# DRIVING SUSTAINABLE

ecovery

**Regional Industry Briefing** 

Hotel Kilkenny

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023





## Agenda





# **CEO**, Fáilte Ireland

# **Fáilte Failte**

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE Recovery

- Constant





1. National Highlights – 2022

2. 2023 Outlook

3. Regional Outcomes & Perspectives

Section 1

# 2022 Review

## Overseas

Domestic

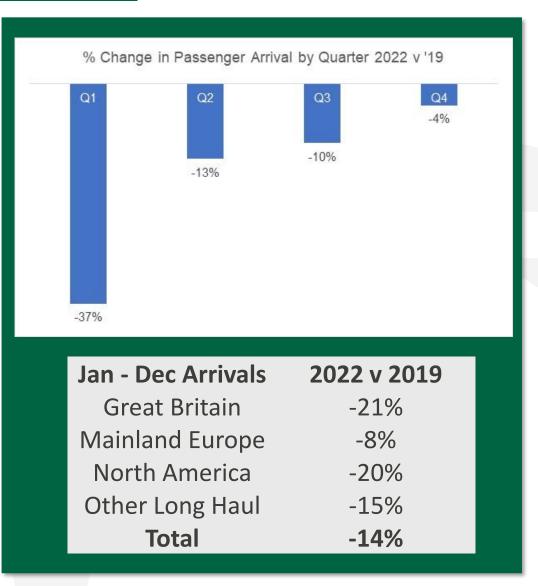




## **Overseas Market – Fast Recovery**



- Progressive recovery in total inbound arrivals
- Continental Europe led the recovery
- Q3/4 good return of North American visitors.
- Great Britain was more challenged





#### January to September 2022 vs 2019:

#### **10.2** million total trips +14%



#### Holiday trips + 19%



Holiday nights + 21%.

Domestic holidays increased share of total trips by Irish residents to

51% in 2019 57% in 2022

## **Section 2**

# 2023 Outlook

- Demand side opportunities
- Supply side challenges
- Sustainability targets







### **Opportunities in Overseas Market:** Air Access Forecast 2023

Changes in Seat Capacity	Summer 2023 vs. 2019
GB	+2%
Mainland Europe	+4%
North America	-2%
Rest of World	+8%
All Markets	+3%

Source: OAG, February 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 Summer Season: April to October

# **1. Demand Side Opportunities**



### **Positive Domestic 2023 Outlook**

- Consideration for taking a domestic trip in 2023 is 82% on par with 2019
- 23% intend to take a break in the next 3 months
- Visitor satisfaction high at 79%
- Value for money critical for domestic



# Supply Side Challenges





# **Supply Side Challenges**



- 1. Rising Operating Costs
- 2. Accommodation Capacity
- 3. Staffing
- 4. Car Hire
- 5. Value for Money

Pressure on margins
 Price pressure/lost business
 Pressure to maintain standards
 Regional mobility impacted
 Long-term reputational risk

### **Government Contracts**





# Combined IP and BOTP contracted beds in all Fáilte Ireland registered accommodation

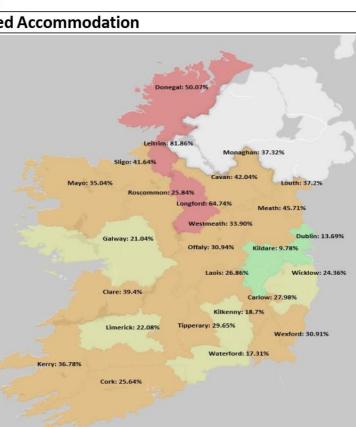
The graphic below details the percentage of IP and BOTP contracted beds in Fáilte Ireland registered accommodation.

For comparison purposes, the relative positions this month and last month are as follows:

Total average contracted beds across all counties: 26.05% (25.19 % in December)

Total average contracted beds across all counties excluding Dublin: 31.57% (30.12 % in December)

	IP and BOTP c	ontracted %	of Registered A	C
Counties	Registered Beds Overall	Contracted Beds Overall %	of Contracted Beds	
Leitrim	794	650	81.86%	
Longford	312	202	64.74%	
Donegal	9,009	4,511	50.07%	
Meath	3,577	1,635	45.71%	
Cavan	2,543	1,069	42.04%	
Sligo	3,653	1,521	41.64%	
Clare	8,435	3,323	39.40%	
Monaghan	1,155	431	37.32%	
Louth	2,153	801	37.20%	
Кетту	18,433	6,780	36.78%	
Мауо	7,537	2,641	35.04%	
Westmeath	2,758	935	33.90%	
Offaly	1,031	319	30.94%	
Wexford	4,995	1,544	30.91%	
Tipperary	2,594	769	29.65%	
Carlow	1,687	472	27.98%	
Laois	1,508	405	26.86%	
Roscommon	894	231	25.84%	
Conk	15,223	3,903	25.64%	
Wicklow	4,159	1,013	24.36%	
Limerick	6,009	1,327	22.08%	
Galway	14,593	3,071	21.04%	
Kilkenny	3,958	740	18.70%	- 1
Waterford	4,216	730	17.31%	
County Dublin, Ireland	55,763	7,635	13.69%	
Kildare	3,425	335	9.78%	
Total Average Contracted beds across all counties	180,414	46,993	26.05%	
Total Average Contracted beds across all counties Excluding	g Du 124,651	39.358	31.57%	





An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige | Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



# Sustainability Targets









Government Commitment to carbon neutrality no later than 2050

Sector target is a 35% reduction in emissions by 2030

Collective effort from every business and stakeholder



**Section 3** 

A Closer Look At Regional Performance









Visitor: Destination Attitude Survey

Industry: Barometer, Occupancy and Rate

Community: Tourism Approval Rating

Environment: SEA/Environmental Monitoring

#### DRIVING SUSTAINABLE Recovery

### VISITOR

# Destination Attitude Survey





## **Visitor Destination Attitudes Survey**



- 8,283 interviews across 56 locations between July and September 2022
- Visitor satisfaction is exceptionally high, indicating experiences are delivering against expectations.





- IAE is a consistently strong performer with overall satisfaction and VFM in line with the strong national performance.
- Some DEDPs could benefit from improvements to functional elements of the visitor experience, but the scale of actions are more incremental as opposed to mitigating poor perceptions.
- Significant day tripping behaviour into the DEDPs, from both domestic and overseas visitors, suggests accommodation hubs outside of areas and a concentration in specific locations.





### INDUSTRY

# Industry Sentiment





## **Plenty of Optimism**







# Occupancy & Rates





# Fáilte Ireland Hotel Performance



### Year to Date December 2022

	C	Occupancy Ave Daily Rate		F	RevPAR				
	2022	2019	Variance 2022 vs 2019	2022	2019	Variance 2022 vs 2019	2022	2019	Variance 2022 vs 2019
National	73	77	-4 ppts	160	128	25%	117	98	19%
Kilkenny	68	76	-8ppts	165	114	44%	112	87	30%



### COMMUNITY

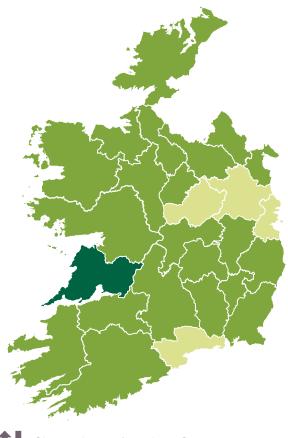
# Tourism Approval Rating





### **International tourism**





Shows change from Apr - Sep 2021

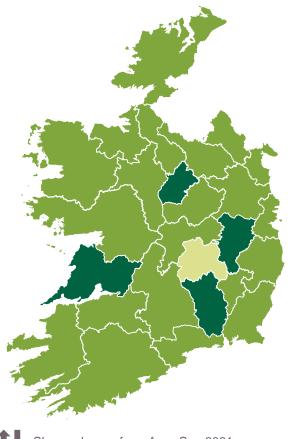
(Base: Apr 2022 - Sep 2022 - Irish residents n=1,771)

Caution: all counties except Cork, Donegal, Dublin and Galway have a low sample size

Ireland Internationa 65	1TAR 1 9				New Zealand International TAR 44 16	
		+		+		
Region	TAR Score	County	TAR Score	County	TAR Score	
Mid-West	73	Clare	80	Roscommon	67	
Border	71	Kildare	77	Kerry	67	
South-West	67	Longford	75	Wexford	67	
Mid-East	67	Kilkenny	74	Galway	66	
West	67	Donegal	72	Carlow	65	
South East	66	Monaghan	72	Louth	61	
Vidlands	63	Tipperary	72	Laois	60	
Dublin	59	Leitrim	72	Dublin	59	
		Limerick	70	Meath	59	
Advocacy		Cavan	70	Waterford	57	
Approval		Sligo	68	Westmeath	57	
		Мауо	68	None		
Acceptance		Offaly	68	None		
Limited Acceptance		Wicklow	68	None		
Threatened Acceptance	e	Cork	67			

### **Domestic tourism**





Shows change from Apr - Sep 2021

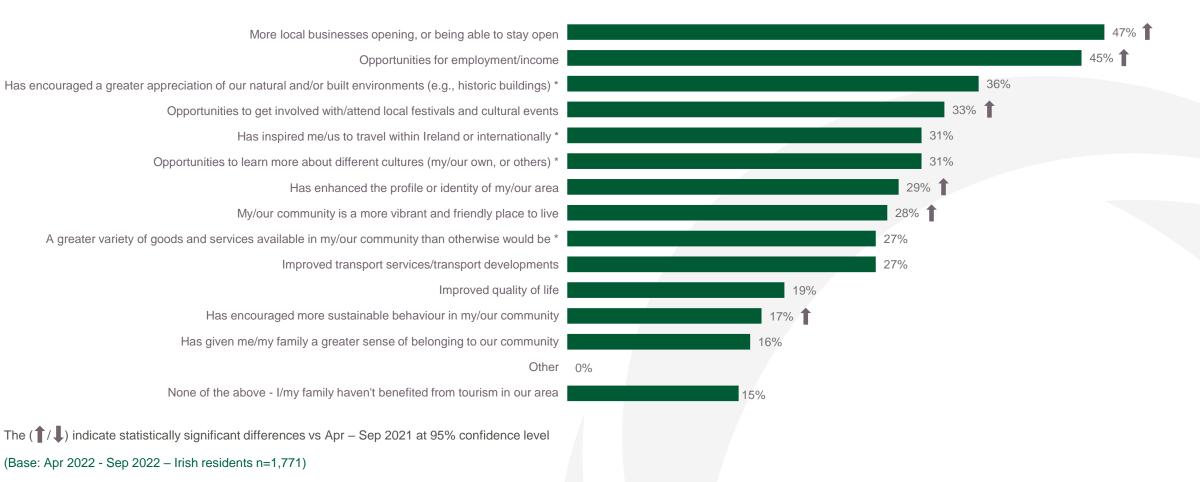
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↓ F			,		ļ
Region	TAR Score	County	TAR Score	County	TAR Score
Mid-West	76	Longford	83	Sligo	70
Border	73	Kilkenny	81	Offaly	70
Mid-East	72	Clare	81	Galway	68
South-West	71	Kildare	80	Waterford	67
West	70	Leitrim	78	Carlow	67
South East	69	Tipperary	75	Louth	67
Midlands	67	Donegal	74	Meath	67
Dublin	64	Limerick	74	Westmeath	67
		Мауо	74	Wexford	65
Advocacy		Kerry	73	Dublin	64
Approval		Roscommon	73	Laois	58
Acceptance		Cavan	73	None	
		Wicklow	72	None	
Limited Acceptance		Monaghan	71	None	
Threatened Accept	ance	Cork	71		
Disapproval					



#### In which of the following ways, if any, would you say you/your family benefit from tourism activity in your local area?



\* Answer added in Q4 2021 - significant difference test not possible

### **Ensuring tourism benefits Irish communities**



#### What more, if anything, do you think could be done to ensure tourism benefits communities in Ireland?

	Growing Tourism	35%
	Increase promotion of individual Irish counties	13%
	Create new attractions and activities	8%
	Greater investment/funding for county development	7%
	More events and festivals	4%

	Community Focused	35%
	Reduce costs of living (including domestic travel)	15%
	Increase provision of local facilities	7%
	Community beautification	5%
	Greater celebration of Irish culture, language and heritage	3%
	Encouraging residents (and tourists) to support local	3%

	Infrastructure	23%
	More public transport	9%
	Infrastructure development (generally)	7%
<u> </u>	Better overall transport solutions	5%
	More roading	3%



Managing Tourism	7%
Public consultation and collaboration	3%

Tourism Accommodation	11%
Cheaper accommodation options	8%
More/greater diversity of accommodation options	4%

(Base: Apr 2022 - Sep 2022 - Irish residents n=1,771)



### ENVIRONMENT

# Environmental Sustainability







- Environmental Monitoring Plan all regions
- SEAs Regional Strategies & DEDPs
- Reducing Businesses' Carbon Footprint
  - Climate Action Roadmap
  - Business Capability Toolkits
  - Carbon Calculator



# Industry Recovery Strategy



IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST® Wander Through Time



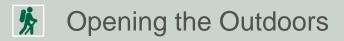
# 7 Areas of Transformational Change



Sustainable Business Recovery

**WW** Supporting Tourism Careers

Accelerate Domestic Tourism



Industry Digitalisation

Destination Development and Distribution



# Fáilte reland

DRIVING JSTAINABLE

ecoverus

# Brian O'Flynn Regional Development

ANDER

### **IAE RTDS 5 Strategic Objectives**



Motivate the domestic and international consumer to visit Ireland's Ancient East.



Provide the visitor with more reasons to stay, increasing the economic impact of tourism in Ireland's Ancient East.



3



Enable and assist the industry to grow its capacity and capability to ensure that it can thrive and create sustainable jobs in local communities.



Build committed stakeholder and industry partnerships to guide sustainable destination development.

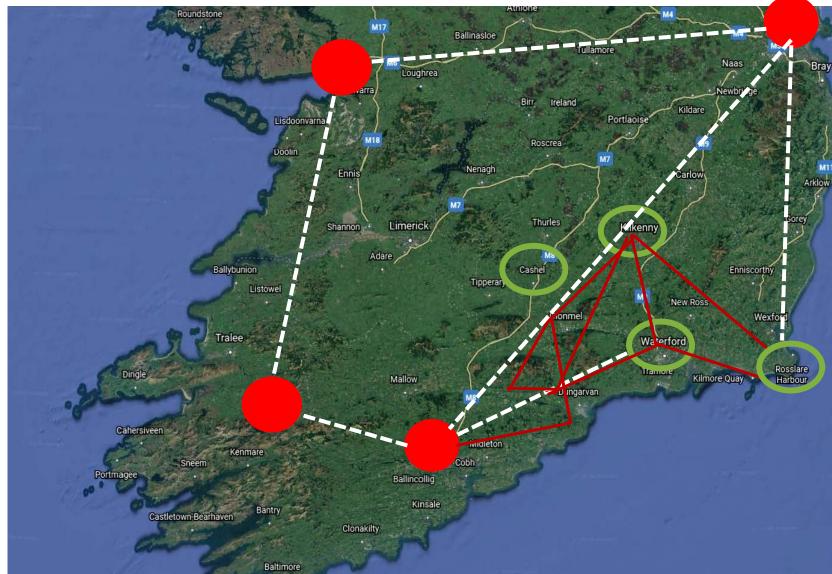
### **Disrupting Visitor Flow**







National Road Network



Dublin Airport



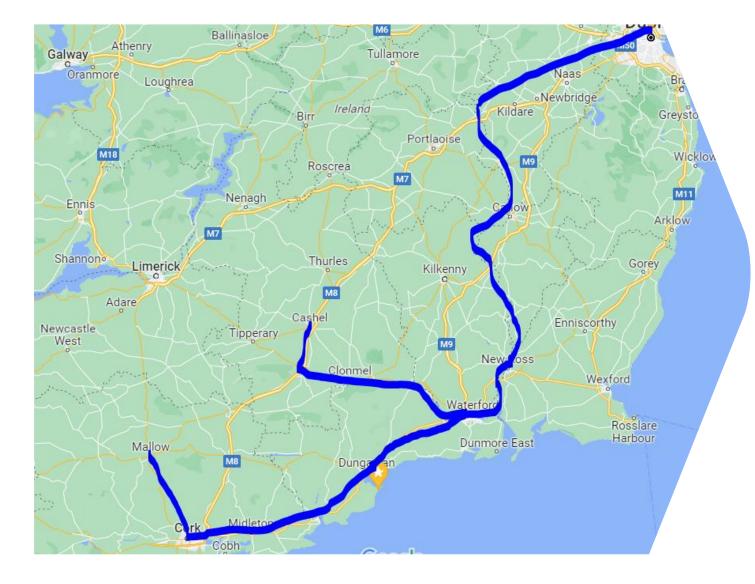
**Cork Airport** 

Waterford Airport



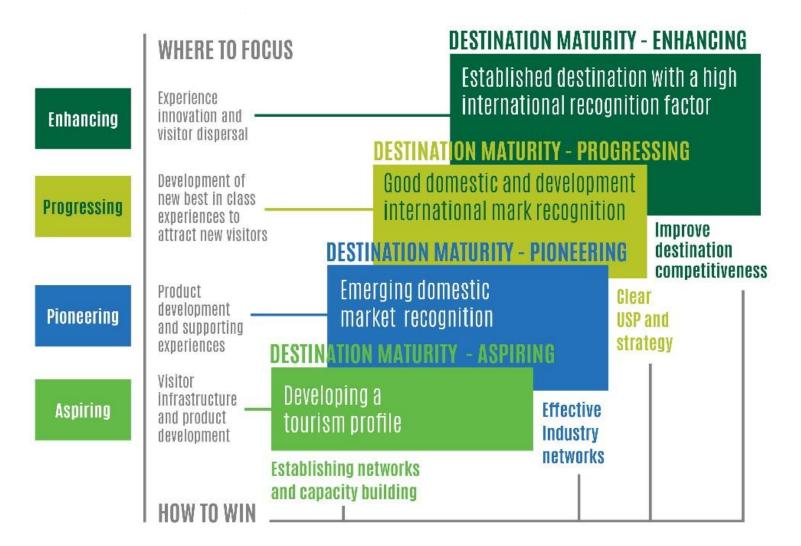
Rosslare Ferryport >1 Hour





**Destination Development Framework** 







- 5 year sustainable tourism development plan aligning all stakeholders
- Focus on the strengths of the area
- Identify projects that will make a difference
- Maximise their opportunity for success
- Motivate visitors to visit, stay and spend
- Extend the season
- Disperse visitors across the destination
- Generate economic return for the area



DESTINATION PROPOSITION



VISITOR



PRODUCT

INVESTMENT

VISION



STAKEHOLDER ALIGNMENT



EVENING ECONOMY



COMMUNITY



SAFETY



ACCOMMODATION



BUSINESS TOURISM FACILITIES



#### **DISTINCTIVE DESTINATIONS**





FOOD & DRINK



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



RETAIL



VISITOR INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES



FESTIVALS & EVENTS



ACCESS FOR ALL



MANAGED PUBLIC REALM



ACCESS & TRANSPORT



SIGNAGE & ORIENTATION



SUSTAINED SALES & MARKETING



# Waterford DEDP

2023 Launch





## What the Plan addresses



#### (1)

#### Outdoors

- Trails
- Coast
- Mountains

#### **Visitor Orientation**

2

- Visitor Flow & Interpretation in the City
- Visitor Orientation across the county
- Attraction of Scale

#### **Industry Cross Promotion**

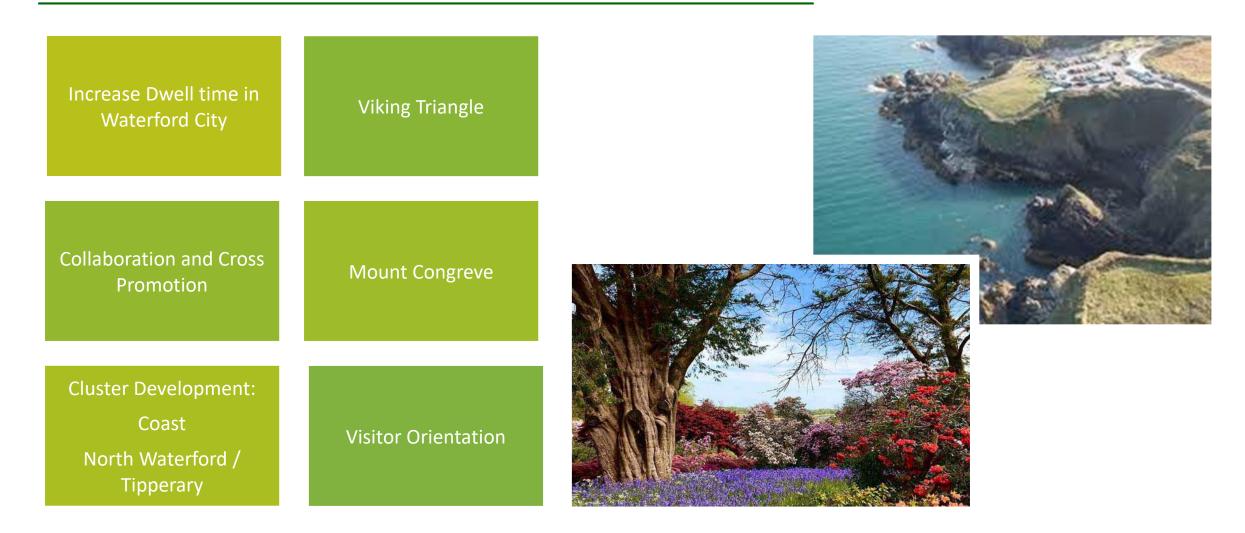
- Cluster Development
- Local Experts

3

• Digital that Delivers

# Waterford 2023 Projects









# Kilkenny

2023 Launch





## What the Plan addresses



#### Orientation

- City Orientation
- Connecting the City and County

2

#### **International market**

- Industry focus
- Greater number of experiences

(3)

Creativity

- Arts
- Design & Crafts
- Evening Economy
- Festivals & Events

# **Kilkenny 2023 Priority Projects**



Tholsel & Medieval Mile Museum	Kilkenny International Sales Focus	DITERSLP      OPTIERSLP      OPTIERSLP      OPTIERSLP
Activation of Creative Sector	South East Greenway	
Outdoors - Rivers	Kilkenny Orientation and animation	

— Medieval Mile / Dest Towns & Active Travel

000

- Abbey Quarter URDF
- Urban Dining
- Urban Animation
- Attractions Investment
- PFG Activities
- URDF lighting



# Wexford DEDP

2023 Launch





## What the Plan addresses

2



# High Season Destination

- Coastal County Perception
- International Recognition

#### Visitor Attractions

- Great Variety
- Investment needed

Opening the Outdoors

3

- Coastal experiences
- Adventure
  experiences

# Year round towns

- Public realm enhancements
- Visitor
  Experiences

# **Wexford 2023 Priority Projects**







# Tipperary

2023 Launch



ELAND'S NCIENT EAST® nder Through Time



#### What the Plan addresses



D Convert high volumes of day time visitor numbers into overnight stays

#### 2 Opening the Outdoors

- Suir
- Mountains
- Greenways

Increase the number of tourism experiences

3

# **Tipperary 2023 Priority Projects**





## **Thoroughbred Country**



DEDP				
Destination Development (Supply)	Thoroughbred Trail (Enablers)	Thoroughbred Country Entity (Demand)		
Digital – websites and distribution New Saleable Experiences Capability and Capacity Building	Design of trail Visitor facing trail/ infrastructure Industry Clusters	Member based Trade shows Bespoke tour management Marketing		



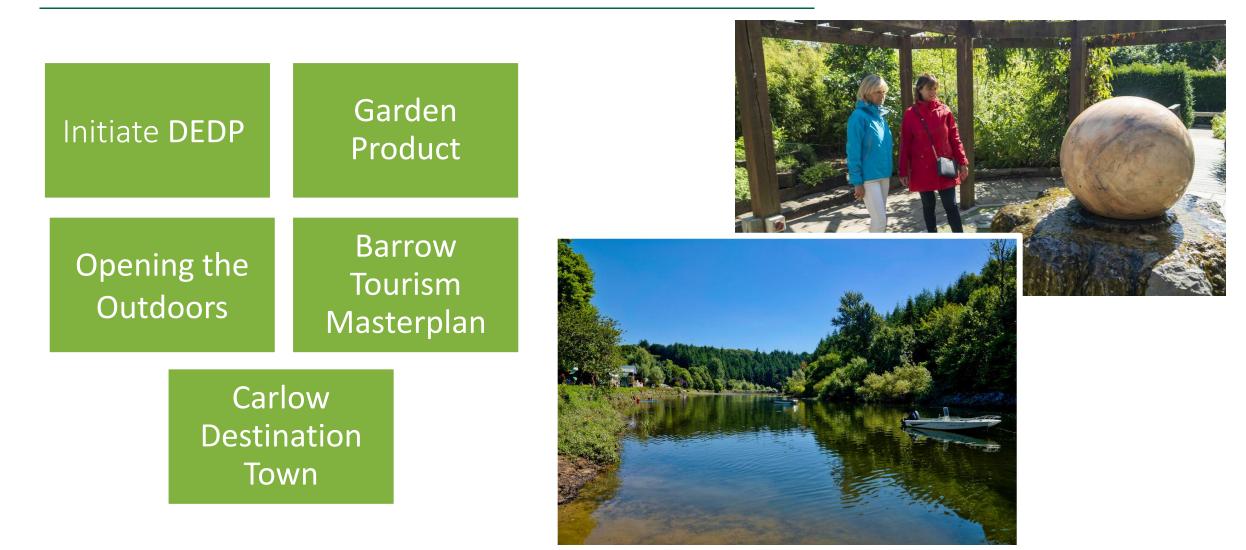
# Carlow





# **Carlow 2023 Priority Projects**







# Laois





# Laois 2023 Priority Projects



Initiate DEDP	Destination Towns & Outdoor Dining	
Barrow Tourism Masterplan	Slieve Bloom	
Just Transition	Cross Selling / Collaboration	



# **Rory McCarthy**

Product Development Manager

# Product Development





# Laying the foundation for future Success





## **Beyond the Trees, Avondale**









# **Mount Congreve**



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail Department of Rural and Community Development







Co. Waterford Fáilte Ireland Funding: €940,000 + €260,000 Total Project Costs: €7.1m Opening : March 1<sup>st</sup>



## **Slieve Blooms Mountain Biking Centre**







Co. Offaly & Co. Laois Joint RRDF Project with Coillte Total Project Costs: €13.68 million Expected Opening Date: 2024 - 2025

# Wexford Attraction Development Programme



An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail Department of Rural and Community Development







Wexford CoCo / Failte Ireland: €3.76 million

## **The Medieval Kilkenny Experience**











Co. Kilkenny Fáilte Ireland Funding: €3,204,414 Total Project Costs: €4,575,616 Expected Opening Date: 2024

## **Watersports Facilities**





Multiple Counties Fáilte Ireland Funding: €4,250,000 Total Project Costs: €4,250,000 Expected Opening Date: 2023 - 2025



# **Driving Economic Impact**







# Enterprise Supports



# **2022 Supports**



# **469** Businesses

# 1,114 Employees

from *Ireland's Ancient East* businesses attended Fáilte Ireland training events in 2022

## Most popular Programme Areas:

 Energy Management Climate Action Supports

- Saleable Experience Development
- Digital
- Sales & Marketing

**96%** noting better business decisions as a result

# **2023 Challenges**











# Employer Excellence Programme





## **Employer Excellence To Date in Numbers**



# 170

## Businesses registered to date

# 2,100

People Managers completing the Fundamentals of People Management Learning 20,000

Tourism and Hospitality employees positively impacted by the Employer Excellence Programme

EMPLOYER EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

### 2023 Tourism Careers Employer Excellence Plan





Roll Out Employer Excellence Certification to participating businesses



Launch Micro Programme for businesses with fewer than 20 employees



Host Employer Excellence Gala Awards Event April 2023



**Comprehensive Communications Campaign** raising awareness and encouraging participation



Targeted support for businesses to drive implementation of action plans

EMPLO

#### **Fáilte Ireland new Online Learning Platform**





## learniFl





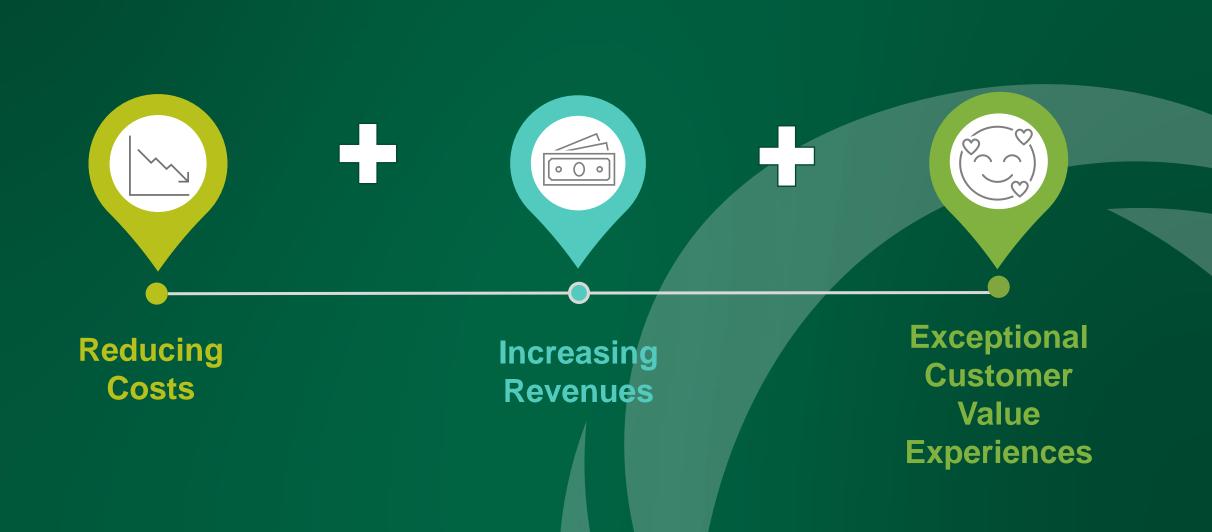
150+ Modules available Accessible anytime, anywhere and on any device





## Competitiveness





### **2023 Strategic Priorities**





- To reduce Costs
- To drive efficiencies
- To deliver VFM and great customer experiences



- Increase customer reach and engagement
- Drive sales & spend online using web, social & connected distribution
- Data analytics & tech adaptations for big impact with small investment

Climate Action

20

- Measuring your carbon Footprint
- Practical supports to develop and implement your action plan
- Supported by case studies and expert guides

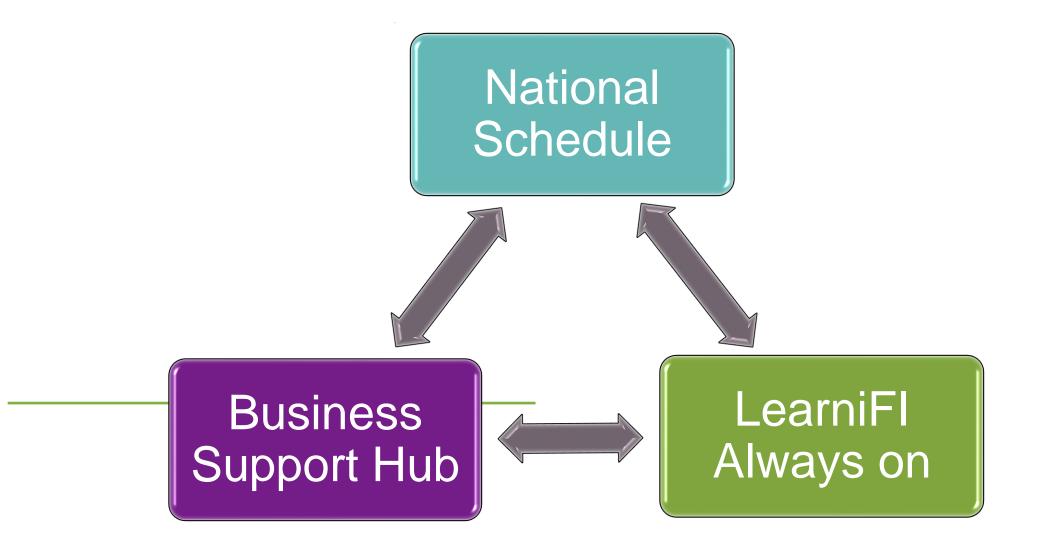
### **National Schedule & Support Hub**





### **Engaging with Supports**

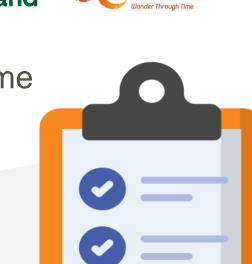




1. Sign up to the Climate Actions and Excellent Employer Programme

- 2. Engage with supports to drive your business growth
  - Speak to your local contact for further information on the programmes available to support your business in 2023
  - Engage with Fáilte Ireland's National Calendar of supports and the Business Support Hub

3. Encourage your staff to upskill and engage with the New LearniFI – always on learning platform to support your teams development







## Jenny Finegan Marketing Overview



Kilkenny, Carlow, Laois, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford



## **Communications Journey**



THINK ABOUT GOING Making Ireland salient in the minds of the domestic audience Role: Inspiration

#### **CATEGORY BUILDING**

#### REGIONAL EXPERIENCE BRAND



#### WHY SHOULD I GO (REASONS TO BELIEVE)

Keep Discovering starts the story. It establishes Ireland and its regions in the minds of consumers. **Role: Inspiration & Consideration** 

DESTINATIONS, OCCASIONS, FESTIVALS & EVENTS

#### WHERE SHOULD I GO & WHY GO NOW

The creative builds the Keep Discovering story highlighting places to go and significant reasons to travel now. County creative completes the story. It moves consumers to a specific location providing the final pull to encourage that short break. **Role: Conversion** 





INTEGRATION



**SPONSORSHIP** 





PRINT



#### PUBLISHER PARTNERSHIPS

#### HIGH REACH, HIGH FREQUENCY MULTI-CHANNEL CAMPAIGN



#### SUPPORTED BY BUSINESS & MARKETING TOOLKIT



## **Inspiring the nation through TV**

National TV across ROI & NI

> Reaching 55% of adults weekly



#### **Building salience through Ireland's largest** broadcast sponsorship

RT€



RTÉ WEATHER SPONSORED BY **KILKENNY CITY DiscoverIreland.ie** 8.4 **1.6 Million** 120 Average Weather Average Weekly Stings per week Weekly Reach Frequency

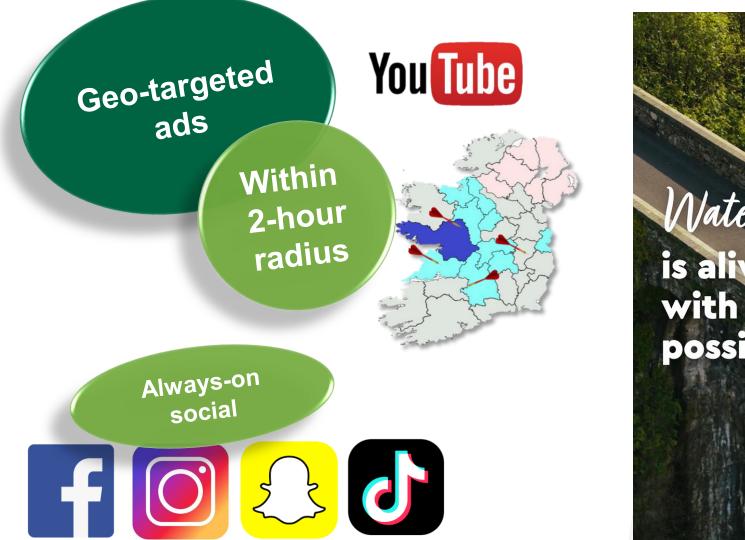
## **Driving national reach via audio & press**





## Driving relevancy through digital and social





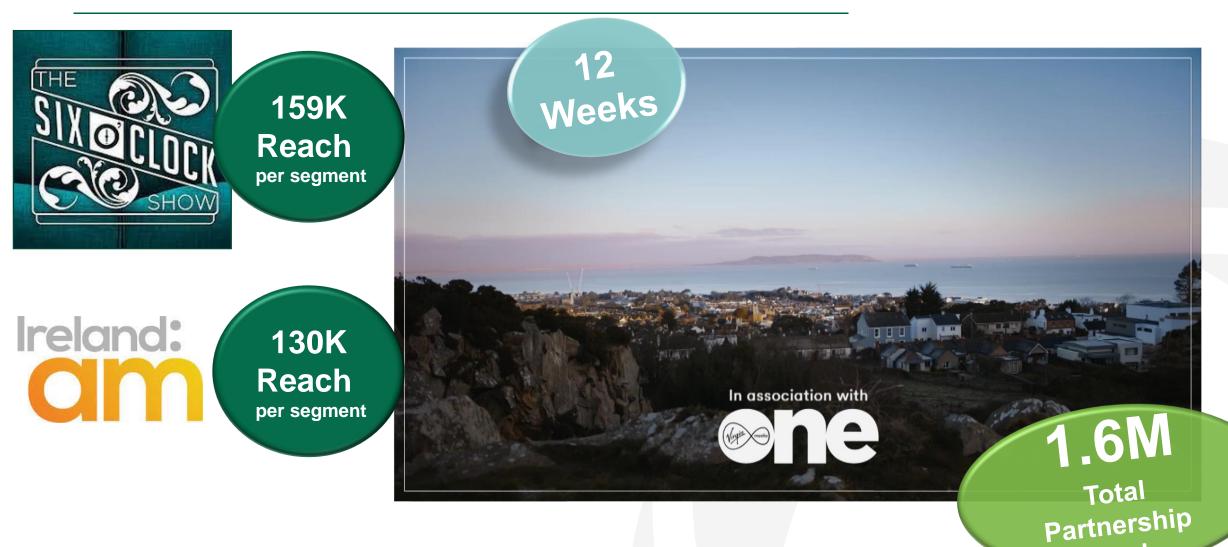


# Showcasing experiences via TV Partnerships...



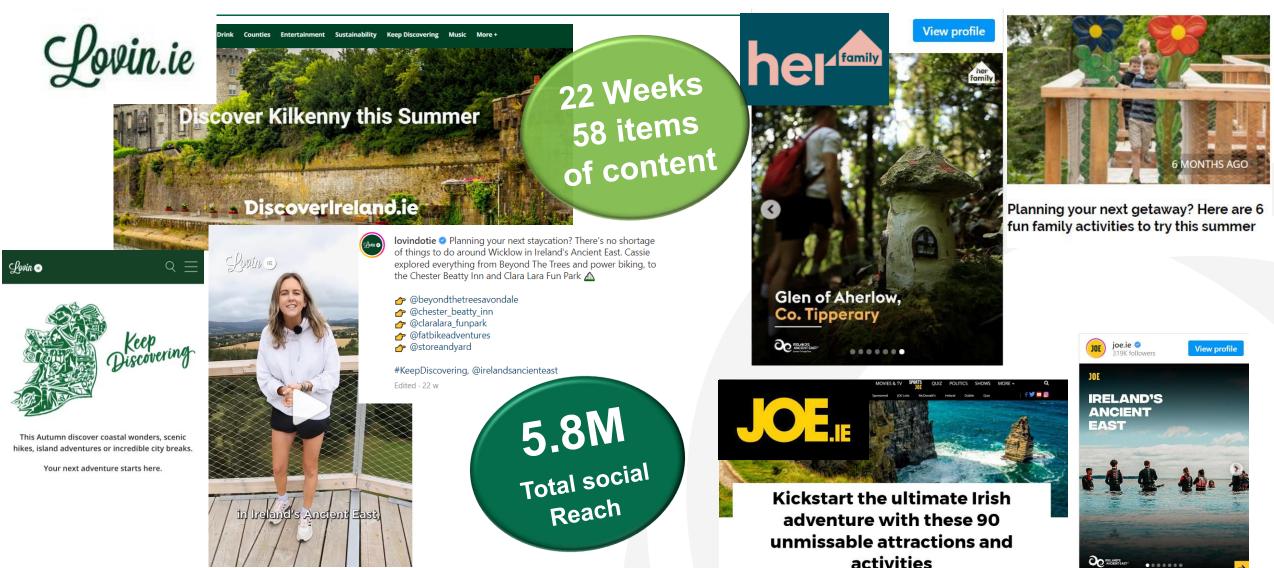


Reac





## ...and Digital Partnerships



.....

## **Building positive word-of-mouth** through influencers & PR

...



Baz Ashmawy Reach 180K+

Influencer

Programme

Reach

13.5M +





Iked by the\_irish\_experience and others bashmawy The truth is our Jakey lad is finished college and heading off travelling for the summer. wanted to have a bit of time together with ... more



Reach 16M + Elle Gordon goes on

an adventure to the Garden County to

## Rediscovering County Wicklow

Tra

Press

ing questial about rediscovering of carbon in plants and soils) This talente other and daughter duo use regen County Wicklow with an old friend. I a very familiar with Wicklow, because it's he small paradise of Brittas Ba ncing and maintainin exploring what this beautiful o has to offer. So, I wasn't sure if we would discover anything I hadn't

experiences, from weavialready experienced. How wrong ature walk to pick the perfect item to We hit the road in a tiny red rental car. Sandwiched amongst our many bags, and m one-of-a-kir with snowy weather looming, we were a little frazzled (a lot) but the stress was soon forgotten when we arrived at our fir stop. We were welcomed at the beautiful and snow-covered Windrush Farm near intkennedy by Sophie and

mum Lucinda. Sophie is a farmer, ecologi

and silversmith, who along with her artis

sharing their beautiful farm with others

Windrush is arable farmland with a variety of habitats set aside for biodirersity and carbon sequestration (the long-term storag

ther runs Windrush Farm, offering cr

cast, we then begun th wers back and stones that we had a lable so don't stress if you o perfect item on the walk. I was what a meditatise and a craft is, once you got left Windrush, proudly pieces of silver jewellery. I I worlt forget. experiences that reflect their passion for the

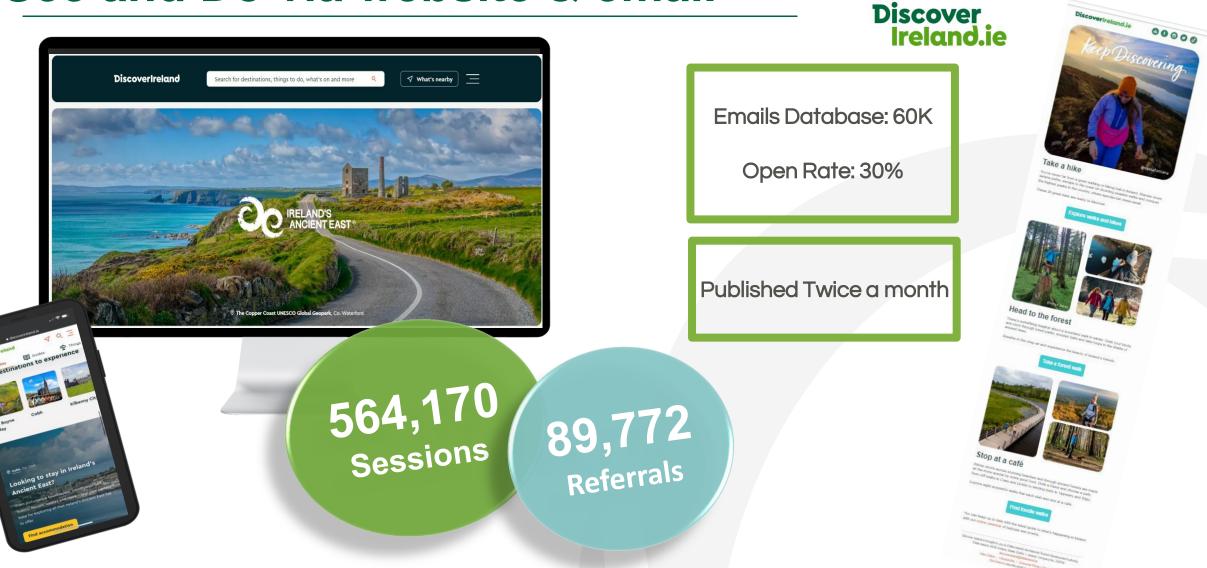
ies, as well as pedien urthles sheep, and crops. Windrush fo

y and the local

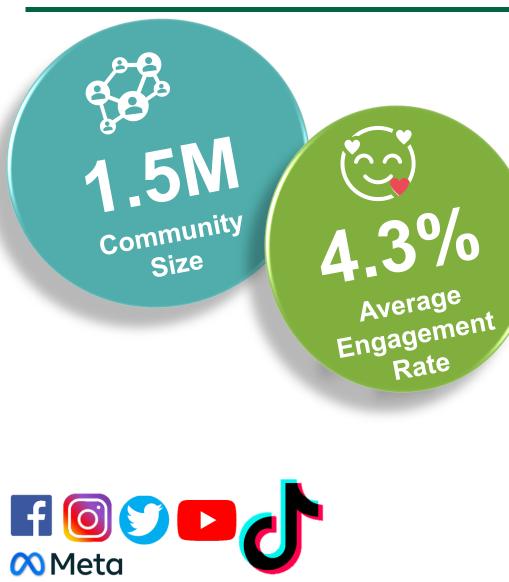
RTE Guide Reach 50K+

# Showcasing the best things to See and Do via website & email





# Building communities on Social Media



#### **Top Performing** Posts Kilkenny Views - 16k Tipperary Views - 21k Wexford Carlow Laois Waterford Views - 20k Views - 34k Views - 5k Views - 12k $\odot$ shanecrawford\_\_\_ Great video rozannapurcell 💆 🙂 🙂 8w 1 like Reply 16w 3 likes Reply **3.2M** sheenead Looooove this!!! 🥶 🙌 View replies (1) 8w 1 like Reply smoothcruzinireland Wow, we really do live in a country **Total Impressions** with spectacular scenery 🙂 9 w 1 like Reply +++



# How you can get involved

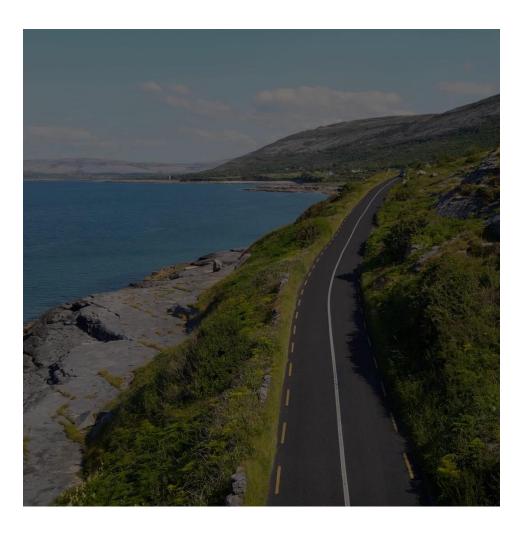




## **Keep Discovering Industry Toolkit**







50,000 images and videos FREE to use on Ireland's Content Pool

## **Key Takeaway**





#### Martin Donnelly Product Sales & Distribution Manager

# Commercial Development



BRIVING SUSTAINABLE Recovery



## **Commercial Development**





#### **Leisure Tourism**

- Destination Development
- B2B Routes to market
- Itinerary Development
- Buyer programming
- Golf & Luxury



#### **Trade Team**

- In Ireland Platforms Meitheal
- Buyer FAM trips
- Recruitment for overseas leisure events
- Management of trade portal



#### **Business Tourism**

- Generate Business Event Leads
- Lead conversion & distribution
- Pipeline management
- Supporting industry conversions
- Regional Convention Bureaux

## Impact in 2022



#### **Leisure Tourism**

- €36.5m Incremental Revenue, In Year
- Bed nights delivered across 26 Counties
- 6,000 Overseas Golf Travel Trade Campaign With Regional Messaging



#### **Trade Team**

- 11 In Ireland Platforms providing
  12,500+ contracting opportunities
- **900+** Industry recruited for In Ireland platforms
- Recruited 670+ Industry for 80 Overseas Platforms





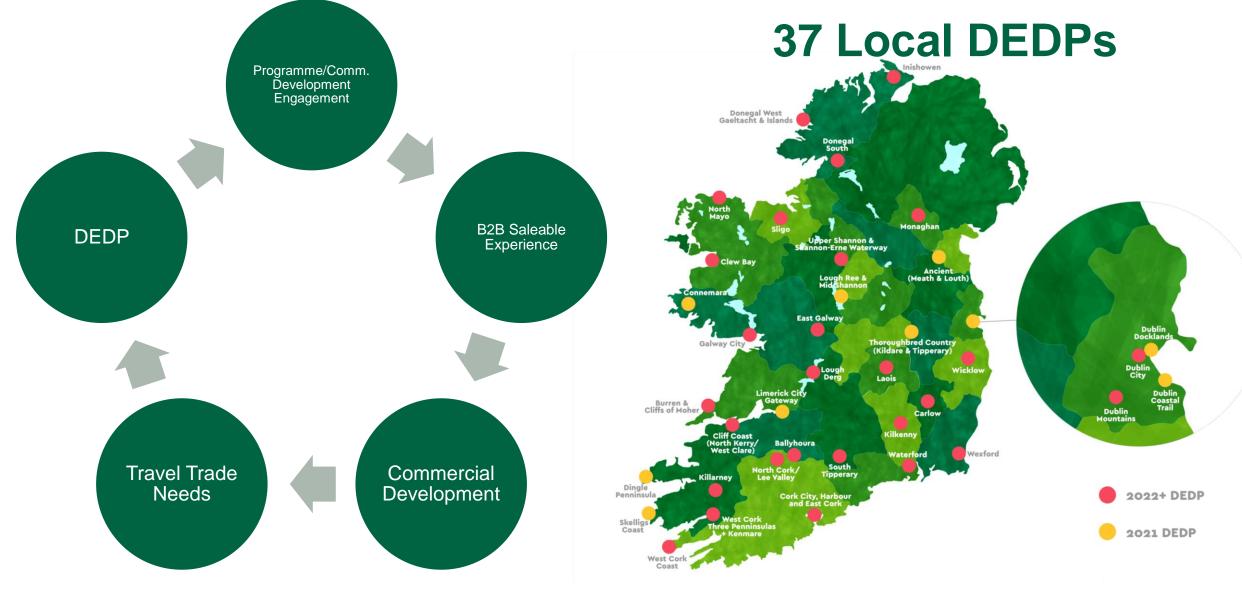
#### **Business Tourism**

- €202m of Events Took Place
- €271m of Leads Generated
- €183m of Leads Converted
- €660m of Leads Added to Pipeline



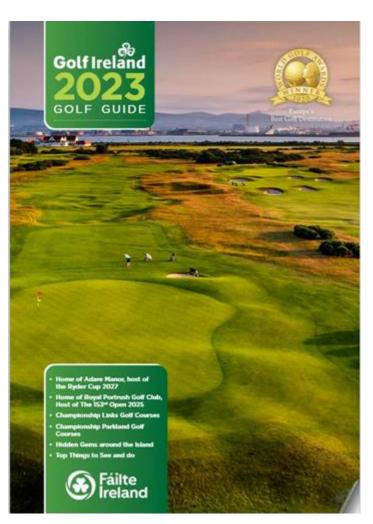
#### **B2B Saleable Experiences**

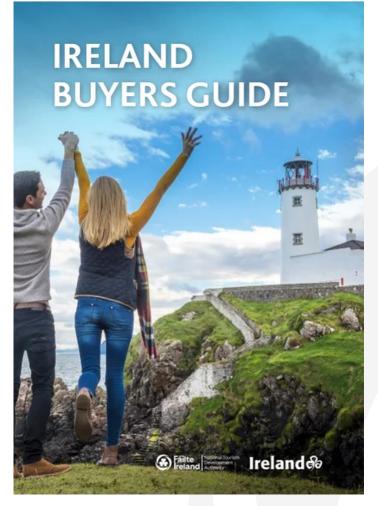




#### **Buyer Guides and Presentations**





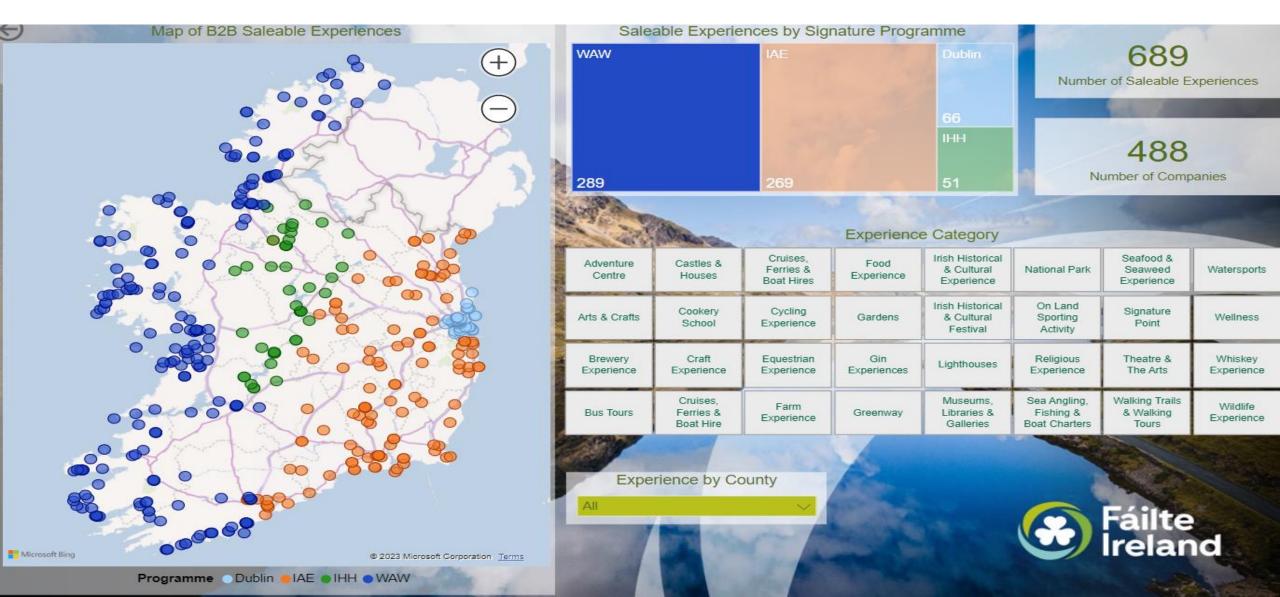




#### IRELAND YOUTH AND ADVENTURE BUYERS GUIDE

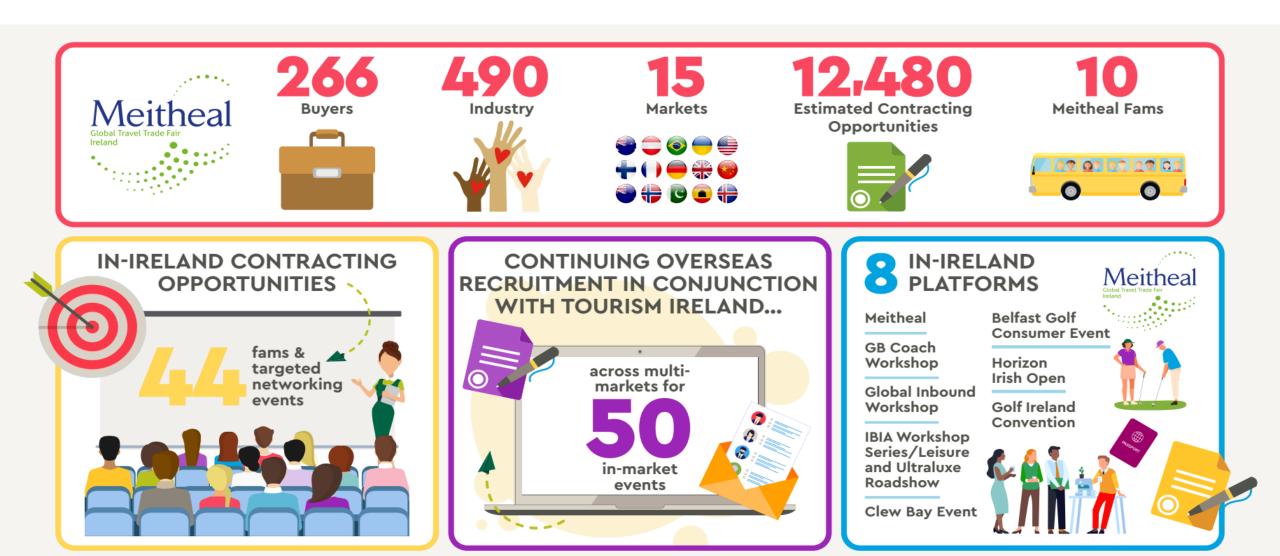
#### **Buyer Portal**





### **Platforms and FAM's**





## Golf, Luxury & Business Tourism









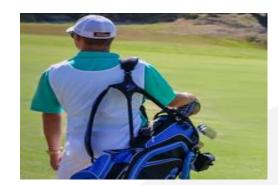




**IGTOA Fam Trip** 



**DP World Tour Events** 



**Caddie Programme** 



**Golf Tourism Development Strategy** 

6

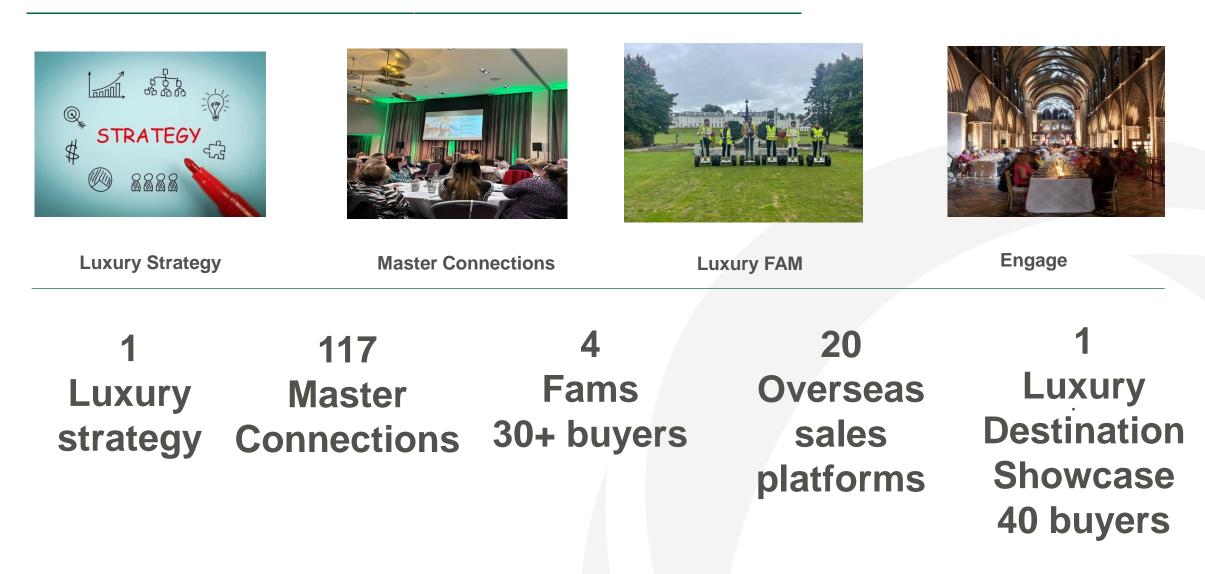


300+ Industry places will be available to participate in these platforms across 2023



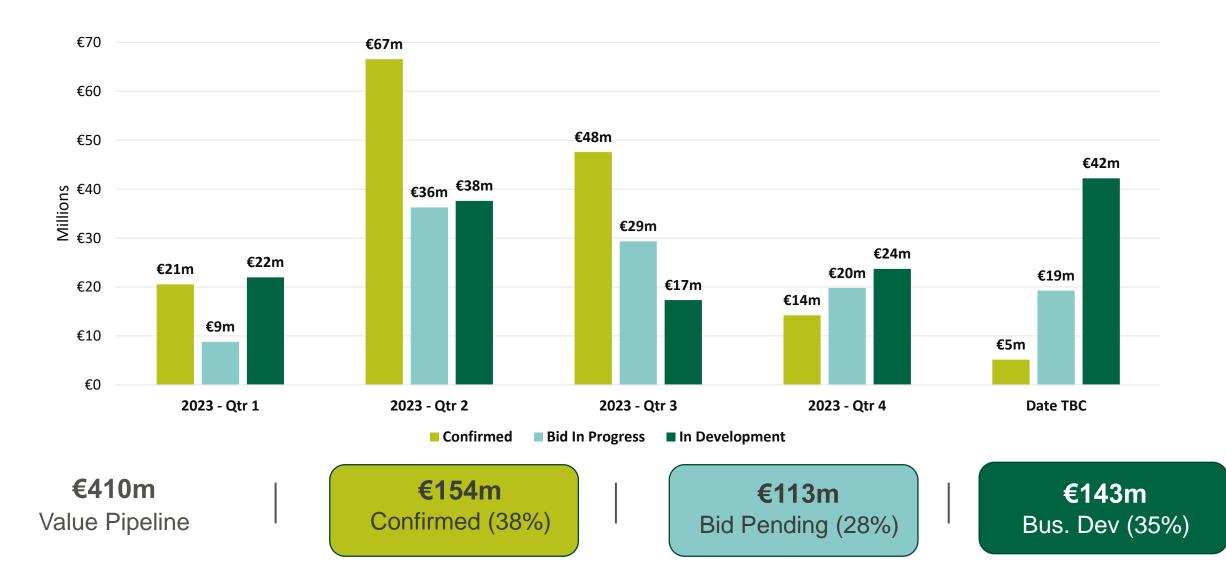






### **Business Events: Event Year 2023**





## **Commercial Development 2023**





#### **Leisure Tourism**

- Providing distribution opportunities for saleable experiences from 37 DEDPs
- Routes to market via 96 IBIA
- Presenting B2B experiences at 48 overseas platforms
- New Golf & Luxury Strategies



#### Trade Team

- 8 In Ireland Platforms providing 15,500 contracting opportunities
- 900+ Industry recruited for In Ireland platforms
- 400+ to be recruited for Industry for 50 Overseas Platforms



#### **Business Tourism**

- €274m Leads Generated
- €192m Leads Converted
- €700m Added to Pipeline
- €211m of Events Taking Place
- New Business Tourism Strategy

## **Digital that Delivers**



Scale, investment & economic impact:



#### **Positioning Ireland for Success**





## Thank you

## Ní neart go cur le chéile

