

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

Active in Nature



Hiking Trail Glendalough, Co. Wicklow



IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST®



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

Day 1 | Co. Wicklow

1 day / 1 overnight

1 Accommodation: Glenview Hotel & Leisure Club Glen of the Downs, Co. Wicklow | A63DC95

The Glenview Hotel & Leisure Club, located in the 'Garden of Ireland' is a place of unhurried peace. Surrounded by 30 acres of Woodlands and superb Gardens, it is the perfect escape from a busy life to unwind with ease and tranquillity. The Glenview has been welcoming guests since the early 1900's.

The property has been lovingly maintained mixing seamless elegance with tradition of past, both combined to offer comfort and relaxation. The Glenview is more than just a place to rest your head - Take a sip in the Conservatory Bar, enjoy Afternoon Tea in our Malton Lounge or relax in the Leisure Club. The Glenview's 71 guest bedrooms consist of Classic Bedroom, Deluxe Bedrooms, Family Bedrooms, Executive Bedrooms and the large Penthouse Suite.

Next destination: 4.4 km

2 Coffee / Snack: Bak'd @ Arthurs Barn Belmont Demesne Lower Windgates, Greystones Co. Wicklow | A63 FX34

Enjoy a freshly ground coffee at Bak'd, made with premium beans roasted locally in Delgany.

It's not just bread, buns and biscuits here – enjoy a pre-activity snack of scrumptious salads, spicy soups, wholesome sandwiches or piquant pastries.

Allow 30 minutes

Next destination: 4 km

3 Outdoor Activity: Fatbike Adventures

Belmont Demesne, Lower Windgates, Road, Greystones, Co. Wicklow | A63 FX34

Fatbike Adventures offer unique off-road mountain biking experiences throughout County Wicklow. Trail choices include beaches, forest & mountain trails. Each tour is tailored to the capability of the group.

Located near Greystones in Belmont Demesne, adjacent to Bray Head & the Irish Sea, tailor made bike and walking trails with fantastic coastal views are all part of the Belmont experience. Fatbikes adventure is highly mobile, incredibly easy and safe to ride. Electric fatbikes are also available.

All tours are offered with English or Polish speaking guides.
English and German print material is available for all tours upon request.

Allow 2 hours



Next destination: 3.0 km

4 Lunch: The Grain Store Café, Killruddery House & Gardens

Southern Cross, Bray, Co. Wicklow | A98W9F2

Before experiencing a guided tour of the gardens, dine at the Grain Store Café which offers a range of delicious lunch options, prepared with ingredients, grown in the Walled Garden or sourced from local suppliers. Killruddery is committed to eco-friendly packaging, all the takeaway cutlery, napkins and cups are 100% compostable and the Killruddery menus bring the Garden and Farm to your plate.

Allow 1 hour

5 Killruddery House & Gardens

Southern Cross, Bray, Co. Wicklow | A98W9F2

Enjoy a fascinating tour of this historic, south-facing, multi-bay Mansion in the company of an expert Killruddery Guide. The House, in the Elizabethan style, first became the home of the Brabazon family in 1618.

Marvel at the grandeur of The Portraiture Hall, The Library, The Drawing Room with its antique furniture and porcelain, the sweeping staircases and The Dining Room with stunning views overlooking the long ponds.

Take a stroll through the 17th Century Gardens, inspired by the Palace of Versailles. A renowned gardener named Bonet, who once served Sir William Petty, was employed here as early as 1682. He was a disciple of the great landscape designer André le Notre, famous for the gardens of the Palace of Versailles near Paris.

Allow 1 hour



Next destination: 3.5 km

6 Dinner: Platform Pizza Bray

7 Strand Rd, Bray, Co. Wicklow | A98 C5D0

Wind down and indulge in a wholesome meal at Platform Pizza Bar, Bray. Choose from pizza, bites, sides, cocktails and more in a relaxing, laid-back environment. At Platform Pizza, there is something for everyone with vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and kid's meals available.

Next destination: 9.4 km

7 Powerscourt Distillery

Powerscourt Estate, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow | A98 A9T7

Formerly the hub of all farming on the estate, the old mill house is being faithfully restored and extended to help accommodate the distillery's development.

Powerscourt Distillery has been custom designed and commissioned by a 5th generation family-owned business, Forsyths, from Scotland who have been manufacturing distillery equipment since the 1890s.

Take a guided tour of the distillery whose three custom-designed copper pot stills form the distillery centrepiece. After your guided tour of the distillery, take part in a whiskey tasting session with the experts.



Distance to accommodation: 11.6 km

Hotel Option:

The Martello Hotel, Bray | <https://www.themartello.ie/>

Day 2 & 3 | Co. Kildare

2 days / 2 overnights

Travel from Wicklow Accommodation to Kildare Accommodation: 57.4 km

1 Accommodation: Killashee Hotel

Killashee, Naas, Co. Kildare | W91 DC98

Killashee Hotel, Naas is located only 2 kms from Naas town. Set amidst the Kildare countryside, Killashee is a truly special place – from the Original Victorian House to the acres of splendid gardens and wild woodlands, Killashee is home to many hidden gems.

Killashee caters to all needs from a leisure break or family break to spa breaks and romantic getaways. With 141 bedrooms, Killashee is a truly enchanting hotel with a wonderfully rich history, waiting to be discovered.



Next destination: 24.2 km

2 Irish National Stud & Japanese Gardens

Tully, Kildare, Co. Kildare | R51 KX25

Discover Kildare at the highly acclaimed Irish National Stud & Gardens with a little something for everyone. The National Stud offers a variety of experiences for horse fanatics and for all the family.

Choose from visits to the Thoroughbred breeding farm, guided tours of the grounds, two gardens: Japanese Gardens & St Fiachra's Garden (self-guided) in addition to:

- **Irish Racehorse Experience** – A New for 2021, fully immersive audio guides available in various languages.
- **Opportunity to meet the Living legends team** – The retired equine racing stars.

Allow 2 hours



If you have more time:

For horse & thoroughbred enthusiasts:

Visit The Curragh: <https://www.curragh.ie/>

The best time to visit the Curragh is dawn, to see the thoroughbreds train on the gallops.

Next destination: 1.9 km

3 Lunch: Hartes of Kildare

Market Square, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare | R51 TN60

Harte's of Kildare, a multi – award winning gastropub located in the heart of Kildare town prides itself in choosing the best ingredients.

Using only sustainable fish, fully traceable Board Bia approved Irish Meat and supporting local artisan producers – Harte's of Kildare will provide you with a post- activity, wholesome lunch.

Allow 1 hour

Next destination: 1.0 km

4 Kildare Village

Kildare, Nurney Road, Co. Kildare | R51 R265

Take some down – time and relish in retail therapy at Kildare Village. Kildare Village is one of eleven luxury shopping destinations in the Bicester Village Shopping Collection across Europe and China.

Discover true five – star hospitality and remarkable savings. With hundreds of boutiques from the worlds most celebrated designers offering up to 60% off the recommended retail price, you'll find it hard to resist temptation.

Allow 2 hours

Next destination: 21.4 km

5 Dinner: The Bistro @ Lawlor's Hotel Kildare, Nurney Road, Co. Kildare | R51 R265

Before returning to your Hotel, indulge in a post – retail dinner in the Bistro at Lawlor's of Naas. Lawlor's Bistro restaurant is perfectly located in the heart of Naas town centre, just a stone throw from your overnight accommodation. It is renowned locally as one of the best restaurants in Kildare.

The experienced chefs prepare locally produced, fresh, tasty Irish meals every evening from 5 pm until 9:00 pm.

Allow 2 hours

Distance to accommodation: 3.5 km

Day 3

1 Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare | R51KP94

Immerse yourself in a story 10,000 years in the making. Learn how the Peatlands in Ireland formed to become one of the world's most important carbon stores and habitats. Discover how its relationship with local people has evolved from Pagan worship to a refuge for Monks and Rebels – from being the home to an industrial revolution to a new sustainable and greener future.

Guided tours include a walk on the bog with intermittent stops at several exhibitions and traditional turf cutting led by a local expert.

Allow 2 hours



Next destination: 19.1 km

2 Lunch: Edward Harrigan & Sons Lower Main St, Piercetown, Newbridge, Co. Kildare | W12 X2R9

Head to Harrigan's gastropub in Newbridge for a spot of lunch using the best of local produce to create modern Irish cuisine. The perfect location for families, casual or special events and just around the corner from your next destination.

Allow 1 hour

Next destination: 850m

3 Newbridge Silverware Athgarvan Road, Newbridge, Co. Kildare | W12 HT62

Newbridge Silverware is one of Kildare's most recognised products. The Newbridge Silverware Visitor Centre is highly recommended on the tourist trail of Ireland's Ancient East.

The Visitor Centre houses the complete range of Newbridge Silverware products and some exclusive collections. Delve into historic stories & choose between the famous Museum of Style Icons and the unique guided Factory Tour.

Allow 1 hour



Next destination: 13.0 km

4 Dinner: Killashee Hotel Killashee, Naas, Co. Kildare | W91DC98

Have your dinner in the comfort of your overnight accommodation, the Killashee after an activity filled day. The Bistro at the Killashee offers creative yet simple dishes using homegrown produce, in wonderfully relaxed surroundings.

The Bistro is the perfect dining experience for family gatherings and winding down.

Allow 2 hours



5 Spa @ Killashee Hotel Killashee, Naas, Co. Kildare | W91DC98

Relax and pamper yourself with a treatment from the experts in the Killashee Spa, recharge in the leisure area or take a plunge in the swimming pool and hydrotherapy suite – just minutes from your bedroom for a great nights sleep.

Allow 1-2 hours



Hotel Option:

Lawlor's Hotel of Naas | <https://www.lawlors.ie/>

Fine Dining:

Cliff at Lyons, Celbridge | <https://cliffatlyons.ie/dovesquaredining/>

Day 4 | Co. Offaly

1 day / 1 overnight

Travel from Kildare Accommodation to Offaly accommodation: 84.2 km

1 Accommodation: Kinnity Castle Hotel Kinnitty, Birr, Co. Offaly | R42 CY50

Arrive at the winding avenue of Kinnity Castle Hotel in the heart of County Offaly and take in the breath-taking 13th century views of the castle nestled in 650 acres of parkland.

Take a walk back in time at the medieval revival castle steeped in original features, heritage, history and a regal atmosphere dating back to 1209.

Wander through the library and the drawing room, rest by an open fire and recharge in one of 37 distinctively styled guest bedrooms featuring high ceilings and cast-iron roll top baths.



Next destination: 12.1 km

2 Wild Food Mary Cloneen, Clareen, Birr, Co. Offaly | R42 CK72

Discover the outdoors of Offaly with a twist with Wild Food Mary who hosts wild food foraging workshops.

Catering to private workshops by appointment, the one-day seasonal workshops are an informative, educational, and unique experience.

Suitable for friends, family and child friendly, Wild food Mary food foraging connects people to place and heritage through exploration, observation and the use of wild plants.



Lunch

Enjoy an immersive, on site Lunch using the foods you have foraged with your very own hands!

Allow 3 hours

Next destination: 10 km

3 **Birr Castle Demesne** Rosse Row, Birr, Co. Offaly | R42 VO27

Delve into science & engineering at the award-winning Gardens of Birr Castle Demesne.

Take a walk among rivers, trees, flowers and wildlife. Choose from guided castle tours or garden tours.

Explore the largest telescope in the world designed and built by the Third Earl Rosse in the early 1840s. Birr Castle is not just another castle, but a place for budding astronomers, horticulturists and historians to explore and learn in a fun and exciting manner.

Allow 1 hour



Next destination: 2.4 km

4 **Dinner: The Thatch, Crinkell** Military Rd, Ballinree, Birr, Co. Offaly | R42YO36

After a day of feeding your minds with exploration and education, head over to the Thatch Crinkell, to feed your bellies with some well-earned dinner.

The Thatch, situated in the village of Crinkill, is one of the oldest pubs in South Offaly and is renowned for its homely and hearty cuisine. As the name suggests it has always been thatched. The Thatch has the unique distinction of being in the same family ownership for nigh on 200 years.

Allow 2 hours

Distance to Accommodation: 15.5 km

Hotel Options:

Giltrap's Townhouse & Galamping | <https://visitkinnitty.com/packages/>

County Arms Hotel, Birr | <https://www.countyarmshotel.com/>