Circle 25km Menu – Food Tour by Electric Bike

Business Contact Details

Rock Farm Slane, Rock Farm, Fennor, Slane, Co Meath
GPS 53.7057,-6.559292
Postcode C15 HF59
Tel +353 (0) 41 988 4861
Email info@rockfarmslane.ie
Web www.rockfarmslane.ie

Business Contact Carina Mount Charles

Experience Description

One day 25km food tour by electric bicycle through the Boyne Valley. Tour starts 0930hrs, finishes 1730hrs; includes five stops at various food/drink producers over the course of the day. Hosted by the Countess of Mount Charles, organic farmer and ecotourism guide.

Sample food tour experience:

Start the tour at Rock Farm Slane with a platter of goodies from our clay oven at the Strawbale Farm Office. Practice run on the electric bikes taking in the Boutique Campsite with yurts, shepherds huts, Tamworth pigs, Dexter cows, rescue ponies, etc. Learn about Mount Charles's sustainable farming plans and ecotourism project. Tour duration 1 hour including tea/coffee. Route: Easy. Cycle time to next tour stop 20-30minutes.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €65 per person

Minimum of 10 pax required for this tour. All tours to be made in advance.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Available all year.

Monday – Sunday 0930-1730hrs

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach and car parking available. Must be over 16 years of age and be able to cycle on roads. Not suitable for those with limited mobility. High visibility safety gear provided. Tour includes food and refreshments along the way.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

On site – Rock Farm Slane glamping site and The Lime House

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 35mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Slane Castle & Distillery Visitor Centre – 10 minute drive

Newgrange Passage Tombs – 15 minute drive



St. Canice's Cathedral and Round Tower

Business Contact Details

The Close, Coach Rd, Kilkenny City, Ireland

Postcode R95 V63H

Tel +353 (0)56 7764971

Email info@stcanicescathedral.com

Web www.stcanicescathedral.ie

Business Contact Elizabeth Keyes

Experience Description

The cathedral visit is self-guided with information on the main points of interest. The Round Tower is a fantastic climb providing one with great panoramic views of the medieval city. For bigger groups a guided visit is available. Group visits must be booked in advance. If a cathedral guide is required this must be indicated at the time of booking. During June, July and August, guided tours are not available between 1230hrs and 1430hrs.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €6 for Cathedral & Tower. Group tickets are for more than 10 persons.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Shirley Parr/Frances Moore

Email bookings@stcanicescathedral.com

Tel As above

Opening Details

April, May & September: Monday-Saturday: 1000-1300hrs & 1400-1700hrs; Sunday: 1400-1700hrs. June, July & August: Monday-Saturday: 0900-1800hrs; Sunday: 1300-1800hrs. October-March: Monday-Saturday: 1000-1300hrs & 1400-1600hrs; Sunday: 1400-1600hrs. Duration of experience: 1hr for Tower & Cathedral.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

The tower opens depending on weather conditions. No under 12's permitted in the Tower. Access in place in Cathedral for those in wheelchairs. For the tower, minimum level of fitness to climb. The Tower will not suit any person that suffers from claustrophobia. No parking available at Cathedral, allow time for parking on Dean St.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Kilkenny City

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 1hr 50

Other Experiences Nearby

Rothe House and Garden – 5min walk

Kilkenny Castle – 10 min walk

Black Abbey – 5min walk

Smithwick's Brewery Experience – 5min walk



Follow the Emigrant Trail – Retrace the fortunes of the most famous Irish America Family

Business Contact Details

The Kennedy Homestead, Dunganstown, New Ross, Co Wexford

GPS N52.3486° / W 006.98099°

Postcode Y34 KW31

Tel +353 51 388264

Email info@kennedyhomestead.ie

Web www.kennedyhomestead.ie

Business Contact Sean Connick

Experience Description

Follow the journey from famine emigrant to President!

The Kennedy Homestead, birthplace of President John F. Kennedy's great grandfather, celebrates the story of five generations of the Kennedy dynasty. Relive President Kennedy's iconic return visit in 1963. Experience a state of the art interpretive museum; housing an interactive exhibition, guiding visitors through the footsteps of the most famous Irish emigrant family. Witness a unique collection of film, photographs and exclusive memorabilia.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price Adult €7.50, senior €6.50, Student/ Child €5.00 (under 4yrs free), Family (2 adults & 3 children under 12) €22. No min or max group size, advance booking required for groups of 10 or more.

Group Bookings /Tour Operator Rates Offered Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Sean Connick

Email info@kennedyhomestead.ie

Tel +353 51 388264

Opening Details

Open 7 days a week, 0930-1730hrs (Last admission 1700hrs). Duration of experience – the visitor experience is largely self-guided which begins with a detailed personal introduction.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking onsite. Wheelchair accessible throughout. Refreshments available onsite.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie; Taxi from New Ross (10mins)

Accommodation Hub

New Ross – (8kms/10mins); Wexford Town – (42kms/40mins); Rosslare Harbour – (55kms/50 mins); Waterford City – (33kms/40 mins); Kilkenny City – (60kms/60 mins); Dublin – (160kms/2 hours)

Nearest Airport

Dublin airport (1hr 50 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

The Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience (8km/10mins); The Kennedy Memorial Park & Arboretum (7Km/10mins); Hook Head Light House (29Km/35mins); House of Waterford Crystal (33Km/40mins)



Guided Tours of St. Mary's Collegiate Church, at The Raleigh Quarter

Business Contact Details

The Raleigh Quarter, Emmet Place, Youghal, Co Cork

(Part of Ireland's Ancient East)

Tel +353 (0) 2481814

Email youghalheritage@gmail.com

Web www.youghal.ie

Business Contact Emma Hogan

Experience Description

Visitors to the coastal town of Youghal will now have access to a host of truly authentic visitor experiences including guided tours of St. Mary's Collegiate Church (approx 30 mins) or other options including a self-guided graveyard trail, town walls walk as well as an exhibition of a scale model of the medieval town of Youghal. This Church has been a constant place of worship for over 1300 years and truly is a place of international historical significance.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €3.50, minimum 10 people for a group booking. All group bookings must be made in advance.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Emma Hogan

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Guided tours of St. Mary's Collegiate Church, all year round (except Christmas Day & St. Stephen's Day). Tours: 6 days, Tuesday – Sunday inclusive. Public Tours operate: 1100hrs & 1430hrs (except on Sundays, first tour at 1300hrs). Access to Gardens, Graveyard and Town Walls Walk weather dependent.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Yes, Coach parking (2 coaches) within 100 metres distance, in Fair Field Car/Coach Park. Free public carpark within 100 metres of exhibition. As this is a medieval church, coaches are required to park 100 metres away from Church, therefore walking/wheelchair required if mobility is an issue. No onsite refreshments available but a range of restaurants/bars/coffee shops etc all within close proximity.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Youghal

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 50mins

Other Experiences Nearby

The Youghal Clockgate Tower Visitor Experience – in the town
Visit Youghal's Beach (4.8kms) and walk along the Youghal Eco-Boardwalk – within walking distance
Lismore Castle Gardens – 30mins



Knowing the Normans – a tale told in thread

Business Contact Details

Ros Tapestry aka New Ross Needlecraft Ltd., 14 The Quay, New Ross, Co Wexford

GPS 52 23 30 588N -6 56 44 7108"W

Tel +353 (0) 51445396 / +353 (0)86 3973295

Email therostapestry@yahoo.ie

Web www.rosapestry.com

Business Contact Marion Coady

Experience Description

The Ros Tapestry is a unique project which will bring you back in time to when Dermot MacMurrough King of Leinster stole the wife of Tiernan O'Rourke, a tale of marriages, stolen lands and intrigue. A tale told in thread. The first tapestry was completed in 2002 and to date 14 of the 15 tapestries are complete. In a group you may have a guided tour, or if you prefer an Audio Guide this tour brings you back in time to explore the Norman Experience as it happened. Guides available in English, French, Italian, and German.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price Adults €7.00 Senior €6.00 Student/child €4.00 Family €20.00

No minimum group size. Maximum group size 40. Group bookings in advance if possible.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Marion Coady/Susan Synnott

Email therostapestry@yahoo.ie

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open 7 days 1000hrs to 1700hrs. Duration of experience – 45mins

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

The main experience is on ground floor level wheelchair accessible. Coach parking nearby (3min walk away). No onsite refreshments available, several café's and restaurants within a two minute walk of Tapestry.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Wexford Town

Nearest Airport

Dublin 1hr 50.

Other Experiences Nearby

Dunbrody Ship – 3 minute walk

River Cruising Galley Restaurant – 3 minute walk

JFK Arboretum – max 15 min drive

St. Mary's Church – 5 min walk



The Smithwicks Experience

Business Contact Details

The Smithwicks Experience, 44 Parliament Street, Kilkenny

GPS 52.655602N 7.254146

Tel +353 (0)56 7786377

Email info@smithwicksexperience.com

Web www.smithwicksexperience.com

Business Contact Mark McGovern

Experience Description

Home to Ireland's most popular ale, the Smithwick's Experience Kilkenny® opened its doors in July 2014. Housed in a restored Victorian brewing building the multi-sensory experience takes visitors on a journey through the medieval origins of brewing on the site, to the arrival of John Smithwick's in the 1700's up to the present day. During the guided tour, the Smithwick's brewing process will be brought to life with visitors having the opportunity to experience the smells, tastes and textures of the raw materials involved in creating the perfect pint of ale.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €12 Adult; €7 Student; €28 Family (2 adults & 3 children). Groups over 25 people will be split into two groups and sent on tour 5 mins apart.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates No

Group bookings/rates contact

Keith O' Dwyer

Email keith.odwyer@diageo.com

Tel +353 (0)87 7173138

Opening Details

March-October 1000hrs last Admissions 1700hrs; November-February 1100hrs last Admissions 1600hrs Duration of experience – 1hr.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No parking onsite, parking available in vicinity, within 5 mins walk. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Experience is fully accessible. Restrooms and retail outlet onsite. Audio guides available in foreign languages.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Kilkenny City

Nearest Airport

Dublin airport (1hr 25 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Kilkenny Castle; St Canices Cathedral; Rothe House – all within 10min walk



Youghal Clockgate Tower

Business Contact Details

Main Street, Youghal, Co Cork (Part of Ireland's Ancient East)
Tel +353 (0) 2481814
Email tourism@youghal.ie
Web www.youghal.ie

Business Contact Aileen Murray

Experience Description

The story of the Clock Gate Tower is the story of the Youghal community over 600 years. It is about people, time and place. It is real, authentic, stimulating and emotive. It has depth and character and it is surprising. It is a story that fires the imagination, feeds interest, can draw visitors to Youghal. The exhibition offers information, connecting with all ages, but in particular it 'gets up close' to Ireland's ancient past. It will provoke imagination, emotion and understanding. Delivered by a 'storyteller' the guided tour will be supported by a visual downloadable app.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €8.50. 10 people for a group booking. All bookings must be made in advance.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Aileen Murray
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

April-September: 0900-1730hrs
 October-March: 1100-1500hrs.
 Duration of experience: 1hr

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking (3 coaches) within 100 metres distance, outside of tourist office. Free public carpark within 150 metres of exhibition. A series of steps (10) will be required in order to gain access. Each floor (4 floors) are then accessed via stairs. Approx 8 steps to get to each floor. No onsite refreshments but a range of restaurants/bars/coffee shops all within close proximity.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Youghal Town

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 1hr 40

Other Experiences Nearby

The Youghal Clockgate Tower Visitor Experience – in the town
 Visit Youghal's Beach (3 miles) and walk along the Youghal Eco-Boardwalk – within walking distance
 Lismore Castle Gardens – 30mins



Tholsel Visitor Centre

Business Contact Details

Fethard Business and Tourism Group Limited, Main Street, Fethard, Co Tipperary
Postcode E91 R652
Tel +353 (0)86 2747044
Email mauricemoloney@coolmore.ie
Web www.fethardbusiness.com

Business Contact Maurice Moloney

Experience Description

The Tholsel Visitor Centre is a celebration of 1,000 years of history with all its turbulences and the evolution of Ireland's bloodstock and racing industry to present a unique, interpretive visitor experience. It traces the development of farming, community and their inextricable link with the horse from Norman times to the present era of global success in the bloodstock industry and in particular Coolmore Stud Farms which is the epicentre of a world renowned equine industry. Fethard is the centre of Ireland's horse country and has an unrivalled heritage resource in the Tholsel, Holy Trinity Church, Augustinian Abbey and the Town Walls. Local community and businesses have combined to develop this showcase of 'Fethard – Horse Country and Home of Coolmore.' Tour duration: 1hr30mins.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €6.00 per person

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates No

Group Booking Contact

Bill O'Sullivan
Email billfethard@hotmail.com
Tel +353 (0) 87 252 2885

Opening Details

6 days per week, Monday to Saturday, 1000-1600hrs. Tourist information, pop up office open on the ground floor. Visitor Centre fully operational January 2017.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking 100 metres away. Lift in place to service two upper floors.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Cozy B&B – 5 minutes' drive
 Clonacody House – 5 minutes' drive

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 1hr 20mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Walled town of Fethard – within walking distance
 Holy Trinity Church, 13th century
 Augustinian Abbey, 12th century church and monastery
 Coolmore Stud – 9mins by car



Titanic Connections – Irish Passenger Stories

Business Contact Details

Titanic Experience Cobh, White Star Line Building,
20 Casement Square, Cobh, Co Cork
GPS Latitude 51.84994, Longitude -8.29537
Postcode P24 DW63
Tel +353 (0) 21 4814412
Email info@titanicexperiencecobh.ie
Web www.titanicexperiencecobh.ie

Business Contact Gillen Joyce

Experience Description

Our visitor experience is presented in two parts the first a fully guided tour that uses innovative audio visual technology and replica set designs so visitors can experience the anticipation of the passengers as they waited to board the liner. The second part features interactive exhibits allowing visitors find out how and why the Titanic sank. Touchscreen computers allow you to discover the fate of our 123 Queenstown passengers. Our 2016 upgrade will include the addition of a centrepiece exhibit featuring holographic style projections and audio interpretation sharing detailed passenger stories. Also additional interactive exhibits for all ages are a central part of the upgrade works.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price Adult €9.50; Child (4-17) €5.50; Student (18+) €7.50; Seniors (over 65) €7.50. Minimum Group Size 10. Advance Booking required for all groups

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Catherine Murphy
Email info@titanicexperiencecobh.ie
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open 7 Days per week: January-March 1000-1730hrs (last tour 1645hrs); April-September 9000-1800hrs (last tour 1715hrs); October-December 1000-1730hrs (last tour 1645hrs)

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

3 coach parking bays available. Refreshments available at Titanic Bar & Grill on lower ground floor.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Fota Island – 10 minutes
Midleton – 20 minutes
Cork City – 30 minutes

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 50mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Fota Wildlife Park – 10 minutes' drive
Jameson Distillery – 20 minutes' drive
Spike Island – ferry departs from pier next to our building



Viking Experience – a 3-D interactive experience in the heart of Viking Waterford

Business Contact Details

Waterford Treasures Three Museums in the Viking Triangle,
Bishop's Palace, The Mall, Waterford
Postcode X91E279
Tel +353 (0) 87 2515080
Email emceneaney@waterfordcouncil.ie
Web www.waterfordtreasures.com

Business Contact Eamonn McEneaney

Experience Description

This is a new experience in Waterford – the building of a replica Viking house in the heart of Waterford's Viking triangle on the corner of High Street and Keyser Street, facing Olaf Street. The layout of these streets have not changed in over 1,000 years and Keyser Street still retains its original Viking name meaning a road leading to the quay! The structure will house a unique state-of-the-art 3-D Oculus Rift immersive experience bringing the story of Viking Waterford to life which will appeal to all ages! Opening early 2017.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €7 Maximum group size 30.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

David Rogers
Email drogers@waterfordcouncil.ie
Tel +353 (0) 761 102646

Opening Details

Open 7 Days per week. Duration of experience: 50 minutes

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Ample coach parking within a minute's walk by the Bishop's Palace on The Mall. No refreshments onsite, Waterford Treasures has a cafe at the Bishop's Palace which is approximately 1 minute's walk away. There are a number of other restaurants and cafes nearby.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie
www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Waterford City

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport 1hr 50mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Waterford Treasures – three Museums in the Viking Triangle; Reginald's Tower; Waterford Treasures Medieval Museum; Waterford Treasures – Bishop's Palace – all within walking distance.



Wicklow Gaol Historic Tour

Business Contact Details

Kilmartin Hill, Wicklow Town, Co Wicklow
GPS 52.978909, -6.037345
Tel +353 (0)404 61599
Email info@wicklowshistoricgaol.com
Web www.wicklowshistoricgaol.com

Business Contact Emeir O'Connell

Experience Description

1 hour tour. Take an interactive multimedia journey through Wicklow's Historic Gaol. Designed to engage all the senses, visitors will step back in time. Holographic projections of cruel prison guards, the sound of the defiant cries from the 1798 rebels and the transformation of three prison floors visually creates over 200 years of Irish history through the eyes of the inmates. The tour is partially guided. Audio guides also available.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €7.90 Adult (>18); €6.70 Student/Senior; €5.00 Child (<16); €20 Family

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Yes

Ad-Hoc Group Yes

Tour Series Yes

Group bookings rates contact

Marie Comerford
Email as above
Tel as above

Opening Details

Open year round. Mon-Sat. 1030-1630hrs; Sun. 1100-1600hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min. age requirement. Wheel chair access ground floor only. Coffee shop.
 Free car parking (up to 2 hours) in public car park in front of Wicklow Gaol.
 Coach parking available, 2 bays.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie; www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Wicklow Town

Nearest Airport

Dublin (50 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Diamond Bowl and Kidzone (8 mins); Mount Usher Gardens (16 mins);
 Brittas Bay Beach (32mins)

Brownhill Portal Tomb in County Carlow is Europe's largest dolmen. Its capstone weighs in at an impressive 150 tonnes!

The original St. Nicholas is said to be buried at Jerpoint Park, County Kilkenny... but sssh, don't tell the small people!

Kytler's Inn in Killkenny is named after Dame Alice Kytler, born in 1280 and reputed to be Ireland's last witch. Kytler was widowed four times and accused of poisoning all of her husbands... though she escaped capture.





A Stitch in Time

Business Contact Details

Carrickmacross Lace Gallery, Market Square,
Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan
Tel +353 (0)42 9664176
Email info@carrickmacrosslace.ie
Web www.carrickmacrosslace.ie

Business Contact Geraldine O'Reilly

Experience Description

30 min. tour. Visit Carrickmacross Lace Gallery to learn more of the history of Carrickmacross Lace which has a long and rich tradition, having originated in the early 1820's. Its style was inspired by examples of Italian lace of that era. At that time it became an important source of rural family income. It was 'made by the poor for the rich and famous'. Today it is still worked by a small group of people who are passionate about the beauty of fine, meticulously stitched needlecraft.

Group bookings contact

As above
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Mon-Sat. 0930-1730hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Group demos available, costs €50 per group < 15 pax. Car park available across the road. Numerous cafés in the town.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie/ – to Carrickmacross

Accommodation Hub

Carrickmacross

Other Experiences Nearby

Patrick Kavanagh Centre, Inniskeen 12km/15mins; Wildlife and Heritage Centre, Clontibret, Co Monaghan 33km/30mins;
Rally School Ireland, Scotstown, Co Monaghan 50km/45mins



An Undiscovered Landscape

Business Contact Details

Cavan Burren Park, Cavan County Council,
Farnham Street, Cavan, Co Cavan
Tel +353 (0)49 4378543
Email jhayes@cavancoco.ie
Web www.thisiscavan.ie/fun/article/new-visitor-centre-for-heritage-site-at-cavan-burren

Business Contact Joanne Hayes

Experience Description

1hr tour. Cavan Burren Park just outside Blacklion in West Cavan is one of the finest integrated prehistoric landscapes in Ireland with fine examples of megalithic tombs, stone walls, ancient rock art, glacial erratics and pre-bog walls. Visitors will enjoy exploring the visitor centre and four walking trails (inc. multi-access trail). Interpretation along the way will assist you in unravelling the intriguing layers of human history as you walk. Rich in archaeological and geological heritage, Cavan Burren Park affords spectacular views over Lough MacNean, Cavan and Fermanagh and the wider Global Geopark.

Group bookings contact

Joanne Hayes
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round, 0900hrs to dusk.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Wheelchair accessible tracks on some of the walking tracks. Coach and car parking available.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie to Blacklion

Accommodation Hub

Blacklion; Ballybawn; Glenfarne (10mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Marble Arch Caves, Co Fermanagh (8km/11mins); Manorhamilton Castle & Heritage Centre, Co Leitrim (22km/21mins); Out Doors and Dirty (ODD), Ballyconnell, Co Cavan (37km/35mins)

Arthur Guinness was born in Celbridge and ran his first brewery in Leixlip before trying his luck in Dublin. He is buried in Oughter Ard, Co Kildare.



An Ancient Oak Road

Business Contact Details

Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre, Kenagh, Co Longford
Tel +353 (0)43 3322386
Email ctrackwayvisitorcentre@opw.ie
Web www.heritageireland.ie/en/midlandseastcoast/CorleaTrackwayVisitorCentre/

Business Contact Mary Forbes

Experience Description

Discover an ancient transport route constructed in the Iron Age at the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre. Located 3km from Kenagh village close to the River Shannon in Co Longford. The oak road is the largest of its kind to have been uncovered in Europe. Inside the building an 18 metre stretch of preserved road is on permanent display in a specially designed hall with humidifiers to prevent the ancient wood from cracking in the heat.

Group bookings contact

As above
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open early April to end Sept. Daily 1000-1800hrs, last tour is 1700hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach and car parking available onsite. Wheelchair access. Max. group size 59 for the audio visual room.

Public Transport

www.irishrail.ie
www.buseireann.ie
 Longford to Keenagh (16km/19mins)

Accommodation Hub

Longford Town (16km/19mins)
 Athlone, Co Westmeath (29km/35mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Newcastle Woods, Co Longford (8km/11mins); Hill of Uisneach, Co Westmeath (27km/30mins); Claypipe Visitor Centre, Co Roscommon (32km/30mins); Athlone Castle Visitor Centre, Co Westmeath (31km/38mins)



Take a Walk in Paradise

Business Contact Details

Glen of Aherlow, Fáilte Society Ltd, Coach Road, Aherlow, Co Tipperary
Tel +353 (0)62 56331
Email info@aherlow.com
Web www.aherlow.com

Business Contact Helen Morrissey

Experience Description

The Glen of Aherlow is a quiet country valley, secluded but not isolated. It stretches from the N24, South of the heritage town of Tipperary, through sixteen miles of unspoilt countryside affording some of the most breathtaking scenery imaginable making it one of the most desirable holiday destinations in Ireland. There are opportunities for walking, rambling, horseriding, cycling and fishing. The Glen is renowned for the warmth of its welcome and the friendship of its people. Choose from eight looped walks ranging from 2-10kms and two linear mountain trails.

Group bookings contact

Helen Morrissey
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open seven days a week, 365 days a year, subject to severe weather conditions. Duration of experience – minimum 1hr.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available at Glen of Aherlow Fáilte office. There is no limitation on group sizes to undertake these walks. Adequate level of fitness required. Longer range walks are best suited to experienced walkers. Walking boots, raingear, liquids, snacks and mobile phone as appropriate to the type of walk. Refreshments available nearby at the village of Lisvermane 3kms/5mins, Bansha 10kms/13mins and the town of Tipperary 10kms/13mins.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie – to Cahir
 Taxi from Cahir to Glen of Aherlow – 20mins

Accommodation Hub

Glen of Aherlow
 Tipperary Junction 14kms/20mins
 Cahir 24kms/25mins

Nearest City

Limerick (50 mins)

Nearest Airport

Cork Airport (1hr)

Other Experiences Nearby

Mitchelstown Cave 36kms/36mins; Cahir Castle 24kms/25mins;
 Rock of Cashel 28kms/35mins



Lough Boora Discovery Park

Business Contact Details

Lough Boora Discovery Park Visitor Centre, Boora, Co Offaly

GPS N 53°13'24.9" W 007°43'44.5"

Tel +353 (0)57 9340010

Email Thomas.Egan@bnm.ie

Web www.loughboora.com/

Business Contact Thomas Egan

Experience Description

Lough Boora Discovery Park is located in County Offaly and is open year-round. This amenity can be explored for its outdoor activities, nature and biodiversity, sculptures and historical Mesolithic Site. With access for all ages and abilities to experience our diverse amenities, activities, natural flora and wildlife species in a safe and inclusive environment. With 50km of trails, bike hire facilities, angling lakes, bird hides and a dedicated Sculpture Park, discover all that Lough Boora has to offer.

Group bookings contact

Thomas Egan

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open seven days a week, 365 days a year. The Visitor Centre, café, car park and toilet facilities: open weekdays from 0900-1930hrs. Check the website for open times during your planned visit.

Visitor Centre Café – Open daily from 0930-1800hrs until 31 October. Open weekends from 1100-1600hrs from 1 November.

Duration of experience – minimum 1hr.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available at Visitor Centre. €2 car park fee applies.

Refreshments available onsite. Access for all abilities.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie – to Birr

Taxi from Birr – 20mins

Accommodation Hub

Birr, Co Offaly. 22kms/20mins

Tullamore, Co Offaly. 22kms/22mins

Nearest City

Kilkenny (1hr 32 mins)

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (1hr 33 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Birr Castle Demesne & Historic Science Centre 21kms/20mins; Tullamore

D.E.W. Visitor Centre 22kms/22mins; Clonmacnoise Monastic Settlement

30kms/30mins



Walks in the Slieve Blooms Mountains

Business Contact Details

Slieve Bloom Mountains, Slieve Bloom Rural Development Co-operative Society, Community Centre, Kinnitty, Co Offaly

GPS 53.097806, -7.718997

Tel +353 (0)86 2789147

Email info@slievebloom.ie

Web www.slievebloom.ie

Business Contact Gerry Hanlon

Experience Description

Situated in both Offaly and Laois, in the heart of Ireland, the picturesque Slieve Bloom Mountains allow visitors to experience and to explore the largest continuous area of upland blanket bog and forestry in Ireland. It is said that you can see half the counties in Ireland from the top of the Slieve Blooms. There are 16 looped walks ranging from 5-16kms to choose from. Spend a while in the surrounding villages such as Kinnitty or Clonaslee, stepping back in time, to an era when life moved at a much slower pace. Walking Festival on May Bank Holiday Weekend. Eco Walking Festival in July.

Group bookings contact

Gerry Hanlon

Email walks@slievebloom.ie

Tel +353 (0)86 8210056

Opening Details

Open seven days a week, 365 days a year, subject to severe weather conditions.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available in Kinnitty. Adequate levels of fitness is required. Longer range walks are best suited to experienced walkers. Walking boots, raingear, liquids, snacks and mobile phone as appropriate to the type of walk. There is no limitation on group sizes to undertake these walks. Refreshments available in villages of Kinnitty, Cadamstown, Clonaslee, Rosenallis, Camross, Ballyfin.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Accommodation is available in the nearby villages of Kinnitty and Ballyfin

Birr – 14kms/15mins

Roscrea – 18kms/20mins

Tullamore – 27kms/30mins

Portlaoise – 39kms/41mins

Nearest City

Kilkenny (1hr 15 mins)

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (1hr 32 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Lough Boora Parklands 17kms/20mins; Birr Castle Demesne & Historic Science

Centre 14kms/15mins; Roscrea Castle & Damer House 18kms/20mins



Discover the Butler Trail, a tale of romance, wealth, power and intrigue

Business Contact Details

Tipperary County Council, Ballingarrane House,
Cahir Rd., Clonmel, Co Tipperary
Tel +353 (0)761065000
Email tourism@tipperarycoco.ie
Web www.tipperary.com

Business Contact Marie Phelan

Experience Description

The Butler Trail steeped deep in medieval heritage links the 3 towns of Carrick on Suir, Clonmel and Cahir, Co Tipperary in a 38km drive with indulgent stops at castles, cottages and courts! Each stop off point offers self-guided audio tours in English, French and German allowing you to take it all in at your own pace, discover hidden gems and mix with the locals.

Group bookings contact

No booking required
Email No booking required
Tel No booking required

Opening Details

The drive and audio guides are available all year round. The individual sites are listed on www.heritageireland.ie. Cahir Castle is open all year around, Ormond Castle, The Main Guard and The Swiss Cottage are generally open April to September. Duration of experience: one hour per town minimum to complete the audio tours. Individual tours of the Butler sites are also available. It takes 40 minutes to drive the route between Carrick on Suir, through to Clonmel to Cahir.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Relevant to the Butler sites, not all areas of each site are accessible. The individual sites may have max group sizes, check with each site before arriving if you are in a group. Parking available in each town. Audio guides are on foot, 40 minutes walking, minimum levels of fitness required. No refreshments to purchase at each site but coffee shops within easy reach of all accept the Swiss Cottage, Cahir.

Accommodation Hub

Each town on the trail has accommodation.

Other Experiences Nearby

Rock of Cashel
Fethard Walled Town
Local Heritage Centres

Muiredach's Cross. The tallest (and arguably most beautiful) remaining high cross in Ireland can be visited at Monasterboice, County Louth.

Croghan Hill, County Offaly is the root of an ancient volcano.

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST SAMPLE ITINERARY

5,000 YEARS OF HISTORY IN 7 DAYS

TO HELP YOU PROGRAMME THIS AREA, HERE IS A SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR YOU TO CONSIDER WHICH WILL HELP YOUR CLIENT, BE THEY GROUP OR FIT, TO NAVIGATE THIS AREA. FOR OTHER SAMPLE ITINERARIES FOR IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST PLEASE EMAIL BUSINESSDEVELOPMENT@FAILTEIRELAND.IE



This is a tour of epic proportions, delving deep into our past and sweeping through more than 5,000 years of history. Along the way you'll be blasted with sea air at lighthouses, walk through haunting passage graves, visit iconic monasteries and get to grips with the mighty Vikings as they swept through the island. It's a journey that will bring you through dramatic green landscapes, peaceful gardens and lovely coastal villages. Welcome to Ireland's Ancient East.

DAY 1

Start your day at **Cork Harbour**, you can almost hear the history whispering on the salty sea breezes. Legend has it that around 1000BC, one of the first colonists of the island, Neimheidh, landed in the port of Cobh. He and his followers were wiped out in a plague, but **Cobh** has thrived ever since, and today is a colourful town with deep connections to the past.

Allow 2 hours to enjoy the sites of Cobh

As last port of call for the Titanic, as well as historic departure point for hundreds of thousands of emigrants over the centuries, Cobh's history is laden with heartache. Step inside the **Titanic Experience Cobh**, and **Cobh, The Queenstown Story** – to explore the story of both.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Lunch in Cobh

Heading north you'll pass through the busy town of Fermoy, with its 13th century Cistercian abbey, before reaching the horseshoe-shaped **Lough Gur**. Rippling with myth and legend, the area here has a history stretching back 6,000 years. Look into the waters and see if you can see any sign of Gearóid Iarla, who was banished to the depths by the Goddess Áine... or so the legend goes.

Allow 1½ hours to enjoy the sites of Fermoy and Lough Gur

Let the beautiful greens of the scenery wash over you as you drive into the heart of **Tipperary's Golden Vale**. Soon you'll see the **Rock of Cashel** emerging out of the landscape like a fairytale castle. It's one of Ireland's most iconic sites and as you walk up the steep hill to the entrance, you'll understand why. Huge, craggy and imposing – this is where St Patrick is said to have converted the King of Munster to Christianity in the 5th century, accidentally stabbing him in the foot with his crozier in the process. Explore the Gothic cathedral, see Ireland's oldest frescoes in the 12th century chapel and take in the stunning views of one of the greenest parts of Ireland.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

If you have more time: Stop off at **Mitchelstown Caves**, considered to be one of the best show caves in Ireland and one of the finest limestone caves in Europe.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience.

Overnight & Dinner Waterford city



DAY 2

Start your day in Waterford city. Often referred to as "Ireland's oldest city", Waterford was founded by Norse invaders in 914AD. In its Viking Triangle of historic monuments, you can trace the city's past within the fascinating trio of **Waterford Treasures**, including the Medieval Museum, Reginald's Tower and Bishop's Palace.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Walking around, you're likely to notice a "blaa" or two. Part of the city's history, it's thought that these tasty bread rolls were introduced by the Huguenots in the 17th century. Enjoy refreshments at the **Bodega Restaurant and Wine Bar** before hitting the road to New Ross.

Perched on the River Barrow, New Ross is a small but bustling place, anchored by the **Dunbrody Famine Ship**, a replica of an 1840s emigrant vessel. Step on board to uncover the truly emotional history of Ireland's emigrant past.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Travel north to County Kilkenny, following the scenic route through the Nore Valley. Now you're into beautiful terrain studded with pretty villages, such as Thomastown and Bennettsbridge. Close by are the grounds of Mount Juliet, with its exquisite parkland golf course, fishing, archery and horse trails, as well as refreshments in The Manor House.

Continue to Kilkenny City, as well as its lively nightlife, great restaurants and traditional old pubs, Kilkenny's star is the **Medieval Mile** – hear tales of witch trials, almshouses and besieged castles as you tour this city at a leisurely pace.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

If you have more time: Make your way to **Hook Head and Lighthouse** – the amazing lighthouse is over 800 years old and is the oldest intact operational lighthouse in the world, with knock-out views of the sea.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

Overnight & Dinner Wexford

DAY 3

Setting the tone perfectly for today's trail is a gentle wander around 5,000 plants and flowers in Carlow's stunning 19th century Robinsonian-style **Altamont Gardens**.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

This verdant theme is followed through as you continue on to the "Garden of Ireland", where Wicklow's hills bloom with beautiful greens flecked with purple heather. But first, the town of Wicklow and its somewhat brutal tales from the early 18th century at **Wicklow Gaol**. Among them stories of convicts transported from Wicklow to Australia, sometimes just for the crime of stealing bread.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

From these so-called "Gates of Hell" back to the heart of Wicklow serenity in **Glendalough**, famed for its two lakes and spiritual atmosphere. At the monastic village, cast your mind back to what Glendalough must have been like in its heyday – when it was a retreat for peace-seeking monks. St Kevin first came here in the 6th century, and you get the sense that the landscape hasn't changed much since then. Walk to the water's edge at the Upper Lake, before heading to the fern-green hills around Poulanss waterfall, which cascades gently over mossy rocks. Back in the road, pass through the villages of Laragh, Annanoe and Roundwood and weave down towards Enniskerry.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience



Lunch in Enniskerry

On the outskirts of Enniskerry is one of the county's jewels – **Powerscourt House and Gardens**. The magnificence of the estate here really is quite something, with its grand Palladian frontage and baroque domed towers – so much so that one architecture historian described it as possessing “the massive dignity of a great Italian Renaissance villa”. Enjoy a coffee on the terrace, before stepping down the grand staircase into the world-famous gardens, complete with Japanese garden, pet cemetery and gracious statues. A perfect end to a perfect day.

Allow minimum 1½ hours for this experience

If you have more time: Head to **Borris House**, the views you'll catch are breathtaking. Rebuilt in the early 18th century, Borris House in Carlow is called home by the McMorrough Kavanaghs, former High Kings of Leinster.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Dinner & Overnight Wicklow

DAY 4

From one grand expanse of green to another – this time into the heart of Ireland's horse country in County Kildare. The flat pastures of **The Curragh** have made it world-famous for its thoroughbreds, and it has one of the finest racing tracks in Europe – so get to a race day if you can, or tour early in the morning and witness the spectacle of long lines of thoroughbreds training across miles of flat, rich plains. There's still plenty of equestrian-related enjoyment to be had nearby at the **Irish National Stud**, where the winners of five Classics were produced and the tale of William Hall Walker is revealed. A true character, Walker used astrological charts to determine the futures of his foals – any born under an undesirable chart were sold. Move from horses to horticulture next at the Japanese Gardens. Designed to represent the “Life of Man”, the gardens were created by Japanese master horticulturalist Tassa Eida, and help you to adjust and adapt to a slower, more peaceful pace. Walk the tranquil woodland and wetlands of the restful St Fiachra's Garden.

Allow minimum 1½ hours for this experience

Continue to Laois's **Emo Court Demesne**. Here, listen for the echoes of the 1798 Rebellion that once permeated the stillness of these magnificent neoclassical parklands. West again, past the scenic **Slieve Bloom Mountains** and through the village of Kinnitty, which according to legend has the head of a princess buried beneath it.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Lunch in Kinnitty

Head for **Birr Castle**, which, resides firmly in the realm of science with its huge Great Telescope sitting at the heart of this vast and beautiful demesne. Designed and built in the 19th century by the Third Earl of Rosse, this telescope was the largest in the world from 1845 to 1914 and was appropriately known as the “Leviathan”. Finish the day with a walk through the gardens, which bloom with roses, wisteria and 300-year-old box hedges.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

If you have more time: Make your way to The Rock of Dunamase. A gift to Norman Lord Strongbow in 1170 upon his marriage to Aoife, daughter of the King of Leinster, **The Rock of Dunamase** has got to be one of Ireland's most impressive wedding presents. As legend goes, there's even buried treasure lying beneath the castle – guarded by a fearsome hellhound.

Allow 30 minutes for this experience

Dinner & Overnight Birr



DAY 5

The bones of Christian saints and ancient kings rest side by side at **Clonmacnoise**, founded in 544 by St Ciarán. This site by the River Shannon has withstood raids by unruly Gaels and plundering Norsemen during the centuries, but also managed to produce some impressive sacred texts along the way.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

Move from round towers to regal battlements at **Athlone Castle**. The fortress was built in the 13th century in honour of a visit by King John of England, who never arrived! Don't emulate the monarch, though: the keep and walls of this historic site now house a lively museum and are not to be missed.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Lunch in Athlone

Let the past light your way at the **Hill of Uisneach**, Ireland's "mythological and sacred" centre, where even today the pagan fire festival Bealtaine is celebrated to herald in the summer. An ancient belief suggests that rocks from Uisneach were used in the construction of Stonehenge. From rocks to bog next as you move on to the **Corlea Trackway**, surrounded by wild terrain. This bog road was built from oak beams in the iron age, some say to carry cargo, others for sacred ceremonial purposes. Follow in the footsteps of our most distant ancestors when you reach this structure that has lasted through the millennia.

Allow 1½ hours – 2 hours for this experience

If you have more time: Visit **St Mel's Cathedral, Longford**. Destroyed by fire early on Christmas Day in 2009, the cathedral has been spectacularly rebuilt, that some say is now nothing short of spellbinding.

Allow 30 minutes for this experience

Dinner & Overnight County Meath

DAY 6

Start your day at **Loughcrew Cairns** the unsung stars of Ireland's Neolithic era, and explore the Cairns' ancient artwork, the Hag's Chair and hear the legend of a witch.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Next, and in the middle of a swathe of pristine green fields lies a site that touches at the very heart of Irish history, the **Hill of Tara** – a place with a 5,000-year history, ancient seat of Ireland's High Kings and capital of the mythical god-like race of Tuatha Dé Danann.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

Equally haunting are the passage tombs and sweeping vistas of your next stop: the UNESCO World Heritage Sites around **Brú na Bóinne**. Admire the views with a light lunch in the Visitor Centre, before you enter this treasure trove. Once you've come to terms with the archeological feat that is Newgrange, discover the artistry and secrets of the nearby Great Mound of Knowth, which also dates to 3000BC.

Allow minimum 2 hours for this experience

Keep the monastic theme going at **Monasterboice**, founded in the late 5th century by St Buithe. The big draw here is the magnificent Muirdeach's High Cross: divided into panels decorated with vivid and lively scenes. There are 124 figures on the cross, but only one appears in headgear – see if you can find Goliath in his conical hat, as well as the few other bearded characters, Adam, Cain, Moses and Saul.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience



Lunch in Carlingford

Carlingford's Peninsula is next and aim straight for the Carlingford Heritage Centre, found in the beautifully restored medieval church of the Holy Trinity. Starting from 850AD, you can uncover the incredible story of Carlingford from its Viking beginnings to the present day, before soaking up the views from the hillsides. Or you could take to the water for some high-speed thrills with [Carlingford Boat Tours](#).

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

If you have more time: When it comes to grisly relics, none is more legendary than Saint Oliver Plunkett's preserved head in St Peter's Church Drogheda – a must visit in this County Louth town.

Allow 30 minutes for this experience

Dinner & Overnight County Louth

DAY 7

Sprinkled with lakes and beautiful scenery, County Monaghan is one of Ireland's lesser explored counties but is full of hidden gems. For starters, it's also the site of one of Ireland's most delicate and intricate crafts – lace making. Here in [Carrickmacross](#) in the 1820s Mrs Grey Porter of Donaghmoynne introduced it as a way for local women to make money. Since then, industry flourished and over the years the lace was favoured by royalty, from Queen Victoria to Princess Diana. The lovely, hand-stitched lace is still a prized possession today.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

Onwards to tranquil Lough Oughter and [Killykeen Forest Park](#), where anglers, hikers, walkers and cyclists can breathe in the absolute beauty of this County Cavan spot. There are more incredible landscapes, too, when you move onto the Cavan Burren, part of the [Marble Arch Caves UNESCO Global Geopark](#). Within this fascinating prehistoric limestone landscape fossils from a coral sea 350 million years ago have been found, while human habitation can be traced back to Neolithic times. With five walking trails through this exceptional landscape, you can explore at your own pace, or step into the past with a guided tour from one of the very knowledgeable Geopark guides.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

If you have more time: Drop into a centre dedicated to Inniskeen's most famous son, poet [Patrick Kavanagh](#), and take in a tour of Kavanagh Country.

Allow 45 minutes for this experience

Depart for Dublin

Note: A list of Storytellers – Ways to engage with the Stories are available on request.

This itinerary is just one of the many ways you can explore Ireland's Ancient East and should be used as a guide only.

A number of story driven itineraries are available, please contact businessdevelopment@failteireland.ie

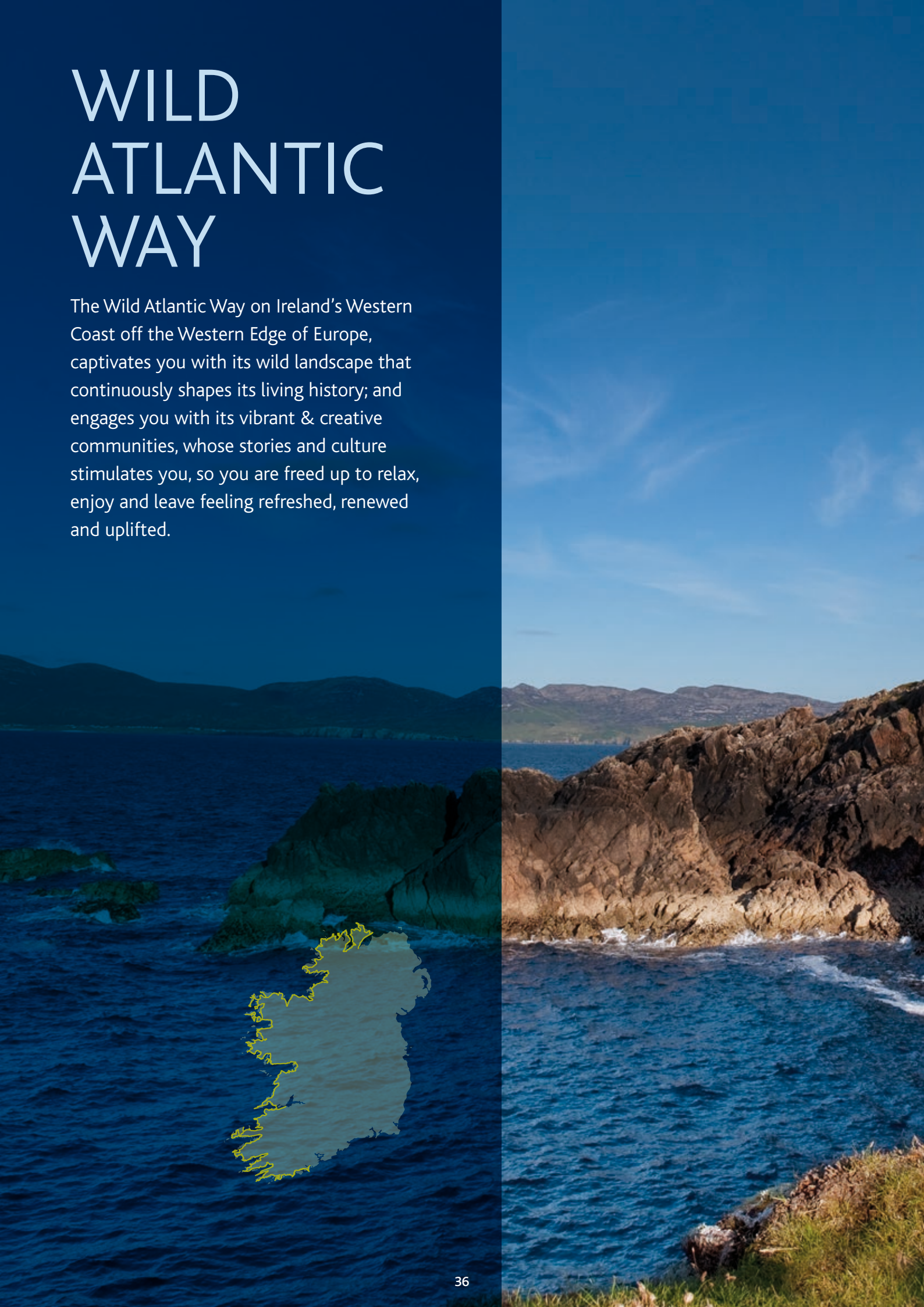


Brú na Bóinne the UNESCO World Heritage Site is home to the largest concentration of stone art in Western Europe.

Mount Usher Gardens in Wicklow were voted Best to Visit in Ireland by BBC Gardeners' World Magazine.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

The Wild Atlantic Way on Ireland's Western Coast off the Western Edge of Europe, captivates you with its wild landscape that continuously shapes its living history; and engages you with its vibrant & creative communities, whose stories and culture stimulates you, so you are freed up to relax, enjoy and leave feeling refreshed, renewed and uplifted.



For the top surfers around the globe who come here, the best Big Wave surf in Europe is in Mullaghmore, Easkey & Tullan.

Kerry is one of only three locations worldwide designated as a Gold Tier Dark Sky Reserve, one of the best locations in the world for star gazing!



WILD ATLANTIC WAY
SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN



Ashford Outdoors for Active & Cultural Experiences

Business Contact Details

Ashford Outdoors, The Equestrian Centre, Ashford, Cong, Co Mayo F31 R291
GPS N53.538191 W9.293146
Tel +353 (0) 94 9546507
Email info@ashfordoutdoors.com
Web www.ashfordoutdoors.com

Business Contact David O'Loughlin

Experience Description

Ashford Outdoors specialise in outdoor activities including archery, clay pigeon shooting, biking & mountain biking, tree climbing, woodland zipwire experience, kayaking and guided archaeological and ecological tours. Duration from 1 hour through to multi-day events.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Equestrian: Adult starts from €55; child < 16 from €40. Shooting: Adult starts from €65. Forest Adventures: Adult starts from €50; child < 16 from €18. Water Adventures: Adult starts from €60; child < 16 from €45.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above
Email david@ashfordoutdoors.com
Tel +353 (0) 87 3161061

Opening Details

Open 7 days a week except Christmas Day. Daily opening hours: 0900-1730hrs. Pre-booking advised.
 We are open year round but given the nature of our climate and our activity offering we are subject to operating in safe weather conditions.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Ample coach and car parking. Equestrian experiences start at 4 years of age; Woodland zip wire is for 8 years plus. Suitable for all levels of fitness. Refreshments available at Ashford Castle Estate and in Cong Village.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Airport

Shannon Airport 1hr 52

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Ashford Castle Estate

Other Experiences Nearby

Ireland's School of Falconry – 5 minute walk
 Corrib Cruises – 5 minute walk
 Fishing with Frank Costello, Ashford Gillie



Beach Horse Riding on the Wild Atlantic Way

Business Contact Details

Connemara Wild Escapes, Bayview House, Letterfrack, Connemara, Co Galway
Tel +353 (0)86 3771025
Email cathy@connemarawildescapes.ie
Web www.connemarawildescapes.ie

Business Contact Cathy Wolfe

Experience Description

Explore Connemara's spectacular beaches on horseback on this one day guided tour. Experience beach horse riding on the wild Atlantic West coast of Ireland, punctuated by dramatic land and seascapes, historical sites, wild rugged landscapes and islands flung out to sea. Beautiful scenic rides along quiet country lanes, and moorland rides are also available. All treks are suitable for beginner to advanced riders, and include a short assessment before leaving with up to 2 guides. All beach rides are governed by the tide and subject to availability. We ride in the morning, have a break for lunch and then ride again in the afternoon.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €158.00 per person; max group size 12, min 1.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Cathy Wolfe
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

0800-1800hrs daily, all year around. Duration of experience; 4-5 hours:
 One ride is approx 1h 30 mins, second ride is approx 2h 30 mins.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available at Cleggan. Offer available March-October subject to availability and weather conditions. Minimum age 12 years old. Clients must be able to mount a horse. Low fitness/experience required. Warm/ weatherproof clothing required. Refreshments available to purchase in Cleggan.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Clifden

Nearest City

Galway (1hr 40 mins)

Nearest Airport

Knock (2hr)

Other Experiences Nearby

Connemara National Park 15 mins; Kylemore Abbey 20 mins; Clifden town is 15 mins



Catch a Magical Kayak Trip

Business Contact Details

Atlantic Sea Kayaking, Lough Hyne, Skibbereen, West Cork

GPS 51.50625, -9.306274

Tel +353 (0)28 21058

Email info@atlanticseakayaking.com

Web www.atlanticseakayaking.com

Business Contact Jim Kennedy

Experience Description

Sign up to this three-way dream combination – get up close to nature, forage for some seaweed and take a magical moonlit guided kayaking trip with Atlantic Sea Kayaking in stunning Lough Hyne between Baltimore and Skibbereen in West Cork. Warmed by the Gulf Stream, kayak along the coastline dotted with deserted islands, ancient castles, sea caves, hidden coves and an abundance of marine life. Visit a seal colony and spot varied birdlife en route. Kayak under the moonlight and embrace the silence while bathed in the bioluminescence that surrounds you – Magical!

Pricing

Standard Retail Price: €50.00 per person (less 15% for trade); max group size 24, min 6.

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Jim Kennedy

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days, weather permitting. Duration of experience; full day or an evening (2.5hrs).

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Moderate level of fitness required. Comfortable clothing/towel and suitable footwear required. Coach parking available. Refreshments not available onsite but in local towns depending on location of kayak trip i.e. Skibbereen, Baltimore or Union Hall.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Skibbereen, Baltimore or Union Hall

Nearest City

Cork (1hr 25 mins)

Nearest Airport

Cork (1hr 15 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Skibbereen Heritage Centre; Dún na Séad Castle; Drombeg Stone Circle



Natura Camping

Business Contact Details

Claddaghduff Road, Wild Atlantic Way, Clifden, Co Galway

GPS 53.523739,-10.133794 (+53 31'25.69" -10 8'2.18")

Postcode H71W024

Tel +353 (0) 95 44036

Email actonsbeach@gmail.com

Web www.actonsbeachsidecamping.com

Business Contact Tatjana & Kris Acton

Experience Description

2-day camping package, arrival with public or private transport. This is an introduction to sustainable camping for couples who wish to get back to nature and away from it all. Package includes pre-erected tent with sleeping bags, mats etc. in addition to bike rental along with a self-guided cycling tour around the Aghrus Peninsula, walking tour to Omev Island and a relaxing evening with a private campfire beside the tent or on the beach.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 This package is aimed for couples, therefore all the prices are based for two persons. Package including tent + bike; Off Season €130; High Season €140. Package including bike, without tent: Off Season €99; High Season €109.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates No

Tour Series Rates No

Group Booking Contact

Tatjana & Kris Acton

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

March to October. Seasonal: April to October.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Car parking on site. We recommend visiting the local shops, pubs/restaurants in Claddaghduff and Cleggan for lunch/dinner which have excellent dishes of local seafood. Provisions can also be bought along the way in the local shops in Claddaghduff & Cleggan.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Clifden, 9 km away (10min drive by car)

Nearest Airport

Shannon Airport 1hr 47

Other Experiences Nearby

Kylemore Abbey – 25 min drive

Connemara National Park – 20 min drive

Inishbofin Island – 5 min drive to ferry



Conamara Gaelic Cultural Experience

Business Contact Details

Cnoc Suain, An Spidéal, Galway

GPS 53.2892569531167 -9.264907834414089

Tel +353 (0) 91 555703

Email info@cnocsuain.com

Web www.cnocsuain.com

Business Contact Charlie Troy

Experience Description

An all-weather, 1hr 45min, 3-part group place-based experience, presented in English, suited to all ages: young adults to 90+ years.

The Thatched Cottage: Illuminating fireside stories on aspects of the Gaelic language, music, food, customs and traditions; tasting of Dillisc bread and Carrigeen moss pudding.

The Field Room: Fascinating insights into the wonders of the Connemara bogland; Sphagnum moss and its properties; Bog Body facts.

The Meeting House: Music, song and dance with guest participation.

Pricing

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates General group rate for 2016 of €23 per person with a minimum group rate of €460 for 20 or less visitors. Advance booking required.

FIT Rate No

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

March to October. By arrangement 0830-1800hrs, Monday to Saturday.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Parking for two large coaches or equivalent. Sensible shoes recommended; no special clothing required. Minimum group rate. Minimum age 16+. No refreshments on site. Both villages of An Spideal (7 min. drive) and Moycullen (10 min. drive) have shops, pubs & restaurants.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Nearest Airport

Shannon Airport 1hr 47

Nearest Accommodation Hub

An Spideal (7 minutes drive); Furbo (15 minute drive); Bearna (20 minute drive)

Other Experiences Nearby

Cearclann Craft Centre – within walking distance

Moycullen Marble – 20mins

Celtic Crystal – 20mins



Walking Tours of Victorian Ashe Street & Denny Street, Tralee

Business Contact Details

Craft Makers, 37 Ashe Street, Tralee, Co Kerry

GPS Latitude: 52.2702336 / Longitude: -9.7038748

Postcode VP2 HV02

Tel +353 (0) 66 7120632 / +353 (0) 86 8524222

Email deirdre@craftmakers.ie

Web www.craftmakers.ie

Business Contact Deirdre Enright

Experience Description

Walking tour of Victorian Ashe Street & Denny Street, Tralee. Craft Makers, built in 1895, houses a craft centre, gallery and studios for professional craft makers. All handcrafts made in Co Kerry.

Meeting point: Craft Makers Centre, 37 Ashe Street. Tour covers key milestones in Irish history from 1895 to 1930. The tour returns for morning tea at Chopin's Café. A gift of two hand cut wooden place mats included in the tour price. Tour duration 1hr 30mins.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Adult €15; children go free

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Min. 2 paying adults; maximum 20 per group. Advanced booking required.

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

March-June 2016: Tuesday to Saturday, 1000-1800hrs

July & August 2016: Monday to Sunday, 1000-2100hrs

Not subject to weather conditions but advance booking required.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach/car parking at Town Park Tralee, Denny St. Loading bay opposite centre for drop off only. Suitable for 8 years plus. Disability access only on shop level; no lift available so no access to upper floors. Recommended clothing walking shoes and rain jacket. Umbrellas supplied if weather is wet.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Nearest Airport

Kerry Airport 20mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Four hotels within 2 minutes walk

Other Experiences Nearby

Kerry County Museum – 3 min. walk

Siamsa Tire Folk Theatre – 5 min. walk

Tralee Bay Wetlands & Aquadome – 10 min. walk



Catch & Cook Experience

Business Contact Details

An Choill, Dingle, Co Kerry

GPS Lat 52.141172488682344, Long -10.281186101320827

Tel +353(0) 86 8723521

Email info@dinglecookerschool.com

Web www.dinglecookerschool.com

Business Contact Muireann Nic Giolla Ruaidh

Experience Description

Jump on board a fishing boat, head out into Dingle Bay, drop your line, reel in a fish. Return to the school for scones and tea before beginning a fish skills class. Prepare, cook and enjoy a hard earned meal. Duration: ½ day

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €85 per person.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Max. group size 10 (private classes minimum 8)

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Opening Details

Open for scheduled classes and private bookings which can take place 7 days per week. Scheduled from April to September, available for private bookings also during these months only. Sea conditions dependent. (All private bookings are subject to availability of school on dates).

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

4-5 bays for coaches. No children under 8 years of age. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. No wheelchair accessible work stations for hands on classes because there are 5 steps in room. Clothing requirements: comfortable closed in shoes for hands on cookery classes. Suitable clothing for boat or foraging trips. Refreshments are provided for most classes. Closest shop is 1km.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Nearest Airport

Kerry Airport 50mins

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Dingle Town

Other Experiences Nearby

Dingle Distillery – 0.75km

Dingle Bay Charters (Eco Tours & Boat Trips) – 0.5km

Oceanworld (The Dingle Aquarium) – 0.5km

The Basket Interpretative Centre – 21km



Follow the Spanish Armada Trail

Business Contact Details

Seatrails, Innovation Centre, Sligo IT, Ash Lane, Co Sligo

GPS 54.40181604965681, -8.564225043554643

Tel +353 (0)87 2405071

Email info@seatrails.ie

Web www.seatrails.ie

Business Contact Auriel Robinson

Experience Description

A guided walk (approx. 2½ hours, led by a Maritime Archaeologist) of ancient archaeology, fossils and rare orchids in gorgeous sand dunes, with tales of the Spanish Armada. Lunch at a restaurant with locally sourced food, followed by horse-riding (approx. 2½ hours) along a sandy beach.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €110.00 per person (20% off for groups – €88pp); max group size 15, min 4.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Rate No

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Auriel Robinson

Email As above

Tel As Above

Opening Details

April-September (peak), off peak – until end of October based on 10 minimum number in off-peak, 7 days, weather permitting. Duration of experience; 6 hours/full day.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available at the beach near the start of walk. Walkers can be dropped off at start point. There is some parking at Mullaghmore Harbour but no coach parking at the stables. Small coach only. Experience is not absolutely necessary for riding. Beginners are accepted. Some fitness is required. Would not suit under 8 years.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Nearest Large Town: Sligo Town (25 min). Mullaghmore (20 min)

Other Experiences Nearby

Mullaghmore Beach and Pier Walk (30mins/36kms) – you'll enjoy excellent views of Slieve League, Benbulbin and Benwiskin. Lissadell House: Visitor reception centre at Lissadell (21mins/15kms) with tea rooms, shop and exhibitions. Inishmurray Island Trips. Experience the romance and mystery of Inishmurray Island just 7km off the coast of Sligo.



Premium BMW Motorcycle Tours and Rentals on Wild Atlantic Way

Business Contact Details

Lemonrock Bike Tours, The Brehon, Muckcross Road, Killarney, Co Kerry
GPS 52°02'46.55" N 9°30'12.46" W
Tel +353 64 6694109
Email Bookings@lemonrockbiketours.com
Web www.lemonrockbiketours.com

Business Contact Tiernan Clarke / Paul French

Experience Description

A motorcycle experience like no other on premium BMW bikes – as voted by journalists, the best way to experience the Wild Atlantic Way. Experience the entire 2,500km Wild Atlantic Way or take shorter rides, e.g. 3 day to ride the Ring of Kerry, Beara & Dingle Peninsulas in South West Ireland. Duration: 1 to 14 days. Extended trips also arranged.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 €160 to €195 per day during high season. Check our website www.lemonrockbiketours.com for latest retail rates which vary according to motorcycle type, duration of rental and season.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Min. 1 rider; max. 10 riders with 10 pillion passengers for self-guided tours. 8 riders & pillions for guided tours. Guided tours require advance notice.

Tour Series Rates No

Group Booking Contact

Paul French
Email paul@lemonrockbiketours.com
Tel +353 (0) 87 2559959

Opening Details

1st March to 31st October. Off season tours on request. Monday to Friday, 1000-1700hrs. Will open weekends/outside hours, by appointment, to accommodate start and return of tours.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

6 coach bays. See website for minimum/max. age, licence requirements, etc. Helmets included in price; other motorcycle gear available for rent. Refreshments available at The Brehon Hotel.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

The Brehon Hotel – 30 second walk

Nearest Airport

Kerry Airport 20mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Ring of Kerry – riding distance 5 minutes. Full Ring of Kerry will normally take 7 hours including scenic stops, etc.



Self Drive Classic Car & Motorcycle Adventures Tours

Business Contact Details

Retroventures, Croagh (near Adare), Co Limerick
Postcode V94 NCP4
GPS 52.530667,N -8.905953 W V94 NCP4
Tel +353 (0) 69 63770 or +353 (0) 85 7296964
Email info@retroventuresireland.com
Web www.retroventuresireland.com

Business Contact Elaine Davidson

Experience Description

Self Drive Classic Cars: Available for hire on a basic self-drive basis or as a package tour which includes set routes, attractions, meals and accommodation if required. Minimum 1 day rental. Motorcycle Rental and Tours: Ireland's only retro motorcycle company. We rent 1950s Style Royal Enfields. Bikes are no more than 2 years old, easy to handle and perfect for the rural roads in Ireland, particularly ideal for riding the Wild Atlantic Way. Bespoke Tours can be arranged. Minimum 1 day rental.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2016 Self Drive Classic Car Hire – prices start from €200 per day including insurance
 Motorcycle Rental – prices start from €100 per day including insurance
 Full prices on website.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes Cars: no minimum group size; Motorcycles: no minimum for FITs; escorted tours minimum of 8 persons.

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

As above

Opening Details

Classic Car Rental: 1st March-30th November, 7 days a week, 0900-2000hrs
 Motorcycle Rental: 1st April-31st October, 7 days a week, 0900-2000hrs

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Car parking. Age requirements – cars: 25-75 years; motorcycles: 25-64 years. Cars & motorcycles: 2 years full licence – EU, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand. Other countries require approval. Motorcycle gear can be rented.

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Adare, Co Limerick – 5 minutes

Nearest Airport

Shannon Airport 40 minutes

Other Experiences Nearby

Adare Village – 5 minutes
 Foynes Flying Boat Museum – 20 minutes



The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience

Business Contact Details

Cliffs of Moher, Co Clare
GPS 52.9361° N, 9.4708° W
Tel +353 (0)65 7086141
Email info@cliffsofmoher.ie
Web www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Business Contact Katherine Webster/Geraldine Enright

Experience Description

Standing 214m at their highest point they stretch for 8 kilometres along the Atlantic coast of County Clare in the west of Ireland. From the Cliffs of Moher on a clear day one can see the Aran Islands and Galway Bay, as well as the Twelve Pins and the Maam Turk mountains in Connemara, Loop Head to the south and the Dingle Peninsula and Blasket Islands in Kerry. A guided tour is a special way to learn more about the Cliffs of Moher and are most suitable for smaller groups who have special interest in nature, geology, history, geography and tourism. The guided nature walks are conducted by trained Cliffs of Moher rangers and customer service staff. Tours should be pre-booked to avoid disappointment.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €6 per person. No max group size, min 10. Pre booking necessary.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Tara Griffin
Email bookings@cliffsofmoher.ie
Tel +353 (0)65 7086145

Opening Details

Open 363 days a year, closure in severe weather conditions. Duration of experience – allow 2hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available. Visitor centre is fully accessible. Walking shoes, light rain jacket and hat required. Refreshments/café and restrooms available onsite.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Doolin – 11mins/9kms; Lahinch – 16mins/11kms

Nearest City

Limerick (1hr 20 mins)

Nearest Airport

Shannon (1hr 05 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Doolin Cave – 18mins/12km; Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark; Surfing in Doolin – 11mins/9kms



Wild West Cork Whale Watching

Business Contact Details

Manor House Hotels, 1 Sandyford Office Park, Foxrock, Dublin 19
Postcode D18 CC79
Tel +353 (0)1 2958900
Email david.cleary@manorhousehotels.com
Web manorhousehotels.com / www.irishcountryhotels.com

Business Contact David Cleary

Experience Description

Experience the wilds of West Cork with 2 nights Bed & Breakfast in Baltimore at Casey's of Baltimore Hotel. On one of the days, you will take a guided Whale Watching Tour from the nearby Baltimore harbour. This tour will take approx 4 hours and will give you the opportunity to see some stunning whales and dolphins in their natural habitat.

On your return, you will enjoy a dinner in Casey's Hotel overlooking the water and enjoy a pint in the adjacent bar.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price: €190 per person for 2 nights B&B, 1 dinner and 4-hour boat trip. Max 12 per group for boat trip, can handle bigger groups but advance booking essential.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Maria Martin
Email reservations@manorhousehotels.com
Tel As above

Opening Details

Daily whale watching tours April-December at 0930hrs and 1415hrs. During July & August there is an additional tour at 1900hrs. Duration of experience – 4 hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking available. Easy boarding. Most mobility limitations can be overcome. No minimum age but please note that due to the nature of the boat tour, it is advised that children are kept under close supervision by parents. Dress in warm clothing. No refreshments available on board but are available in Baltimore.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Casey's of Baltimore

Nearest City

Cork (1hr 40 mins)

Nearest Airport

Cork (1hr 30 mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Traditional music session in a local pub; Baltimore Heritage Trail; walks – all within the town of Baltimore



Discover Blueways along the Wild Atlantic Way

Business Contact Details

Blueway.ie (Mayo & Galway)

Email info@blueway.ie

Web www.blueway.ie

Business Contact Chris O'Neill

Experience Description

Blueways are an invitation to stop and discover an inviting network of water trails on the Wild Atlantic Way. These beautiful trails offer kayaking and snorkelling in safe environments making them suitable even for beginners. Each Blueway site has an information board with trail maps, safety details and information on equipment hire and tuition locally. So whether you drop by just one of the locations or plan an exciting odyssey taking in all six, it's time to take the trip of a lifetime on Ireland's Blueway along the Wild Atlantic Way.

Mayo Blueways:

Dugort Strand, Achill Island – kayak trail

Keem Strand, Achill Island – snorkel trail

Old Head Beach, Louisburgh – kayak trail and snorkel trail

Galway Blueways:

Inishbofin Island – kayak trail & snorkel trail

Killary Fjord – kayak trail & snorkel trail

Mannin Bay – kayak trail & snorkel trail

Opening Details

Year round; weather dependent.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

As the activity takes place on/in water there may be mobility limitations. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Activity is free if you bring your own equipment. Parking for cars and smaller vehicles is available in each location.



The Jackie Clarke Collection – Immerse yourself in 400 years of Irish History

Business Contact Details

Mayo County Council's Jackie Clarke Collection,

Pearse Street, Ballina, Co Mayo

GPS 54.11472654100103, -9.153458084364274

Tel +353 (0)96 73508

Email clarkecollection@mayococo.ie

Web www.clarkecollection.ie

Business Contact Austin Vaughan/Anne Marie Forbes

Experience Description

A 2hr guided tour of Irish historical material, comprising over 100,000 items spanning 400 years. It includes artefacts associated with Theobald Wolfe Tone; letters from Michael Collins, Douglas Hyde, Michael Davitt and O'Donovan Rossa; rare books, proclamations, pamphlets, maps and personal items from Leaders of the 1916 Rising. Marking the centenary of the founding of the State, this repository of Irish historic material is worth a visit.

Group bookings/rates contact

Anne Marie Forbes

Email ajforbes@mayococo.ie

Tel +353 (0)87 4133752

Opening Details

Year round. Tuesday to Saturday, 1000-1700hrs. All bookings must be made in advance.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach parking bay at the front of the building. Wheelchair accessible lifts to all levels.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Ballina

Other Experiences Nearby

Iceford Stables (5 mins)

Paddle and Pedal Kayaking (2 mins)

Belleek Woods Cycle (10 mins)

Alcock and Brown crash landed into Derrygimlagh Bog Co Galway in 1919 at the end of the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic



Walk Sliabh Liag's Pilgrim Path

Business Contact Details

Blue Stack Centre, Drimarone, Letterbarrow, Co Donegal
GPS 54.641697, -8.666561
Tel 353 (0)87 9318077
Email ibock@dldc.org
Web www.irishtrails.ie

Business Contact Inga Bock

Experience Description

A 1hr 30min walk. The Pilgrim Path at Sliabh Liag (Slieve League) offers a different way of experiencing these spectacular cliffs which are among the highest in Europe. This moderate walking route is only 2.8km long but features views of the villages of Teelin and Carrick and finishes up looking down upon the cliffs. On your excursion you will also get a glimpse into the ancient history of this mystical location, passing church ruins and a holy well on the eastern summit of Sliabh Liag.

Opening Details

All year round, subject to weather conditions as mountain path.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No coach parking. Up to 3 car parking spaces available at trail head. No min. age but children need to be accompanied by an adult. Reasonable standard of fitness required. Suitable for the intermediate walker. Walking boots and relevant all weather clothing required. Packed lunches available from Slieve League Lodge, Carrick Village, 5 mins drive away.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie

Accommodation Hub

Hostel accommodation in Carrick – 5 mins drive

Other Experiences Nearby

Glencolmcille Folk Village – 12km; Silver Strand, Malin Beg – 18km;
 Studio Donegal, Kilcar – 9km



Rougey Walk along a Cliff Top

Business Contact Details

Tourist Office, The Bridge, Bundoran, Co Donegal
GPS 54.49007836374548, -8.2687099831129838
Tel +353 (0)71 98 41350
Email info@discoverbundoran.com
Web www.discoverbundoran.com/coastal-walks

Business Contact Shane Smith

Experience Description

A 1hr 30min. 4.5km non-guided circular walk taking in views of the Atlantic Ocean from Rougey and Bundoran's bustling main street. Along the path are cliff arches which have been carved by the Atlantic Ocean and the Wishing Chair which is Bundoran's answer to the Blarney Stone.

Opening Details

Year round. Caution required during high winds.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Coach and car parking at Tullan Strand. Street parking at Tourist Office. Moderate level of fitness required. Suitable clothing/footwear required for walking on finished surface.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie to Bantry (47min, 34km)

Accommodation Hub

Bundoran

Other Experiences Nearby

Bundoran Surf Co (2 mins)
 The Donegal Brewing Company at Dicey Reilly's (9 mins)
 Mullaghmore Head (15 mins)

The Ceide Fields in Mayo and Carrowmore in Sligo are two of the most significant sites in terms of Ireland's prehistoric period.



Seashore Nature Walk Derrynane Historic Park

Business Contact Details

Derrynane House, Derrynane, Co Kerry

GPS 51.7628668, -10.1305571

Tel 353 (0)66 9475113

Email Christopher.oneill@opw.ie

Web www.heritageireland.ie/en/derrynanehouse/

Business Contact Chris O'Neill

Experience Description

2hr seashore Nature Walk at Derrynane Historic Park. This is a 1.2km looped coastal walk with great views of Derrynane Bay. Derrynane National Historic Park, plantations and garden walks were laid out in the 18th & 19th centuries, principally north and west of the house. Some features of the demesne are strongly associated with Daniel O'Connell, including the old summer house. The main gardens can be reached through a tunnel under the road. AV presentation and guided tours available on request. Guidebooks in English, Irish, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Dutch also available.

Opening Details

5th March-13th Dec.

5th Mar-1st April: Wed-Sun. & Bank Holidays 1000-1700hrs

2nd April-30th Sept: Daily 1030-1800hrs

1st Oct-1st Nov: Wed-Sun. & Bank Holidays 1000-1700hrs

2nd Nov-13th Dec. (weekends only) 1000-1600hrs

Last admission 45mins before closing.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Not wheelchair accessible. Walking boots/all weather gear required. Seasonal coffee shop onsite.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie to Waterville (20mins)

Accommodation Hub

Waterville (20mins)

Other Experiences Nearby

Derrynane House; Eagle Rock Equestrian Centre; Atlantic Irish Seaweed Walks



Sheepshead Lighthouse Loop

Business Contact Details

Lighthouse Walk, Sheepshead Peninsula, Co Cork

Tel +353 (0)86 3030991

Email info@livingthesheepsheadway.com

Web www.livingthesheepsheadway.com

Business Contact Siobhan Burke

Experience Description

This 2hr looped walk circles the far tip of the Sheep's Head Peninsula, on tracks and paths which are sometimes steep and rocky, passing high cliffs. It touches on lovely little Lough Akeen and there is spectacular coastal scenery, including Mizen Head and the Beara Peninsula.

Opening Details

Year round.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Car parking at Wild Atlantic Way Sheepshead Discovery Point. Moderate level of mobility required. Suitable clothing and footwear required for walking on track/trail with uneven surface, i.e. walking boots and rainwear. Bernie's Café with resrooms at car park.

Public Transport

www.buseireann.ie to Bantry (45min, 34km)

Accommodation Hub

Bantry. B&B and self-catering operators on the Sheepshead Peninsula.

Other Experiences Nearby

Heron Gallery, Ahakista (27mins, 17km)


Carbry Sailing Cruises including Wild Atlantic Way and daily sails, Ahakista (27mins, 17km)

Durrus Cheese, Coomkeen, Durrus (40mins, 27.6km)

Bantry House (45mins, 33km)

You can view 350 Million Year old tetrapod footprints on Valentia Island, Co Kerry.



A scenic view of Donegal's Sliabh Liag cliffs. In the foreground, a herd of sheep with white wool and black faces stands on a rocky, moss-covered outcrop. The sheep are looking in various directions, some towards the camera. The background features a dramatic coastline with steep, grey rock cliffs that drop down to a deep blue sea. The sky is clear and blue, and the overall atmosphere is bright and natural.

Donegal's Sliabh Liag cliffs are Europe's highest accessible sea cliffs.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY SAMPLE ITINERARY

TO HELP YOU PROGRAMME THIS AREA, HERE IS A SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR YOU TO CONSIDER WHICH WILL HELP YOUR CLIENT, BE THEY GROUP OR FIT, TO NAVIGATE THIS AREA. FOR OTHER SAMPLE ITINERARIES FOR IRELAND'S WILD ATLANTIC WAY PLEASE EMAIL BUSINESSDEVELOPMENT@FAILTEIRELAND.IE



The Wild Atlantic Way stretches for 2,500 km along Ireland's western seaboard from Malin Head in Co Donegal down to Kinsale in Co Cork. It passes along famous landmarks and film locations, has an abundance of activities to dive into or dip your toe in, an abundance of heritage and cultural experiences, and is the longest defined coastal touring route in the world. In this sample itinerary you will experience part of this route covering areas of Counties Clare, Galway, Mayo, Sligo & Donegal. It is easy to experience it all and at your own pace. To dip in or to delve in, to meet great people and to enjoy unique places that have inspired many for thousands of years. For other sample itineraries for Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way please email businessdevelopment@failteireland.ie

DAY 1

Start your day in Co Clare with a guided walking tour with [Long Way Round Walking Tours](#) based in Loop Head. Join with nature and learn about the history, geology, botany and wildlife of Loop Head. With your guide Laura Foley gain access to areas of beauty which are otherwise inaccessible to visitors. An hour's drive from the world renowned Burren, The Loop Head Peninsula offers a vastly different landscape and geology. Situated between the Atlantic Coast and Shannon Estuary and much like the Cliffs of Moher, our Atlantic coast offers a string of magnificent Cliff views. The Shannon estuary is home to an array of sealife and pods of Dolphins which on occasions can be viewed from vantage points along the walks.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

Lunch in Lahinch

Continue your journey along the Wild Atlantic Way to Doolin the traditional music capital of Ireland and enjoy a guided tour at Doolin Cave. [Doolin Cave](#) is home to the Great Stalactite. At 7.3 metres (23 feet) it is the longest free-hanging stalactite in the Northern Hemisphere. The Great Stalactite, suspended from the ceiling like a chandelier, is truly astounding.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Visit the [Cliffs of Moher Interpretative Centre](#). Standing 214m (702 feet) at their highest point they stretch for 8 kilometres (5 miles) along the Atlantic coast of County Clare in the west of Ireland. From the Cliffs of Moher on a clear day one can see the Aran Islands and Galway Bay, as well as the Twelve Pins and the Maum Turk mountains in Connemara, Loop Head to the south and the Dingle Peninsula and Blasket Islands in Kerry. O'Brien's Tower stands near the highest point and has served as a viewing point for visitors for hundreds of years.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

Dinner & overnight in Galway City



DAY 2

Start your morning at **Cnoc Suain**. Surrounded by ancient blanket bogland, overlooking mountains, river, lake, and sea, Cnoc Suain is an award-winning cultural retreat. In this restored 17th century Connemara hill-village, visitors enjoy creative cultural experiences and stays. Located in the Gaelic-speaking area of Connemara (Gaeltacht), Cnoc Suain offers a unique window into Irish Gaelic culture, past and present. Close to nature, sustainably restored cottages are available for private rental at certain times of the year. Visitors can learn about the local flora/fauna and history of the Connemara landscape. A selection of activities can be enjoyed here including, Irish music, song & story, the Gaelic language & poetry, learn a Céilí (Folk) dance!

Allow 2 hours for this experience

Continue your journey on the Wild Atlantic Way with a guided cycle on an electric bike with **Connemara Wild Escapes**. Take in the wild Irish land and seascapes of the beautiful and dramatic Wild Atlantic Way, as you meander with your electric bike along quiet country lanes and rugged coastal routes. There are lots of routes to choose from. Include a ride along the famous and scenic Sky Road as well as the haunting Bog Road. Or make your way to Roundstone village for fresh Atlantic mussels or a seafood chowder and continue on with a visit to the **Connemara Smokehouse**, where you'll see how the finest Irish Smoked Salmon is crafted.

Allow 2½ hours for this experience

Lunch in Clifden

Visit **Kylemore Abbey** and its Victorian walled garden. Visit the restored rooms of the Abbey and learn about its history and tales of tragedy and romance. Explore the 6 acre Victorian Walled Garden with its magnificent restored buildings. Discover woodland walks, lakeshore walks and nature trails throughout the 1000 acre estate. The beautiful Gothic Church is a short walk from the Abbey, nestled nearby is the Mausoleum where Mitchell and Margaret Henry are buried side by side.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

Dinner & overnight in Westport

DAY 3

Head for the Neolithic site at the **Ceide Fields** in Co Mayo. 6,000 years old and the oldest known field system in the world. Remains of stone field walls, houses and megalithic tombs are preserved beneath a blanket of peat. One of the dramatic exhibits that confronts visitors on entering the centre is a 4,000 year old pine tree that was unearthed from nearby bogland.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Continue to Strandhill and explore the beach, a mecca for surfers. Head to **Voya Seaweed Baths**. Relax back into a luxurious steaming bath of fresh seawater and wild, organic seaweed from the unspoilt Atlantic coast of Ireland.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Lunch in Strandhill

Travel to Sligo and discover the story of WB Yeats at the **Sligo County Museum**. The museum's collections are divided between the Yeats collection, consisting of a selection of photographs, print, artefacts and memorabilia and a collection of artefacts and memorabilia associated with Countess Markievicz and her sister, Eva Goore Booth. There is also an accumulation of local artefacts and geological samples.

Allow 1 hour for this experience



Continue to [Lisadell House and Gardens](#) for a guided tour of the house. The house is the childhood home of Constance Markievicz and her sister Eva Gore Booth. Constance was one of the leaders of the 1916 rising and a suffragist. WB Yeats was friendly with both sisters and immortalised Lisadell in his poetry.

Allow 1 hour 30mins for this experience

Dinner & overnight in Donegal Town

DAY 4

Start your day with a visit to [Donegal Castle](#). Built by the O'Donnell chieftains in the 15th Century, beside the river Eske in Donegal Town, Donegal Castle was rebuilt in Jacobean style in the 16th Century by Sir Basil Brooke, after Hugh O'Donnell burnt it to the ground rather than let it fall into enemy hands. Information panels chronicle the history of the castle and guided tours are available.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Continue to [Sliabh Liag Cliffs](#) and take a guided walking tour with a local walking guide. There are terrific views of the Atlantic Ocean, the Sligo Mountains and Donegal Bay as you walk towards the terrifyingly high top of Sliabh League, where the cliff face of Bunglas rises over 600m above the raging ocean.

Allow 2 hours for this experience

Continue along the Wild Atlantic Way to [Fanad Head Lighthouse](#), where you can learn more about the Fanad Head area in the Visitor Centre. From the lighthouse carpark you can stroll along the headland in awe of the high waves and the Wild Atlantic Way's most rugged stretch of coastline. With the backdrop of the lighthouse it's an ideal photo opportunity for the holiday album.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Travel to Rathmullan for a visit to [Kinnegar Craft Brewery Centre](#). Visits to the brewery offer enthusiasts a complete overview of the brewing process, beginning in the malt loft and continuing through the brew house, the fermentation process, the conditioning cellar, and finally to packaging. All of this in a uniquely compact space!

Afterwards, in the brewery's Taproom at nearby Rathmullan House, you'll be welcome to taste their range to help you appreciate the influence that different malts, hops and yeast have on the flavour profile and general character of individual beers. Tour participants receive a token for a beer. You'll be able to make a well-informed decision before deciding which one to order!

Allow 2 hours for this experience

DAY 5

Return to Dublin



DUBLIN

Dublin is the vibrant capital city, bursting with a variety of surprising experiences where city living thrives side by side with natural outdoors.

Dublin, a city for all seasons, has a very cosmopolitan feel, yet as a city of words, with a unique literary heritage, it offers a distinctly Irish cultural experience, no matter what season visitors choose to come. The city and its coastline will stimulate and excite different senses each time you visit, while its stories can be found on every street, in the places you visit and people you meet, just waiting to be uncovered and shared. Recently voted the friendliest city in Europe, it never fails to provide a warm welcome and lasting memories, whether seeking a relaxing or adrenalin filled European city break or visiting as part of the Island of Ireland holiday experience.



The prestigious "Oscar" statuette used at the Academy Awards was designed by MGM's art director Cedric Gibbons, who was born in Dublin in 1823

Abraham "Bram" Stoker who wrote the famous novel Dracula, was born in 1847 in Clontarf.



Dublin
A Breath of Fresh Air



Chester Beatty Library – Unique Museum Experience

Business Contact Details

CBL, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2
Tel +353 (0)1 4070750
Email info@cbl.ie
Web www.cbl.ie

Business Contact Derval O'Carroll

Experience Description

Winner of 'European Museum of the Year' and considered 'one of the best multi-cultural museums in Europe', the library's world renowned collection features artworks, manuscripts and rare books from around the world dated 2700BC to the present day. A guided tour is available for groups (prebooking essential). Allow 60 mins. A comprehensive public events programme is available throughout the calendar year. Educational programmes, workshops, film screenings, seminars, talks scheduled and available to book, alongside a dynamic teen's club (min age 12 years). A range of intercultural Learning Resources for schools/groups planning a visit, see www.cbl.ie/Education/Ways-of-Seeing-intercultural-Learning-Project-for-.aspx

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Standard Retail Price 2015 Private group guided tours available @€2.00 pp. www.cbl.ie/Plan-A-Visit/Guided-Tours.aspx

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered

Yes
 15 pax, larger groups accommodated with 2 guides.

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Mary Dowling
Email mdowling@cbl.ie
Tel +353 (0)1 4070759

Opening Details

Open year round, Nov-Feb: Closed Mondays March-Oct. Mon-Fri. Weekdays 1000-1700hrs. Sat 1100-1700hrs Sun 1300-1700hrs
 Closed 1st Jan, Good Friday + 24, 25, 26th Dec as well as Monday Public Holidays.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. Fully accessible, Braille resources available. Car and Coach parking available outside Castle Walls on Ship street. Restrooms onsite. Silk Road Café onsite serving food from around the world.

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram) (5 mins), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) (12 mins) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Other Experiences Nearby

Trinity College (5 mins walk); Christchurch Cathedral (5 mins walk); Marsh's Library (10 mins walk)



Christ Church Cathedral

Business Contact Details

Christchurch Place, Dublin 8
GPS 53.343628, -6.271013
Tel +353 (0)1 6778099
Email welcome@christchurch.ie
Web www.christchurchcathedral.ie

Business Contact Lydia Toal

Experience Description

Step into Dublin's oldest working structure dating back to the early 12th century – your guide will share the many uses of the largest crypt in Ireland with you and lead you up the 86 narrow stone steps to the Belfry which houses 19 bells rung in full circle, you can have a try at bell-ringing yourself. As you explore the stunning nave perhaps you'll hear some choral music – the cathedral choir is world famous and was founded in 1493! Allow 45 mins for the guided tour.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Standard Retail Price Guided Tour €10.00 Student €8.50

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Advance booking required. Min. 15 pax for private tour. Max 24 pax in Belfry at a time (larger groups may be split over 2 tours). FITs may join scheduled tours

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Contact

Jessica Plunkett
Email Jessica@christchurch.ie
Tel As above

Opening Details

Year round except 26th Dec. April-Sept Mon-Sat 0900-1900hrs, Sun 1230-1430hrs, 1630-1900hrs; Mar & Oct Mon-Sat 0900-1800hrs, Sun 1230-1430hrs, 1630-1800hrs; Nov-Feb Mon-Sat 0900-1700hrs, Sun 1230-1430hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Min age – Belfry 10 yrs. Full mobility required to Belfry (86 steps). Restrooms onsite. Coach drop – Winetavern Street Coach Parking – Castle Street (5 mins walk). Variety of Cafés, Restaurants and Bars (2 mins walk).

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram) (10 mins walk), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) (12 mins walk); Dublin Bus routes www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Other Experiences Nearby

Dublin Castle (5 mins walk); Trinity College (10 mins walk); Teeling Distillery (10 mins walk)

The Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral was Jonathan Swift, author of Gulliver's Travels.



Discover Dublin's natural treasures right on the doorstep of the City

Business Contact Details

Dublin Bay Cruises, Westburren Pecks Lane Castleknock Dublin 15
GPS 53.34625 6.24000
Tel +353 1 9011757
Email booking@dublinbaycruises.com
Web www.dublinbaycruises.com

Business Contact Eugene Garrihy

Experience Description

Dublin Bay Cruises will pick your clients up in the City and take them on a fantastic cruise along the river Liffey and out onto Dublin Bay. During your cruise to the beautiful fishing village of Howth or the magnificent maritime town of Dun Laoghaire you will see the Dublin and Wicklow mountains as well as many historical and natural sights that help shape Dublin as we know it today.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €22 & €28 (City Howth). Capacity 100 passengers. Groups advised to book in advance.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Eugene Garrihy
Email eugene@dublinbaycruises.com
Tel +353 862570075

Opening Details

April to Oct, 0900hrs to 1730hrs. Duration of experience: 1hr 15 - 1hr 30.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Weather generally not a problem as passengers can sit inside or outside. No minimum age requirement. It's advised to call in advance re mobility issues. Coach and car parking available at each location. Refreshments available on board incl Wine, Beer, Tea, Coffee and snacks. Very fresh fish platters available to pre order for groups.

Public Transport

www.dublinbus.ie

Accommodation Hub

Accommodation in and around Dublin City.

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 20mins

Other Experiences Nearby

Howth Fishing village. Howth Head & Howth Hill.
 Dalkey village, James Joyce Martello Tower and museum.
 Dun Laoghaire Marina town.



Dublin Bay Wildlife and Seal Kayak Tour

Business Contact Details

Bullock Harbour, Dalkey, Co Dublin
GPS 53.2856022; -6.107604
Tel +353 (0)86 1684755
Email info@kayaking.ie
Web www.kayaking.ie

Business Contact Jenny Kilbride

Experience Description

Experience the UNESCO biosphere of Dublin Bay with a guided kayak tour at Dalkey, Co Dublin (20 mins from city centre) with our friendly Eco Guides. Immerse your group in nature and wildlife as they kayak from the shore to historic Dalkey Island. Get up close and personal with the famous seals and meet many species of sea bird and marine life. A walk on historic Dalkey Island is included to explore Mesolithic ruins, a 10th century church and a Martello Tower from 1805. The island boasts many other points of interest as well as plenty of rabbits and a herd of goats as well as spectacular views of Dublin Bay. Allow 3 hours for experience.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €49.00 (advance booking required)

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Yes (min group size 4, max group size 18)

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Jenny Kilbride
Email As above
Tel As above

Opening Details

Available 1st March to 30th Oct – 7 days, Pre booking required.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Min Age 13 years. Suitable outdoor activity clothing required. All Equipment and safety clothing provided.

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Located in Dublin City Centre

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (30 mins by Aircoach www.aircoach.ie/timetables/route-700-dublin-airport-dublin-city-centre)

Other Experiences Nearby

Walk to Killiney Hill (15 mins walk); Joyce Tower Museum (5 mins walk); Rock Climbing in Dalkey Quarry (15 mins walk)



Epic Ireland – The Journey of a People

Business Contact Details

Unit 1, The CHQ Building, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1

GPS 53.349040, -6.247870

Postcode D01 WR86

Tel +353 1 5313688

Email info@epicirelandchq.com

Web www.epicirelandchq.com

Business Contact Dervla O'Neill

Experience Description

Epic Ireland is the dramatic new 21st Century visitor experience that showcases the unique global journey of the Irish people. Epic Ireland is located in the beautiful vaults of the iconic CHQ building, which dates from 1820, and is situated on Custom House Quay in the centre of Dublin. This high-technology interactive exhibition, tells the story of the Irish people's dispersal throughout the world over the ages. This is the world's first fully digital museum. The tour is self-guided and we have audio guides in French, Spanish, Italian and German. Each visitor gets to take away a souvenir passport that they get stamped as they walk through the galleries.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €16; groups over ten people should book in advance.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rates Yes;

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Bookings/Rates Contact

Dervla O'Neill

Email doneill@epicirelandchq.com

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round 7 days a week 0900-1900hrs (1800hrs outside June – August). Duration of experience: 90 minutes.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

There is one dedicated drop off and pick up coach stop beside the entrance, on the same side of the road as the entrance, suitable for a 50 seater coach. There are a wide variety of eating options in The CHQ Building to suit all tastes and budgets from coffee shops to bistros all under one roof.

Public Transport

www.dublinbus.ie

www.irishrail.ie

Accommodation Hub

Jurys Inn Hotel is 200 metres from the entrance to EPIC Ireland

Other Experiences Nearby

Trinity College and Book of Kells (8 minute walk); GPO Museum (10 minute walk); Jeanie Johnston and famine memorial (1 minute walk)



Experience Gaelic Games

Business Contact Details

32 Claude Road, Drumcondra Dublin 9

Tel +353 (0)1 2544292/+353 (0)87 2317794/+353 (0)86 8116809

Email info@experiencegaelicgames.com

Web www.experiencegaelicgames.com

Experience Locations

Dublin

EGG, Na Fianna GAA Club, Saint Mobhí Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 9

GPS 53.37415, -6.26543

Galway

EGG, Liam Mellows GAA Club, Renmore, Ballyloughane Road, Galway

GPS 53.27101325014381, -9.02067661035403

Cork

EGG at Na Piarisigh GAA Club, The Commons, Fairhill, Cork

GPS 51.91912603569929, -8.494491574648464

Business Contact Georgina Caraher & Cormac O'Donnchú

Experience Description

Experience Gaelic Games offers a mix of cultural immersion, soft activity and serious interaction over 3-4 hours. Your group visits a local Gaelic (Irish) Club where the session starts with a personally delivered Audio/Visual presentation explaining the Irish obsession with our tribal national sports as an expression of our cultural identity. Then we unleash the groups inner warrior instincts as they learn how to play our native games. Add to this, some Gaelic Handball action and you have the perfect Irish 'team' experience.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €35 Adult; €25 Student & < 18 years

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Yes (Min group booking nos 8 pax. Max 300 pax)

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Georgina Caraher

Email georgina@experiencegaelicgames.com

Tel As above

Opening Details

Year round, 7 days. Indoor facilities available in inclement weather.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

All ages, all abilities. Wheelchair accessible. Public car park onsite or adjacent. Suitable outdoor activity clothing or tracksuit & runners advised. Restrooms and light snacks available. Water provided free of charge.

Public Transport

Serviced by Public Transport

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Dublin city centre (10 mins) from Dublin Venue; Galway city centre (5 mins) from Galway venue; Cork city centre (10 mins) from Cork Venue

Other Experiences Nearby

National Botanic Gardens (4 mins walk); Glasnevin Cemetery (6 mins walk via Botanic Gardens) Croke Park Stadium (12 mins walk)



Glasnevin Cemetery Guided Walking Tour & Museum

Business Contact Details

Glasnevin Cemetery Museum, Finglas Road, Dublin 11

GPS N 53° 22.190 W 006°16.613

Tel +353 (0)1 8826500

Email booking@glasnevintrust.ie or akilcoyne@glasnevintrust.ie

Web www.glasnevintrust.ie

Business Contact Ann Kilcoyne

Experience Description

Recent winner of Tourism Industry awards 'Best Cultural Experience'; this engages visitors in a guided walking tour with highly experienced guide, through the cemetery. It offers a fascinating walk through time, visiting the graves of those who helped shape modern Ireland. Founded in 1832 by Daniel O'Connell, the tour includes a visit to his tomb, located beneath his 168ft iconic tower, along with many other famous historical figures buried there. With over 1.5 million Dubliners, there are plenty of stories to tell. The experience includes a dramatic re-enactment where an actor in period costume recites a famous speech. Allow 90 mins for tour + extra to visit Museum, shop and café.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Standard Retail Price 2015 €12.00 Includes 10% café discount & €5.00 towards genealogy record search

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered

Yes (Min group numbers 10 pax. <10 pax can join public tours)

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Aideen Stapleton

Email astapleton@glasnevintrust.ie

Tel +353 (0)1 8826500

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days. 1000-1700hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. All areas except Daniel O Connell Crypt are wheelchair accessible. Comfortable outdoor clothing to suit weather advised. Coach park onsite. Café, shop and restrooms onsite.

Public Transport

Serviced by Dublin Bus Nos 40, 140 from O Connell St.

www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm and Red City Sightseeing Bus (Blue route)

Other Experiences Nearby

The National Botanic Gardens (adjacent, 3 mins walk), Jameson Distillery & Guinness Storehouse (5km – 30-40 mins walk)



GPO Witness History

Business Contact Details

O'Connell Street Lower, Dublin 1

Postcode D01 WR86

Tel +353 (0) 1 8169538

Email info@gpowitnesshistory.ie

Web www.gpowitnesshistory.ie

Business Contact John Horgan

Experience Description

GPO Witness History is a brand new visitor experience opening March 29th 2016 in the historical GPO building, O'Connell Street, Dublin. This will be a highly interactive and immersive exhibition which will focus on the 1916 rising and also how Ireland has developed since. Self – guided audio headsets are available in various continental languages. The tour includes touch screens, real artefacts, videos, dress sets and memory walls which will further enhance the visitor experience. Visitors can relax afterwards in the café and retail store.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price €10; groups over ten people should book in advance.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Bookings/Rates Contact

Carla Kelly

Email As above

Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round 0900-1730hrs (last admission 1630hrs), closed Dec 24th/25th/26th and Easter Sunday. Duration of experience; 1hr 30mins to include café and retail experience.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

The attraction is wheelchair accessible. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Café and retail experience on site.

Public Transport

www.dublinbus.ie

Accommodation Hub

GPO Witness history is located on O'Connell Street in Dublin city centre with numerous hotels within walking distance.

Other Experiences Nearby

Guinness Storehouse (5-10 minute drive), Old Jameson Distillery (5-10 minute drive), Glasnevin Cemetery (10-15 minute drive)



Ireland's first Cinematic Theatre Presents 'Story of the Irish'

Business Contact Details

Story of the Irish, Haymarket, Smithfield, Dublin 7
GPS 53.348004, -6.279306
Tel +353 (0) 1 8733537
Email info@storyoftheirish.ie
Web www.storyoftheirish.ie

Business Contact Frank Fitzpatrick

Experience Description

The Story of the Irish is a guided tour through a 10,000 year old story combining the use of professional actors as live storytellers, the latest digital systems and special effects to enhance the visitor experience. A live actor, playing a Celtic god, guides visitors through the millennia and with the help of on screen actors and rare cinematic content, the visitors move through 6 Time Chambers.

With a specially written script, music score and personalised audio equipment, the visitors experience 10,000 years of Irish cultural triumphs, they feel the defiance of the Irish as they fight against annihilation and they watch them rise up from their cultural ashes to once again become a vibrant people.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price Adult €16.95; Adult Group 10+ €14.95; Children under 12 €12.50; Student/Senior €14.95. Max 35 guests per tour.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Christina
Email Christina@storyoftheirish.ie
Tel As above

Opening Details

1030-1900hrs 7 days a week; shows begin at 1100hrs and end at 1800hrs. Duration of experience: 1 hour approx.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Surface car park and multi-story basement car park adjacent to the building. Coach parking one minute walk away on Church Street. Gift shop & Café will open April 2016. Smithfield has numerous cafés and restaurants all within 1-5 minutes walking distance from Story of the Irish.

Public Transport

<https://www.luas.ie/>

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 20mins

Accommodation Hub

Dublin City Centre

Other Experiences Nearby

Jameson Distillery – 2 minutes
 St. Michan's Church – 5 minutes
 Guinness Storehouse – 15 minutes



The Little Museum of Dublin

Business Contact Details

The Little Museum of Dublin, 15 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 D02 X336.
GPS 53.3394115, -6.258540900000071
Tel +353 (0)1 6611000
Email Sarah@littlemuseum.ie
Web www.littlemuseum.ie

Business Contact Sarah Costigan, Director of Development

Experience Description

The Little Museum experience, overlooking St Stephen's Green, covers the three floors of the beautiful Georgian townhouse and is centred on a guided tour of our main exhibitions. This tour covers the social and political history of Dublin in the 20th century and lasts approx. 40 mins. Your guide will explain many of the highlights of the museum's permanent collection. We also have a temporary exhibition schedule and some permanent exhibitions including one of Ireland's famous Rock Band U2. Allow 1hr for visit.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 €7.00, Family Rate €14

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates

Yes (min private group tour 10 pax. – Max 35)

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Niamh Ní Riain
Email bureau@littlemuseum.ie
Tel As above

Opening Details

Open year round, 7 days: 0930-1700hrs, late opening Thurs to 2000hrs. Closed: Early-Mid Jan. Public tours: April-Oct – hourly 1000-1600hrs except 1300hrs. Nov-March: hourly 1100-1500hrs except 1300hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

Not wheelchair accessible: Multi-story public car park nearby Nassau St (5 mins walk). Restrooms onsite. Hatch and Sons Café (in basement of property) offer 10% discount to museum visitors.

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), Dublin Bus routes.
www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Located in City Centre

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (30 mins by Aircoach www.aircoach.ie/timetables/route-700-dublin-airport-dublin-city-centre)

Other Experiences Nearby

St. Stephen's Green Shopping (2 mins); National Museum of Ireland (Natural History), (7 mins walk). Trinity College (6 mins walk)



TradFest Temple Bar (25th-29th January 2017)

Business Contact Details

4th Floor, Dollard House, 2-5 Wellington Quay, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

Tel +353 1 7030700

Email claudine@templebarcompany.com

Web www.templebartrad.com

Business Contact Claudine Murray

Experience Description

Now in its 12th year TradFest Temple Bar has established itself as a major event in Dublin's cultural calendar and is the city's Premier celebration of Irish Trad & Folk Music featuring an eclectic programme of Irish and international performers performing in some of Dublin's most historic venues including Dublin Castle, St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin City Hall plus many other iconic buildings. Acts over the years have included renowned Irish artists such as Clannad, Altan, The Dubliners, Stockton's Wing, Paul Brady, Martin Hayes, Gilbert O'Sullivan as well as international acts such as Donovan, Julie Fowlis, Bellow Head and Carlos Nunez. The 5 day festival also includes workshops, master-classes, pub sessions, outdoor entertainment, music trail, exhibitions, film screenings as well as a family programme of music, arts and crafts for younger audiences.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price While 2017 Festival ticket prices have not been confirmed prices usually range from €10.00 to €40.00 per concert/event. Group and agent rates can be agreed depending on requirements.

Tour operator rates Yes

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group bookings/rates contact

Ciara Brady

Email Ciara@templebarcompany.com

Tel As above

Opening Details

TradFest Temple Bar takes place every January over 5 days. Times vary based on each event.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

As some venues are historical landmarks and date over 1000 years not all are mobile accessible, staff need to be notified in advance and will assist where possible. All events are city centre based and are within walking distance to public carparks. Refreshments are not available in most venues but all venues are located within city centre with access to full range of bars, restaurants, cafes etc.

Public Transport

www.luas.ie

www.dublinbus.ie

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport 20mins

Accommodation Hub

All venues are located within city centre with access to full range of accommodation types.



Viking Splash – Experience Dublin by Land & Water

Business Contact Details

Viking Splash Tours – Dublin. Office: RGI House, 18 Mill Street, Dublin 8.

Tour Departures St. Stephen's North, Dublin 2

GPS 53.347834,6.246097

Tel +353 (0)1 7076000

Email info@vikingsplash.ie

Web www.Vikingsplash.com

Business Contact Lynn Walsh

Experience Description

Viking Splash Tours offers a unique experience to see Dublin sights on both land and water! Climb on board an amphibious World War II open top vehicle and don the Viking helmet. Enjoy an interactive guided tour with a humorous driver-guide, while roaring at unsuspecting passers-by. All tours in English. Tour duration 1 hour 15 mins + 15 mins advance attendance to board.

Pricing

Standard Retail Price 2015 Adult €22; Child €12 (2-12 years)

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates Offered

Yes (28 pax. max per vehicle)

FIT Rate Yes

Ad Hoc Group Rate Rates Yes

Tour Series Rates Yes

Group Booking Contact

Lynn Walsh

Email info@vikingsplash.ie

Tel +353 (0)1 7076000

Opening Details

Open Feb to Mid-Dec. March-Oct – 7 days; Feb, March, Nov, Dec – Fri-Mon.

Contact office to check daily tour times (change by season) or to book private group tour.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min age. Average mobility required – 6 steps required to board vehicle. Appropriate clothing needed to suit weather. Multi-story public car park at Nassau Street (5 mins walk). Variety of cafés, restaurants, bars nearby. Shopping centre with restroom facilities – 2 mins walk.

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram) and Dublin Bus routes.

www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm Taxi rank (2 mins)

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Located in Dublin City Centre – Stephen's Green

Nearest Airport

Dublin Airport (30 mins by Aircoach) www.aircoach.ie/timetables/route-700-dublin-airport-dublin-city-centre

Other Experiences Nearby

St Stephen's Green Public Park (1 min walk); St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre (2 mins walk); Little Museum of Dublin (2 mins walk)



Historic Dublin Parks & Georgian Squares

Experience Description, Location & Opening Times

Phoenix Park: The Phoenix Park is over 700 hectares (1752 acres) in area and is the largest enclosed public Park in any capital city in Europe. A large herd of fallow deer still remain to this day. The Park is also home to the Zoo, Áras an Uachtaráin where the Irish President lives and Victorian flower gardens. The Park facilities include a visitor centre, Victorian tearooms, bicycle hire and access to Dublin Zoo. Open year round, see website for opening times. See www.phoenixpark.ie. Allow 1-4 hours for visit.

St Patrick's Park: Situated beside St. Patrick's Cathedral, tradition has it that St. Patrick baptised the first Irish Christians there with water from the River Poddle which flows underground. The park provides an ideal setting for the cathedral and recent additions in 1988 include a Literary Parade highlighting the works of Swift, Mangan, Wilde, Shaw, Yeats, Synge, O'Casey, Joyce, Behan, Beckett, Clarke, Dillon and the Liberty Bell Sculpture. There is also a children's playground and a Victorian Café. www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-recreation-culture/dublin-city-parks Open year round, see website for opening times. Allow 30 mins-1 hour for visit.

St Stephen's Green: Georgian Square and Park Ireland's best known Victorian public park, in the heart of the City. Spanning 22 acres. Well maintained in the original Victorian layout. Over 3.5 km of pathways are accessible for all users. The waterfall and Pulham rock both on the western side of the green are worth a visit, likewise the ornamental lake which provides a home for waterfowl and a garden for the visually impaired. A number of sculptures are located throughout the green. Lunchtime concerts are performed during the summer months. Open year round, see website for opening times. Allow 30 mins-1 hour for visit www.heritageireland.ie/en/dublin/ststephensgreen/

Merrion Square: Merrion Square, in the heart of Georgian Dublin has a fascinating history. Oscar Wilde lived as a child at No. 1 Merrion Square, where Bram Stoker also spent a lot of time attending Lady Wilde's salons, while W. B. Yeats lived at No 82, and Daniel O'Connell at No 58. The Square is well known for its Sunday Open Art Gallery and is home to diverse organisations including Irish Traditional Music Archive, Irish Architectural Archive, Irish Georgian Society, Society of Antiquarians, College of

Anaesthetists and Irish Red Cross. The beautiful park at the centre of the Square provides an appealing and relaxing atmosphere for locals and visitors with a mobile café situated near the East entrance. The Square is open year round, See website for opening times. www.merrionsquare.ie. Allow 30 mins-1 hour for visit. Note: The Irish Architectural Archive at No. 45 Merrion Square, is the largest house on Merrion Square, built in 1762 with an interesting history. A fine example of Georgian Architecture, it is open to the public FREE Tues-Fri 1000-1700hrs. Group tours by appointment.

Contact Simon Lincoln

Email SLincoln@iarc.ie

Tel +353 (0)1 6633040

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. All parks are accessible. Public Restrooms & Coach parking are available in Phoenix Park. All other parks have restrooms, cafés and shops within 5 min walk and have public coach parking available within walking distance.

Public Transport

All parks are serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Other Experiences Nearby

Phoenix Park: Dublin Zoo (10-30 mins walk), depending on your entrance gate to the park. Zoo is closest to the Park Gate Street or North Circular entrance gates (10 mins).

St Patrick's Park: St Patrick's Cathedral (1 min walk); Christchurch Cathedral (10 mins walk); Guinness Storehouse (12 mins walk).

St Stephen's Green: Little Museum of Dublin (3 mins walk). Irish Whiskey Museum (10 mins walk).

Merrion Square: National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology (FREE); Museum of National History (FREE); National Gallery (FREE).

A smartphone multilingual guide is now available for the Oscar Wilde sculpture in Merrion Square. The guide provides audio, text and visual interpretation of the artwork and information on the sculptor Danny Osbourne. Smartphone users can link to the information via a Quick Response (QR) code or via website www.DublinArtinParks.ie This is a pilot scheme and it is hoped to expand art and parks interpretation in traditional and digital formats.

Handel first publicly performed Messiah in Dublin on April 13th 1742 – in a music hall on Fishamble Street.



National Museums of Ireland (NMI)

All Museums Contact details

Tel +353 (0)1 6777444

Email bookings@museum.ie

(Booking office open Mon-Fri 1000-1400hrs)

Web www.museum.ie

Advance booking required to ensure accommodation of your group size (Min. 1 month advance booking advised). Min. 1 hour recommended for each museum visit.

International and Language Group visits are self-directed in each museum allowing your group take in the Museum's collections at their own pace to focus on the areas of particular interest. Knowledgeable attendants are on hand to answer questions. Note: For conservation purposes, no food or drink allowed in Museum spaces.

All Museum Opening Times

Open Year Round. Tues-Sat 1000-1700hrs; Sunday 1400-1700hrs.
Closed: Mondays (including Bank Holidays), Christmas Day and Good Friday.

Experience Description, Location & Opening Times

NMI – Decorative Arts, Collins Barracks, Dublin 7.

GPS 53.347868, -6.285242.

At the National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts & History you will find Irish haute couture garments, furniture, silver, jewellery, ceramics, and exhibitions exploring Irish military history, including the 1916 Easter Rising. To help plan your visit a floor plan is available to download at: www.museum.ie/en/list/tours-floor-plans-guides-national-museum-ireland-decorative-arts-history.aspx

NMI – Archaeology, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

GPS 53.340617, -6.255244

The National Archaeology Museum carries artefacts dating from 7000BC to the 20th Century over seven galleries. Language Guides & Floorplans available to download at: www.museum.ie/en/info/other-language-visitors-national-museum-ireland-archaeology.aspx

NMI – Natural History Museum, Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

GPS 53.339722, -6.252100

Also known as 'The Dead Zoo', the Museum carries 10,000 exhibits of the natural world showcasing (in decorative cabinets) a wide-ranging and comprehensive zoological collection. The Discovery Zone offers a unique chance to get to grips with a Badger and a Pilot Whale skull. This hands-on area has two mobile units with the themes: Life on Land and The Life Aquatic. To help plan your visit a floor plan is available to download at: www.museum.ie/en/info/tours-floor-plans-guides-national-museum-ireland-natural-history.aspx

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Rates N/A. FREE

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. Each museum is wheelchair accessible (although some floors have no lift access – please check website for details). Public Restrooms, including wheelchair accessible restrooms at each Museum. An onsite café (at NMI Archaeology) and variety of Cafés and shops all within 5 mins. walk of all Museums. Coach Parking available within walking distance. Public Coach parking available throughout the city, all within walking distance of each museum. For further information see www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-roads-and-traffic-parking-dublin/coach-parking-dublin-city

Public Transport

All parks are serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Other Experiences Nearby

NMI – Natural History: NMI – Archaeology (8 mins Walk); National Gallery of Ireland (5 mins walk).

NMI – Archaeology: Little Museum of Dublin (5 mins Walk) St Stephen's Green (5 Mins Walk); Merrion Square (5 Mins Walk).

NMI – Decorative Arts: Phoenix Park (10 mins walk), Dublin Zoo (20 mins walk).

The remains of St. Valentine are contained in Whitefriar Street Carmelite Church, on Aungier Street in Dublin.

The lion who roars at the start of every MGM movie was born in Dublin Zoo in 1927.



Science Gallery, Dublin

Business Contact Details

Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin, Pearse Street, Dublin 2

Tel +353 (0)1 8964091

Email info@dublin.sciencegallery.com

Web www.dublin.sciencegallery.com

Business Contact Jessica Hilliard, Marketing and Communications Manager

Experience Description

Through a programme that ignites creativity and discovery where science and art collide, Science Gallery Dublin encourages young people to learn through their interests. There is an ever-changing programme of exhibitions and events. The focus is on providing programmes and experiences that allow visitors to participate and facilitate social connections, always providing an element of surprise. Visitors have the opportunity to engage with our mediator staff on the floor to answer questions and chat. They can get lunch in our café and pick up a memento or a gift in our shop.

Group Booking Contact

Ruth Chadwick

Email tours@dublin.sciencegallery.com

Tel +353 (0)1 8964091

Guided tours are available for pre-booked groups – on request

Opening Details

Open year round. Note: exhibition space closes for 2 weeks during exhibition installation with no programmes available during this time between shows. Please contact group bookings contact or see our website for updates on exhibition dates. Exhibition Hours: Tue-Fri: 1200-2000hrs & Sat-Sun: 1200-1800hrs Closed Mondays. Café and Shop Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 0800-2000hrs & Sat-Sun: 1200-1800hrs.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No min/max age. Fully accessible. Restrooms, café and shop facilities onsite. Coach parking available in designated stops on College Green – 2 mins walk into the campus.

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Other Experiences Nearby

Book of Kells (on same campus) (1 min walk); Dublin Gallery trail (Temple Bar) (5 mins walk); Hugh Lane Gallery (10 mins walk)



Bram Stoker Festival Bram Stoker – Creator of Dracula

Halloween Festival Celebration – Late October

See video www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vx--vJkm40

Contact Details

Tel +353 86 364 3334

Email tomlawlor@gmail.com

Web www.bramstokerfestival.com

Experience Description

Every October, Dublin City celebrates 4 Days of Living Stories & 4 Nights of Deadly Adventures. Whether you're a resident vampire or visiting from further afield, Bram Stoker Festival – October (weekend nearest Halloween) will have something for everyone with its gothically inspired programme of events. There are a number of FREE events during the festival for visitors to enjoy.

Abraham 'Bram' Stoker was born on 8 November 1847 at 15 Marino Crescent, Clontarf in Dublin and educated at Trinity College from 1864-1870. He joined the Irish civil service and worked in Dublin Castle for 15 years. His love of theatre led him to become the unpaid drama critic. In 1878 he married Florence Balcombe, former girlfriend of Oscar Wilde, in St. Ann's Church in Dawson Street. Immediately following his marriage he moved to London to act as manager of the Lyceum Theatre. He began writing novels while in London – the most famous of which is Dracula, published in 1897. The global importance of Stoker's novel is just one of the many reasons Dublin is internationally recognised as a UNESCO City of Literature.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Contact

Tom Lawlor

Email tomlawlor@gmail.com

Tel +353 86 364 3334

Event Details

End of October annually. Check festival website or www.visitdublin.com for festival dates each year.

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No age restrictions for FREE Events. FREE events fully accessible. Please contact group bookings contact for Disabled Access and viewing to events. Age restrictions apply to some evening paid events. Some Free events are hosted outdoors, so appropriate comfortable outdoor clothing and footwear advised. Public Coach parking available throughout the city, however, parking and vehicle access restrictions may apply around the festival dates. For further information about these restrictions close to event dates, see www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-roads-and-traffic-parking-dublin/coach-parking-dublin-city

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Dublin city and county See www.discoverireland.ie/where-to-stay/

Dublin's Ha'Penny Bridge is thus called because pedestrians had to pay a half penny toll to walk over it.



NYF Dublin 30th Dec-1st Jan (Annually)

NYF Dublin is a new and exciting 3 day city wide New Year's festival celebrating the best of contemporary Irish talent in Arts, Music, Culture and Live Entertainment.

Contact Details

Tel +353 1 4978988
Email Niamh@holohan.ie
Web www.nyfdublin.com

Experience Description

Spanning the New Year period from December 30th-January 1st, NYF celebrates IRELAND NOW – DUBLIN LIVE.

A city wide animation, stretching beyond the boundaries of a traditional arts festival, showcasing the evolution of its shining talent in music, dance, design, art, spoken word and food. Offering a vibrant spectrum of events, many FREE, the festival promises an authentic expression of Ireland's textured identity, informed by its heritage but looking to the future.

The programme includes the headline event – NYF Countdown Concert; An NYF Food village; City wide Luminosity 3D Light projections (FREE); the Procession of Light (FREE) and elements of the Spoken Word Festival (Some free); NYF Art Trail (Some free); NYF Music Trail (Some free); Resolution Day (Some free) and Dublin Culture Trails (Some free). Please see programme details on Festival website for further information or contact group bookings below.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Contact

Niamh Holohon
Email Niamh@holohan.ie
Tel +353 (0)1 4978988

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No age restrictions for FREE Events. FREE events fully accessible. Please contact group bookings contact for Disabled Access and viewing to events. Age restrictions apply to some evening paid events. Some Free events are hosted outdoors, so appropriate comfortable outdoor clothing and footwear advised. Public Coach parking available throughout the city, however, parking and vehicle access restrictions apply around the festival dates. For further information about these restrictions close to event dates. See www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-roads-and-traffic-parking-dublin/coach-parking-dublin-city

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No age restrictions for FREE Events. FREE events fully accessible. Please contact group bookings contact for Disabled Access and viewing to events. Age restrictions apply to some evening paid events. Some Free events are hosted outdoors, so appropriate comfortable outdoor clothing and footwear advised. Public Coach parking available throughout the city, however, parking and vehicle access restrictions apply around the festival dates. For further about these restrictions close to the event date see www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-roads-and-traffic-parking-dublin/coach-parking-dublin-city

Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Dublin city and county See www.discoverireland.ie/where-to-stay/



St Patrick's Day Festival – 4 Day Programme (Mid-March Annually)

A four day city wide festival celebrating St. Patrick, Irish Culture and Heritage over four days.

Contact Details

Tel +353 (0)1 6763205
Email info@stpatricksfestival.ie
Web www.stpatricksfestival.ie

Experience Description

For many years, Irish people around the world have gathered on 17th March to honour the life and memory of Saint Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. Today, this special day has become an annual global celebration of the island's unique heritage and culture. Dublin City hosts Ireland's biggest and most spectacular festival which runs over four days.

An invitation to join us in Dublin to experience the festival's entertainment, atmosphere and the unforgettable experience of being 'Irish in spirit' for a short time.

Group Bookings/Tour Operator Contact

Edel Moss
Email info@stpatricksfestival.ie
Tel +353(0)1 6763205

Parking, Access/Ability & Special Requirements

No age restrictions for FREE Events. FREE events fully accessible. Please contact group bookings contact for Disabled Access and viewing to events including Street Parade on 17th March. Age restrictions apply to some evening paid events. Some Free events are hosted outdoors, so appropriate comfortable outdoor clothing and footwear advised. Public Coach parking available throughout the city, however, parking and vehicle access restrictions apply around the festival dates, notably 17th March for public Street Parade. For further information about these restrictions close to event dates, see www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-services-roads-and-traffic-parking-dublin/coach-parking-dublin-city

Event Details

End of October Annually. Check festival website or www.visitdublin.com for festival dates each year.


Public Transport

Serviced by Luas (Roadtram), DART (Coastal Dublin Lightrail) and Dublin Bus routes. www.dublin.ie/transport/home.htm

Nearest Accommodation Hub

Dublin city and county See www.discoverireland.ie/where-to-stay/

The first chapter of Ulysses by James Joyce is set in the Martello Tower in Sandycove, now open to the public as the James Joyce Museum.



The Liberties

You are in the heart of the famous Liberties, which has played a vital role in Dublin's cultural, industrial and political life since medieval times. The people of the Liberties have always seen themselves as the real Dubliners. Here, where the city evolved more than a thousand years ago, you can explore some of Dublin's most historic streets.

Following the Anglo-Norman conquest of Dublin in the 12th century, areas of land outside the city walls were granted independence, or 'liberty', from city laws. These included the Liberty of Thomas Court and Donore and the Liberty of St Sepulchre. Over time the term 'Liberties' came to refer to a large part of the south inner city.

Upper John's Lane
West from Thomas Street, 1858
Courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

Brewers, weavers and rebels

A thriving textile industry was created here by Huguenots, French Protestants fleeing religious persecution, while the area was also crisscrossed with breweries and distilleries. Revolutionary aristocrat Lord Edward Fitzgerald was arrested nearby at 151 Thomas Street, days before the ill-fated rebellion of 1798, later dying of his wounds. In 1803 another leader of the United Irishmen, Robert Emmet, was hanged outside St Catherine's Church following a second failed rising.

National College of Art and Design

Many important Irish artists and designers have studied at the National College of Art and Design (NCAD), which can trace its roots back to the 1700s. Established in 1971, NCAD now houses all its activities at Thomas Street. A self-guided tour of the campus introduces visitors to the contemporary college and the history of the site and buildings, which have housed the Powers' whiskey distillery and Thomas Street Fire Station (now the NCAD Gallery and Lecture Theatre).




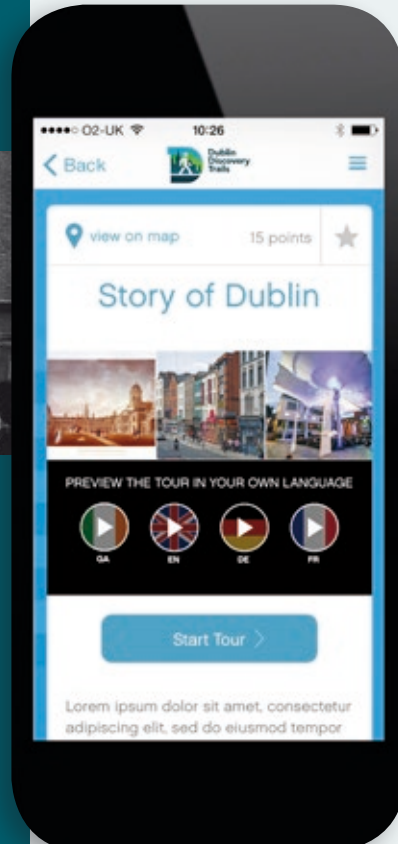
Dublin
The Dublin is an orientation route and the easiest way to explore many of the city's most visited sites. Along the route, discover the stories that shaped Dublin and trace the timeline of our city from its origins to the present day. Explore at your leisure the hidden gems along the way.

For more information please visit:
www.VisitDublin.com

Dublin Discovery Trails

Explore Dublin's hidden treasures with a self-guided walk. Download the app at www.dublindiscoverystories.com or from the nearby Visit Dublin Centre. Please follow the QR codes below for more information.

Story of Dublin Trail
This enthralling walking trail takes you on a journey through time, exploring one of Europe's most fascinating cities.

Dublin Discovery Trails

Unlock the treasures and stories of Ireland's capital city with the Dublin Discovery Trails, a new series of *self-guided walking trails*. Let magical tales of the city's colourful past weave their spell as your clients wander off the beaten track and uncover some of Dublin's hidden secrets that are waiting to be revealed to the curious.

The App

This free Dublin Discovery Trails app is available for visitors to download for iOS and Android devices, and gives the visitor the chance to uncover the compelling stories of Dublin's culture, heritage and history through a series of engaging audio guides enriched with commentary, personal accounts, images and GPS-enabled maps with the route and stops clearly marked on them.

Key Features of the App

- Free to download on both iOS and Android – www.DublinDiscoveryTrails.com
- No roaming charges
- GPS-enabled maps with route and stops clearly marked
- In-built itinerary builder which allows you to customise the trail to match your needs and time i.e. you decide whether you wish to embark on the full trail or just visit a number of stops.

Explore the Trails

There are currently 5 trails:

- **Rebellion – Six Days that Shook Dublin**

Retrace the dramatic events of the Easter Rising 1916 and hear how these six days changed the course of Irish history.

- **Story of Dublin – Through Streets Broad and Narrow**

This trail takes you back centuries to explore the birth of the city as a Viking market town, to its renaissance as a hub for saints, scholars, poets and playwrights. It will take you on a thrilling journey through Dublin's 1000-year history.

- **Echoes of War – A Stroll through Historic Kilmainham**

Discover a Europe in the grip of World War One, as thousands of Irish men and women enlisted in the British Army. Explore Collins Barracks, Kilmainham Gaol and Heuston Station and hear the moving stories of war and rebellion that are now part of Ireland's psyche.

- **Empire – A Tale of Two Cities**

Go back in time with this trail to the busy streets of Dublin; you'll find a city at the heart of the British Empire in Ireland.

- **The 'Real Dublin' – Characters, Craft, Industry and Design**

The trail takes you into the creative heart of the city, discovering how commerce and design are inextricably linked throughout Dublin's history.

Each trail takes approximately two hours on foot.

Interpretive Panels

There are a number of permanent interpretive panels located in the city which are large attractive storyboards which complement the app and help visitors to discover the stories that shaped Dublin. These panels will have integrated iBeacon technology to engage and interact with passing visitors who have downloaded the app.

For more information on the trails go to www.DublinDiscoveryTrails.com



DUBLIN – A BREATH OF FRESH SAMPLE 2 DAY ITINERARY

TO HELP YOU PROGRAMME THIS AREA, HERE IS A SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR YOU TO CONSIDER WHICH WILL HELP YOUR CLIENT, BE THEY GROUP OR FITS, TO NAVIGATE THIS AREA. FOR OTHER SAMPLE ITINERARIES FOR DUBLIN PLEASE EMAIL BUSINESSDEVELOPMENT@FAILTEIRELAND.IE



DAY 1

DUBLIN BAY MEETS DUBLIN CITY WITH A BREATH OF FRESH AIR (SUITABLE FOR GROUPS & FITS)

MORNING & LUNCH

After a hearty Irish breakfast, take a trip out to one of the city's picturesque coastal villages – where you can breathe in the sea air and get up close and personal to the locals. The pretty village of Dalkey on the southern tip of Dublin bay is a 25 minute DART coastal Lightrail journey (now available with Dublin's single transport ticket – [Leap Card](#)) from any of the city's DART stations.

[Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre](#) is a visitor attraction which comprises of a fortified town house/small castle structure, an early [Christian Church & Graveyard](#), a modern [Heritage Centre](#) and [Writers' Gallery](#). Offering guided tours all day (excluding lunch time).

The experience includes interactive live theatre performance with costumed actors. You can also climb to the battlements with its magnificent views of sea and mountains. Or in complete contrast to the [Living History tour](#), you can spend time browsing the interactive screens in the new state of the art Heritage Centre. If literary matters take your fancy, why not explore the Writers' Gallery where over forty writers and creative artists from Joyce and Beckett to Bono and Binky will grab your attention.

To build your appetite before enjoying a lunch of local Dublin dishes, in one of the many Literary inspired restaurants or heritage bars in the village, why not add [Maev Binchy Guided Walk](#) (famous Irish contemporary writer) to your visit (bookings through Dalkey Castle).

Take a stroll through the centuries and enjoy the sea air in the company of a local guide, and learn about Dalkey's historical and literary gems. Listen as the guide reveals the stories behind Dalkey's streetscape and ancient history and some nuggets of local information not available in any guide book!

Allow 90 minutes to 2hrs 30 Minutes for this experience

Alternatively, for FITs/smaller parties, if you don't feel like walking and want to enjoy the coast and sea air for another hour or two, you can plan a [Ferry trip of Dalkey Island](#) ...an island on the tides of time! (Advance booking required)

Starting from Coliemore Harbour in Dalkey you can travel back in time on a supervised ferry trip to Dalkey Island. With Ken as your Ferryman, visit the ancient 11th century church and marvel at the construction of the Martello Towers. The origins of Dalkey Island go back 6,500 years, so you can walk the paths where the Vikings held a slave camp in the early 900s. As an alternative to a village lunch stop, why not plan a picnic as part of your trip and get away from it all, only five minutes from the mainland.

Allow 90 minutes to 2hrs 30 Minutes for this experience



AFTERNOON

An afternoon of History or Art

1916 Tour – Beyond Barricades. Sit back and enjoy an extraordinary journey through time, taking you back to Easter 1916, when Dublin was in flames and the revolution was spilling onto the streets.

Navigating the city across barricades and time, this tour will propel you into the historical rebellion that would shape a nation. Starting from Dublin Bus Head Office, on Upper O’Connell Street, this 90 minute adventure will reconstruct the routes and stories of lesser known rebels, join our actors on board our specially designed bus to animate the action of the Rising. Through the eye-witness testimonies of those involved, we invite you to traverse the significant events of the week, immersing yourself in an adrenaline fuelled experience.

Allow 90 minutes for this experience

Or Alternative Group Experience

Art Impressions. A fun afternoon tour of Dublin’s Priceless Artworks – the concise overview of ‘The Story of Art’ strictly for non-academics, followed by an evening’s hospitality at the world famous Church Bar & Restaurant.

Unlock your inner art appreciation and creative instinct and develop the skills that will allow you bring paintings to life. Afterwards enjoy an evening meal and drinks amongst the magnificent Art Architecture and History of the wonderfully restored Church Bar and Restaurant on Mary Street in the heart of Dublin and complete the evening’s enjoyment with live Celtic Entertainment.

Allow 2½ hours for this experience

EVENING

Dining & Entertainment

Traditional

If you choose not to do the Art Impressions Tour and Dining Experience, why not step back in time to 1198, and enjoy a nights dining, storytelling and entertainment at the **Brazen Head**, officially Ireland’s oldest pub. **(Groups – Pre-booking required.)**

Enjoy an evening of food, folklore and fairies. Pre-booking required with www.irishfolklore.com to enjoy a night of Irish folklore and storytelling over a candlelit dinner, where the renowned storytellers will take you away into a world of the imagination, with wonderful insights and magical tales about life in Ireland in times past. The evening also includes live traditional music and ballads.

Contemporary

If you would prefer something more upbeat and a taste of the NEW more contemporary Dublin, why not try out the range of trendy or kitsch cocktail bars and live music venues that Dublin has to offer. Venues like the **Vintage Cocktail Club**, in Crown Alley, Temple Bar where you’ll be greeted by Great Gatsby-esque décor and more kinds of cocktails than you’ll know what to do with or the more exotic **Liquor Rooms**, where the expert Mixologist craft team will aim to please all your senses with gastronomic thrills, to make your tastebuds sing and unexpected happenings to challenge your mind and delight your dancing shoes. Leave your inhibitions on the Quays and step down into one of four rooms for an exciting and fun-filled evening in the most chic of vintage surrounds. With an excellent choice of quality dining restaurants to suit all budgets nearby these and other cocktail bar preferences, you won’t be short of options to suit all palettes.



DAY 2

MORNING

After a hearty Irish breakfast at your accommodation, why not blow the cobwebs away and catch a breath of fresh air in the city with [See Dublin by Bike](#). Try a Guided Cycling Tour of Dublin, taking you places well off the beaten track. Departing daily from Café Rothar, 16, Fade Street, Dublin 2. When you see Dublin by bike with Sean and Julian as your guides, you'll discover the rich history, the folklore, the great buildings and the unique atmosphere of this city, all with a friendly guide.

Try the Taste of Dublin bike tour which uncovers Dublin's true and local charm. There are no hills and the pace is relaxed. Taking you through the main thoroughfares and exploring character-filled side streets – 'from Guinness to Google' – giving you an unforgettable introduction to Ireland's capital city.

Allow 2½ hours for this experience

If you would prefer to commemorate the centenary of Ireland's Rising in 1916, why not book a private history group tour – The 1916 Rising Bike Tour explores the hidden gem locations and more famous sites as well as uncovering the untold stories and characters that featured in this unique event that was a key influence on Ireland and Dublin's modern history!

Operating year round you can join a public tour at 1000hrs daily (allow 3 hours at relaxed pace with regular stops for great storytelling) or book a private tour for groups. Helmet and hi vis jackets provided. Comfortable outdoor clothing and flat non-slip shoes or runners advised.

Allow 3 hours for this experience

Or Alternative Experience

Alternatively for those that prefer to keep their feet firmly on the ground, why not enjoy a Dublin Walking Tour with Pat Liddy's [Walking Tours of Dublin](#).

They say Dublin is a feeling, as much as it is a place. The beauty of Dublin lies inside and outside – in both the obvious as well as the hidden! You can find it on the streets, behind the facades, Northside of the river Liffey as well as Southside, under rainy clouds or bright sunlight, and especially in the Irish peoples' hearts! With a choice of themed tours from Pat Liddy and his team, you can explore Dublin your way with tour choices including 'In the Footsteps of St Patrick' to 'Dublin Film walk' as well as the ever popular 'Best of Dublin' and of course 'Dublin Highlights and Hidden Corners' (you can also book a private tour for groups, at a time to suit you, where you can also opt for a special interest topic from Architecture to History, Dublin City and beyond with a specific language guide, if you choose).

Allow 2½ hours for this experience

LUNCH

For lunch, the options are endless. If the weather is fine, why not pick up the contents for a wonderful Picnic lunch at [Fallon & Byrne](#) Food Hall on Exchequer Street; [Avoca Café](#) on Suffolk Street or [The Woollen Mills](#), Lower Ormond Quay, featuring some wonderful local and artisan produce, and savour it in one of Dublin's unique City Squares – [St Stephen's Green](#) (Victorian Square), [Merriam Square](#) (exemplary Georgian Square with fascinating literary history), [St Patricks Park](#) (beside [St Patrick's Cathedral](#)) or [The Phoenix Park](#) (the largest enclosed City public park in Europe).

Alternatively enjoy some local Irish Foods and International Culinary delights in one of the many eateries off St Stephen's Green such as Dame Street, Wicklow Street, Exchequer Street, Fade Street or Georges Street.



AFTERNOON

After lunch why not take in a visit to **The Little Museum of Dublin**, 15 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 for a guided tour of the Museum.

Inside one of Stephen's Green's beautiful terraced houses, this hidden gem is a wonderful example of the locals coming together to create something unique. Dubliners donated every one of the amazing historical items in this museum so the authentic 'Old Dublin' feel is palpable. A museum created by the people for the people, who live in the city it celebrates.

Allow 1½ hours for this experience

Finish the day with a well-deserved treat of storytelling and whiskey, at the **Irish Whiskey Museum**, one of Dublin's newest attractions, and the first Irish Whiskey museum in the world, located just opposite the must-see **Book of Kells** at the entrance to **Trinity College**.

With your engaging guide, enjoy a journey through time, in an historic setting, where this fantastic museum unveils the intriguing tale of Irish whiskey. This interactive ultra-modern experience offers an experience unlike any other which tells the story of Irish whiskey through the ages. Learn a few interesting anecdotes to keep you entertained on this one hour tour, before taking part in a fantastic whiskey tasting experience. Hear the interesting history of whiskey, from its humble beginning, inevitable downfall, and current revival. Upgrade to a VIP ticket today to sample matured aged whiskey and receive a unique souvenir to take away as a fond memory of your visit.

Allow 1 hour for this experience

Alternative Experience for Foodies – available for private group bookings!

Irish Tasting Food Trail

For something a little different and to satisfy the foodies, why not try book an **Irish Tasting Food Trail** for your group, or for FITs join one of the scheduled evening tours (running from 1800-2100hrs Sunday to Thursday).

The Irish Food Trail gives you a real flavor of what it means to be Irish. Not just through its traditional food and drink, but by meeting its people and exploring a hidden Ireland.

In the company of your own guide you will see the city of Dublin from a different angle, hear some traditional Irish music and great stories of Irish folklore, myths and legends. Find some hidden gems along the way as well as visiting some of Dublin's better known hot spots

Allow 3 hours for this experience

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

No visit to Dublin would be complete without something to immerse you in Dublin's world renowned literary heritage as UNESCO City of Literature, and what better way to enjoy it than with a **Literary Pub Crawl** with your personal guide Colm Quilligan (advance Booking required).

The Tour kicks off the Pub Crawl from the **Duke Pub**, on Duke Street with a song – Waxi Dargle. From there Colm will guide you through the cobbled square of Trinity College and into several pubs in a nearby maze of narrow streets, as he quotes from Joyce, Beckett, Yeats, Heaney and the labour politics activist James Larkin, as he takes you on a journey through the literary history of the city. A key element of experience is the rich lore of Dublin's pubs and the role they played as social centres for many trades, including writers and journalists. The performance is punctuated with song and anecdote and is set against a backdrop of wonderful photographs of the city. With his witty, enthusiastic and informative style, there is always the chance that he will veer off the mark and into subjects that would never be covered in any tourist guides or brochures, such as Eamon de Valera's signing, in 1945, of a condolence book for Adolf Hitler!

Allow 2 hours for this experience

ACCOMMODATION & OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

APPROVED ACCOMMODATION LISTINGS

B&B Ireland – www.bandbireland.com

Celtic Group Hostels – www.celticgrouphostels.com

Discover Ireland – www.discoverireland.ie/where-to-stay/

Independent Holiday Hostels – www.hostels-ireland.com

Irish Hotels Federation – www.ihf.ie

An Oige (Youth Hostels) Ireland – www.anoige.ie

OPW SITES

List of Office of Public Works attractions in Ireland – www.heritageireland.ie

TRANSPORT

Coach Tourism and Transport Council of Ireland – www.cttc.ie

Listing of all transport providers – www.discoverireland.ie/Info/Getting-Around

APPROVED TOUR GUIDES

Association of Approved Tour Guides of Ireland – www.tourguides.ie

IRISH TOUR OPERATORS & HANDLING AGENTS – MAKING BUSINESS EASY IN IRELAND

Irish Inbound Handling Agents and Tour Operators are experts on Ireland and its tourism product. The benefits of using the professional services of these specialists are that you and your clients have the very best experience when holidaying in Ireland. Their intimate knowledge of the product, people and place of Ireland, will ensure that they deliver creative packaged programs and itineraries that meet customer expectations and not just on budget but on experience. If you are looking for a one stop shop on the best of what Ireland delivers then a local Handling Agent or Tour Operator is the answer. Simply put we deliver by:

- Assisting overseas tour operating partner companies in developing brochure content, marketing programmes, training and familiarisation visits.
- Creatively packaging the Irish tourism product for groups, free independent travelers (FITs) and business tourism.
- Providing competitively priced land arrangements which in the majority of cases will be in the local tour operator's language.
- Full on-the-ground backup services to your client.

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Wallace Travel Group	Derek Wallace	+353 1 8361611	info@wtg.ie	www.wallacetravelgroup.com

LISTING OF FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Name of Festival	Contact Name	Email	Website	Month festival takes place	Programme
St Patrick's Festival	Susan Kirby	SusanKirby@stpatricksfestival.ie	http://www.stpatricksfestival.ie	March	Dublin
Dublin Horse Show	Marita Connors	marita@rds.ie	http://dublinhorseshow.com	August	Dublin
Dublin New Year Festival	Niamh Holohan	niamh@holohan.ie	http://nyfdublin.com	December	Dublin
Bram Stoker	Tom Lawlor	tom@bramstokerfestival.com	http://www.bramstokerfestival.com/	October	Dublin
Tradfest	Martin Harte	martin@templebarcompany.com	http://www.templebartrad.com	January	Dublin
Dublin Theatre Festival	Willie White	Willie@dublintheatrefestival.com	https://www.dublintheatrefestival.com	September	Dublin
Laya Healthcare City Spectacular	Shell Holden	shell@cityspectacular.com	http://www.cityspectacular.com	July	Dublin & Ireland's Ancient East
Bloomsday	Mark Traynor	mark@jamesjoyce.ie	http://bloomsdayfestival.ie	June	Dublin
Tiger Dublin Fringe	Jane Russell	jane@fringefest.com	www.fringefest.com	September	Dublin
Rock n Roll, Dublin Half Marathon	Stacey Campbell	scampbell@competitorgroup.com	http://www.runrocknroll.com/dublin	August	Dublin
Audi Dublin International Film Festival	Sian Cunningham	manager@diff.ie	http://www.diff.ie	February	Dublin
Ironman	Kevin Stewart	Kevin.Stewart@ironman.com	http://eu.ironman.com/triathlon/events/emea/ironman-70.3/dublin.aspx	August	Dublin
Wexford Festival Opera	Mr. David McLoughlin	dml@Wexfordopera.com	http://www.wexfordopera.com/	October	Ireland's Ancient East
Kilkenny Arts Festival	Eugene Downes	director@Kilkennyarts.ie	http://www.kilkennyarts.ie/	August	Ireland's Ancient East
Cork International Choral Festival	Sinead Dunphy	sinead@corkchoral.ie	http://www.corkchoral.ie/	April	Ireland's Ancient East
Guinness Cork Jazz Festival	Jack McGouran	jack@questcom.iol.ie	http://www.guinnessjazzfestival.com/	October	Ireland's Ancient East
Sky Cat Laughs Comedy Festival	Naoise Nunn	naoise@thecatlaughs.com	http://thecatlaughs.com/	May	Ireland's Ancient East
Kilkenomics	Naoise Nunn	naoise@kilkenomics.com	http://www.kilkenomics.com/	November	Ireland's Ancient East
Waterford Spraoi	TV Honan	tv@spraoi.com	http://www.spraoi.com/	July	Ireland's Ancient East
Cork Film Festival	Eileen O'Shea	eileen@corkfilmfest.org	http://www.corkfilmfest.org/	November	Ireland's Ancient East
Tattersalls International Horse Trials & Country Fair	Roger Casey	rcasey@tattersalls.ie	http://www.tattshorsetrials.ie/	June	Ireland's Ancient East
European & World DTL C'Ship	Patrick Donaghy	pdonaghy@eircom.net	http://www.icpsa.ie/news-notice/96957-icts-f-2016-world-dtl-championships-notice.html	July	Ireland's Ancient East

Name of Festival	Contact Name	Email	Website	Month festival takes place	Programme
Galway International Arts Festival	Elizabeth Duffy	admin@giaf.ie	www.giaf.ie	August	Wild Atlantic Way
Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann	Comhaltas		www.fleadhcheoil.ie	August	Wild Atlantic Way
West Cork Chamber Music & Literary Festival	Grace o'Mahony	gracewcm@eircom.net	www.westcorkmusic.ie	July	Wild Atlantic Way
Sea Sessions	Daniel Browne	danielb@rivermedia.ie	www.seasessions.com	June	Wild Atlantic Way
Rory Gallagher International Tribute Festival		roryfest@hotmail.com	www.rorygallagherfestival.com	June	Wild Atlantic Way
Earagail Arts Festival	Paul Browne	info@eaf.ie	www.eaf.ie	July	Wild Atlantic Way
Galway International Oyster Festival	Maria Moynihan Lee	maria@milestoneinventive.com	www.galwayoysterfestival.com	september	Wild Atlantic Way
Ireland BikeFest	Breffni Ingerton	breffni@irelandbikefest.com	www.irelandbikefest.com	June	Wild Atlantic Way
Rose of Tralee	Valerie Kerins	info@roseoftralee.ie	www.roseoftralee.ie	August	Wild Atlantic Way
Galway Film Fleadh	Miriam Allen	miriam@galwayfilmfleadh.com	www.galwayfilmfleadh.com	July	Wild Atlantic Way
Listowel Writers Week	Eilish Wren	eilish@writersweek.ie	www.writersweek.ie	May	Wild Atlantic Way
Clifden Arts Festival	Karen Mannion	karen.mannion@me.com	www.clifdenartsweek.ie	September	Wild Atlantic Way
Cúirt International Festival of Literature	Dani Gill	dani@galwayartscentre.ie	www.cuirt.ie	April	Wild Atlantic Way
Challenge Galway	Liam Heavin	liam@challengetriathlon.com	www.challengetriathlon.com	June	Wild Atlantic Way
Donegal Rally	Damian Crawford	damian.crawford@lawlibrary.ie	www.donegalrally.ie	June	Wild Atlantic Way
Dingle Marathon	Ken Dunne	ken@dinglemarathon.ie	www.dinglemarathon.ie	September	Wild Atlantic Way

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