

Wild Atlantic Way

Northern Discovery
Culturally Curious



Malin Head, Co, Donegal



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

Day 1 | Co. Galway

Morning

1 Galway City Museum Spanish Arch, Galway City

The Museum is a repository for over 1,000 objects of cultural heritage related to the city of Galway and its people, past and present. Three floors of exhibitions engage visitors in the archaeology, history and sea-science of the region and special temporary exhibitions are also periodically programmed. The attraction is one of Galway's most popular cultural hotspots and welcomes over 200,000 visitors annually.

Allow 40mins – 1.5 hours



Lunch:

Dockside Deli @ Galway Bay Seafoods | The Docks, Galway City | www.thedocksidedelugalway.com

Afternoon:

2 Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Gardens Connemara, Co. Galway

An iconic attraction in Connemara the Abbey boasts beautifully restored period rooms, a fascinating history, 6-acre Victorian Walled Garden, woodland and lakeshore walks, a beautiful neo-Gothic Church and a Mausoleum where Mitchell and Margaret Henry are buried side by side. This is Connemara's jewel in the crown.

Allow 1.5 – 2 hours



Dinner:

Renvyle House Hotel | Renvyle, Co. Galway | www.renvyle.com

Accommodation:

Connemara Sands Hotel 4* | Ballyconneely, Co. Galway | www.connemarasands-hotel.com

Day 2 | Co. Mayo

Morning

1 Westport House Westport, Co. Mayo

Regarded by many as one of Ireland's most beautiful homes Westport House is one of the few still privately-owned historic houses left in Ireland. It's history dates as far back as to the 1500s and to the trail-blazing pirate queen, Grace O'Malley. Framed by Croagh Patrick and set on a 430 acres estate a guided tour and visit to Westport House is one to remember.

Allow 60 mins – 1.5 hours



Lunch:

Creel on the Quays | The Quays, Westport, Co. Mayo | <https://thecreel.ie/>

Afternoon:

2 Old Irish Goat Centre & Sanctuary Mulranny, Co. Mayo

Newly opened in 2020 it tells the story of a unique, charismatic Irish animal that a small community along the Wild Atlantic Way is working hard to protect and preserve for future generations: the Old Irish Goat. A cosy interpretive centre, craft shop showcasing all local talent and a paddock where visitors can meet some of the year's goat kids. Make this a really special, worthwhile and local experience.

Allow 40mins – 1 hour



Dinner:

Nephin Restaurant | Mulranny Park Hotel, Mulranny, Co. Mayo | www.mulrannyparkhotel.ie/dining.html

Evening:

3 Dark Sky Safari in Wild Nephin National Park with Terra Firma Ireland Newport & Letterkeen, Co. Mayo

Gaze at the dazzling beauty of a natural night sky in Mayo's Wild Nephin National Park – an International Dark Sky Park. This guided experience combines a laser pointer tour of the starry skies and constellations as well as an introduction to the local nocturnal wildlife in the Mayo International Dark Sky park. The evening concludes with local tales and stories from a Seanchaí.

Allow 2-3 hours



Overnight:

Mulranny Park Hotel 4* | Mulranny, Co. Mayo | <https://www.mulrannyparkhotel.ie/>

Day 3 | Co. Mayo – Co. Sligo

Morning:

1 The Céide Fields Ballycastle, Co. Mayo

The Céide Fields are the oldest known field systems in the world, nearly six millennia old, preserved beneath a blanket of peat on the Wild Atlantic Way. The visitor centre is re-opening with a totally re-imagined interpretive experience in the summer of 2021 with exhibitions, a 45 minute outdoor guided walking tour and tearoom. The tours explore the excavated Neolithic walls and allow visitors to probe for a buried wall 2m beneath their feet.

Allow 1.5 hours



Lunch:

Mary's Cottage Kitchen | Ballycastle, Co. Mayo | <https://www.discoverireland.ie/mayo/mary-s-cottage-kitchen>

Afternoon:

2 Wild Food Foraging Tour at The Horseshoe Ballintrillick, Horseshoe Valley, Co. Sligo.

Come on a walk with herbalist and chef Gaby Wieland, find and identify many wild foods that grow along Irish hedgerows. From Dandelion to Nettles and Meadowsweet to Hawthorn, from leaves and flowers to berries and roots. Learn how nutritious these foraged foods are and how to use them. There will be tastings and recipes at the end of the walk. Inspiring and a lot of fun!

Allow 1.5 hours

Dinner:

Eala Bhán | Rockwood Parade, Sligo Town | <https://www.ealabhan.ie/>

Evening:

Whiskey Tasting at Thomas Connolly's Pub | Markievicz Road, Sligo Town
<https://sligotourism.ie/listing/thomas-connollys-pub/>

Accommodation:

The Glass House 4* | Abbeyquarter North, Sligo Town | <https://www.theglasshouse.ie/>

Day 4 | Co. Donegal

Morning:

1 Electric biking at Glenveagh National Park Church Hill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

A relatively effortless way to enjoy Glenveagh's gardens, nature, and fantastic surroundings. Glenveagh National Park is a remote and hauntingly beautiful wilderness of rugged mountains, pristine lakes, tumbling waterfalls and enchanted native oak woodland in the heart of the Derryveagh Mountains in the north west of County Donegal. At the centre of the Park on the edge of Lough Veagh is Glenveagh Castle, a late 19th century castellated mansion, built as a hunting lodge. Look out for the two golden eagles' resident at the park beneath their feet.



Allow 1 – 1.5 hours

Lunch:

Glenveagh Castle Tearooms | Glenveagh National Park, Co. Donegal
www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie/plan-your-visit-glenveagh/eat-refresh-shop/

Afternoon:

2 Ballymastocker Bay and guided tour of Fanad Head Lighthouse Fanad Head, Co. Donegal

Head north via Harry Blaney Bridge to Fanad Head, admire pretty Portsalon and Ballymastocker Bay, (voted the second most beautiful beach in the world) enroute and take a guided tour of Fanad Head Lighthouse and climb the 76 steep steps to the summit. Hear stories of the lighthouse keepers and their families and learn about the light and aids to navigation. Your tour will culminate with a climb to the top of the tower, where you will be treated to spectacular 360 views of north Donegal.



Allow 1 hour

Dinner:

The Cook & Gardener | Rathmullan House Hotel, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal
www.rathmullanhouse.com/cook-and-gardener.html

Accommodation:

Rathmullan House Hotel 4* | Rathmullan House Hotel, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal
<https://www.rathmullanhouse.com/>

Day 5 | Co. Donegal

Morning

1 Fort Dunree Dunree, Linsfort, Buncrana, Co. Donegal

Take the ferry from Rathmullan to Buncrana and visit Fort Dunree. Choose from a series of walks around Dunree Head, taking in amazing panoramas as well as wonderful views of Dunree Beach and over Lough Swilly all the way to the Fanad Peninsula. For the more adventurous consider Kayaking off the rocks at Fort Dunree with Inish Adventures.

A trip that takes in the sights of this important historical fort from the sea, exploring the caves, archways, wildlife, and coastal heritage of the adjoining coastline. Comfort stop at the onsite Coffee Cup Café at Fort Dunree.

Allow 2 hours



Lunch:

Nancy's Barn | Ballyliffin, Co. Donegal | <http://www.nancysbarn.ie/>

Afternoon:

2 Doagh Famine Village followed by Malin Head, Ireland's most northerly point Doagh Island, Lagacurry, Inishowen | Malin Head, Co. Donegal

Visit the Doagh Famine Village which tells the story of a family and community living on the edge and surviving, from the Famine of the 1840s to the present time before visiting Ireland's most northerly point.

Feel the power of this romantic landscape, where wildlife flourishes and Star Wars fans can walk in the footsteps of Jedi masters.

Check out the incredible views from Banba's Crown and take pictures at the Devil's Bridge. If the Northern Lights are forecast, there's a good chance you'll see the spectacular aurora borealis from Malin Head.

Allow 1 hour



Dinner:

Nancy's Barn Ballyliffin | Main St, Ballyliffin, Co. Donegal
<http://www.nancysbarn.ie/>

Evening:

Irish traditional music at Lily McGonagle's Bar | Malin Town, Co. Donegal
<https://thesession.org/sessions/3714>

Accommodation:

Ballyliffin Townhouse Boutique Hotel 4* | Main Street, Ballyliffin, Co. Donegal
<https://www.ballyliffintownhouse.ie/>

Day 6 | Co. Donegal

Depart for Dublin

Stroll Pollan Beach and depart | <https://www.discoverireland.ie/donegal/pollan-bay>