The next section of Mulroy Drive takes you along the Wild Atlantic Way and to the Island Bay View Discovery Point at the Harry Blaney Bridge, a landmark in its own right. Stop off here and be blown away by the stunning views of Mulroy Bay to the east and the Rosguill Peninsula to the northwest.

Back on The Mulroy Drive you must visit The Olde Forge in the village of Cranford. The forge dates back to 1920 and the old bellows here are one of only a handful in Ireland. Nearby the Woodquarter Walking Trail has the western shores of Mulroy Bay, over sand dunes that rises steeply at the furthest section affording you once more panoramic views of Mulroy Bay. This is a lovely spot for a relaxing picnic, while you can actually walk around the thriving aquaculture on the Bay’s mussel, oyster, scallop and salmon farms.

From here you return to Milford and you’ll literally come the full circle of Mulroy Bay and completed the Mulroy Bay Drive.

Milford (Baile na nGalloglach)

Streeped in history, Mulroy was the birthplace of generations of Galloglach families and the home of the Galloglach ‘Baile na nGalloglach’. The Galloglach were an elite class of mercenaries who came to Ireland from Gaelic-Norse clans in Scotland between the 13th century and the late 16th century. By 1900 Milford was a small fishing village and the home of the Galloglach. The horse market was usually held at the top of Main Street in an area known as Market Square. Today Milford is a hub for visitors to the Fanad Peninsula with ample opportunity to sample local food and excellent accommodation while exploring Fanad Head Lighthouse, a Signature Discovery Point on the Wild Atlantic Way, and just 30 minutes’ drive from the village. To make the most of this rural idyll, take a walk along The Columbectile Trail on the banks of nearby Lough Colmcille. This remote and tranquil Trail passes through spectacular unpolluted landscape which is rich in history and wildlife.

www.mulroydrive.com

Did you know...

To enjoy it’s spectacular 360° views you will have to climb 205 steps to the top of Fanad Head Lighthouse, voted the 3rd most beautiful lighthouse in the world.

Did you know...

Until the late 20th century Milford locals usually travelled by steamer to Glasgow in Scotland.

Letterkenny (Leitir Ceannain)

Letterkenny, was a small fishing village in the 17th Century, and is now Co Donegal’s largest town with a population of almost 19,000, offering an extensive range of accommodation from hotels and B&B’s to self-catering. This vibrant town offers an excellent choice of award-winning restaurants, cafes and pubs with entertainment nightly.

Letterkenny is known for the Gothic-style St. Eunan’s Cathedral, with its towering spire clearly visible from all over town. The Main Street is said to be the longest in Ireland. An Oran relationship and The Regional Cultural Centre have a year-round programme of events for all tastes. Letterkenny also offers a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities for all the family. Donegal County Museum has displays on local history in a 19th-century workhouse building and southwest of town, while the Newmills Corn and Flax Mills have a huge working waterwheel powered by the River Swift. Just 20 minutes away, the famous Glenveagh National Park and Castle, with its 16,000 hectares of wilderness, is just waiting to be discovered on foot or bike (can be hired on site). Step back in time with a guided tour of the fully furnished castle built in 1783 or take a stroll around Glenveagh’s extensive gardens which are a real treat for garden lovers.