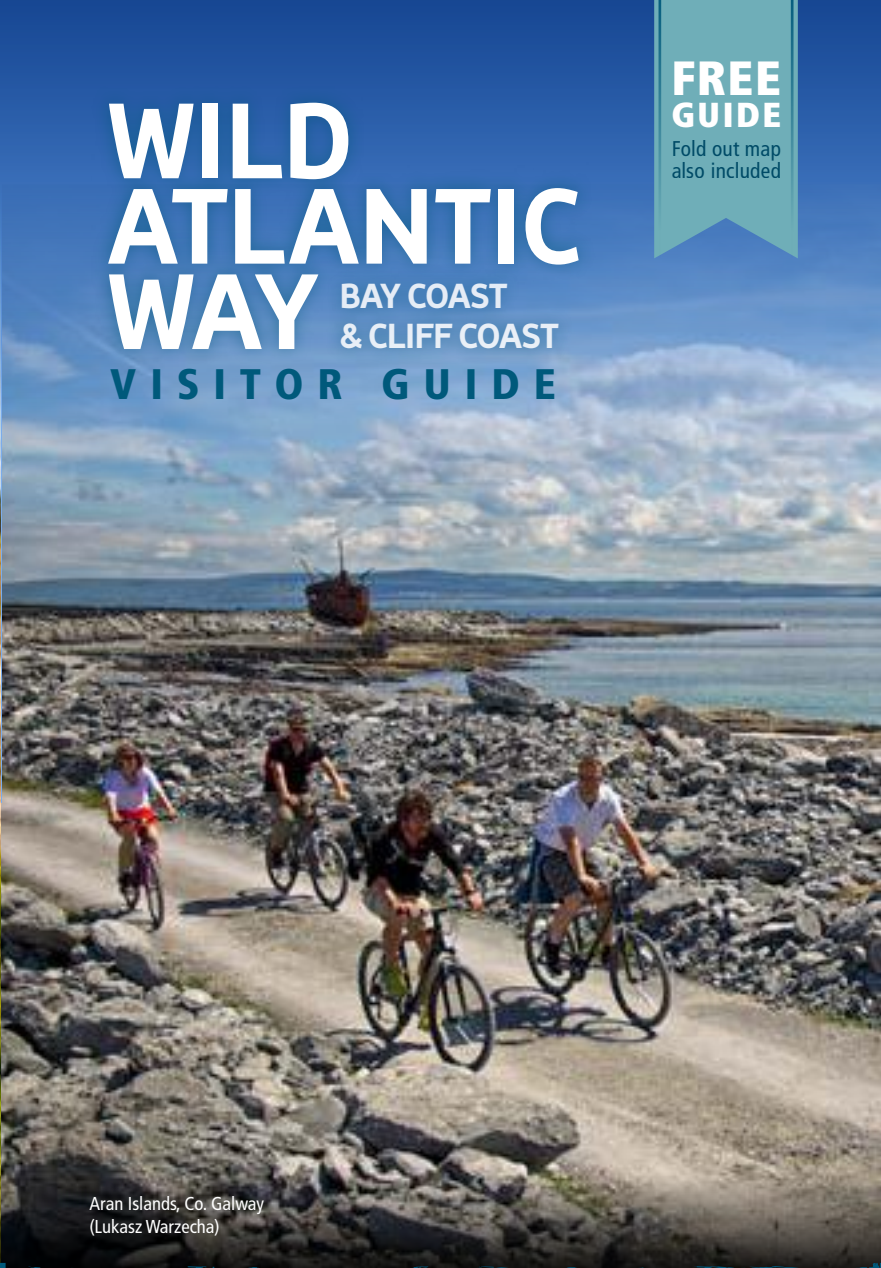


Visitors: we welcome your feedback on this guide!
✉ pocketguides@failteireland.ie



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

BAY COAST & CLIFF COAST

VISITOR GUIDE

FREE GUIDE
Fold out map also included



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PICK UP A FREE, MORE DETAILED MAP IN OUR TOURIST OFFICES!
See contents page for details



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WildAtlanticWay.com
[#WildAtlanticWay](https://www.instagram.com/WildAtlanticWay)

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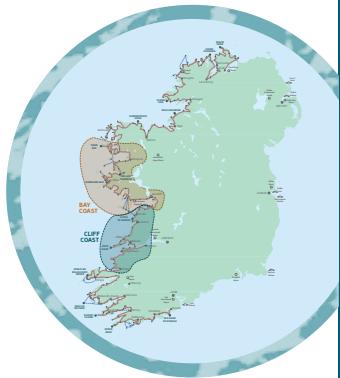
Every care has been taken in the compilation of this visitor guide to ensure accuracy at the time of publication. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for printed errors or omissions, or alterations occurring after the guidebook has been published.

Achill Island,
Co. Mayo

Bay Coast & Cliff Coast

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TOURIST OFFICES:

Westport, Bridge Street, Westport, Co Mayo, F28 NF77. T: 1850 230 330, E: westport@failteireland.ie

***Clifden**, Galway Road, Clifden, Co Galway, H71 P659. T: 1850 230 330, E: clifdentouristoffice@failteireland.ie

***Cong**, Old Courthouse, Cong, Co Mayo, F31 Y681. T: 1850 230 330, E: cong.touristoffice@failteireland.ie

Galway, Forster Street, Galway City, H91 N1FD. T: 1850 230 330, E: irelandwestinfo@failteireland.ie

Aran, Inis Mór, Aran Islands, Co Galway, H91 R26E. T: 1850 230 330, E: aran@failteireland.ie

Ennis, Arthur's Row, Ennis, Co Clare, V95 RX78. T: 1850 230 330, E: ennistio@failteireland.ie

Limerick, 20 O'Connell Street, Limerick City, V94 H9Y2. T: 1850 230 330, E: limericktio@failteireland.ie

Tralee, Ashe Memorial Hall, Denny Street, Tralee, V92 HW92. T: 1850 230 330, E: traleetio@failteireland.ie

*Seasonal Office

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WILD ATLANTIC WAY

The Wild Atlantic Way, the longest defined coastal touring route in the world stretching 2,500km from Inishowen in Donegal to Kinsale in West Cork, leads you through one of the world's most dramatic landscapes.

A frontier on the very edge of Europe, the Wild Atlantic Way is a place like no other, which in turn has given its people a unique outlook on life. Here you can immerse yourself in a different way of living. Here you can let your freer, spontaneous side breathe. Here you can embrace the Wild Atlantic Way of Life.

The most memorable holidays always have a touch of wildness about them, and the Wild Atlantic Way will not disappoint. With opportunities to view the raw, rugged beauty of the highest sea cliffs in Europe; experience Northern lights dancing in winter skies; journey by boat to many of the wonderful islands off our island; experience the coast by horseback; or take a splash and enjoy the many water sports available.

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, so be sure to allow enough time take it all in.

For the foodies, you can indulge in some seaweed foraging with a local guide with a culinary experience so you can taste the fruits of your labours. As night falls enjoy the craic at traditional music sessions and even try a few steps of an Irish jig! 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 – which you'll find the Ireland you have always imagined.

Start your journey on:

www.wildatlanticway.com

For additional information:



waw@failteireland.ie



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Cliffs of Moher

BAY COAST: AN OPEN-AIR PLAYGROUND

Skimming the Coast, from Achill Island to Galway Bay

From northwest Mayo to the “savage beauty” of Connemara, the Wild Atlantic Way skims south around several huge bays. The largest of these – Clew Bay – is said to have 365 islets and islands. Connemara means “inlets of the sea” in Irish, with water and land merging in a lacy shoreline of loughs, coves, islands and sea-swept blanket bogs. The Bay Coast is a salty, open-air playground, with dazzling beaches, Blueway trails and plenty of water sports.

Cyclists follow the Great Western Greenway – one of the world’s most scenic cycle ways. Walkers climb the sacred Croagh Patrick and Twelve Bens range. There’s history at Clifden’s Derrygimlagh Bog, where Alcock and Brown landed after the first transatlantic flight in 1919. The Bay Coast is where you’ll also find the vibrant Galway City, whilst further south, near Kinvara, you can banquet in the 500 year old Dunguaire Castle, from where you can look west across Galway Bay and watch the sun go down on the Aran Islands and south Connemara.



Dog's Bay, Roundstone

BAY COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Calvey's Achill Mountain Lamb Experience

Calvey's of Achill, Keel, Achill Island, Co Mayo

Tel: 087 6885786 martinacalvey@achilllamb.ie
www.AchillLamb.ie GPS 53.975948, -10.081411

This traditional working family farm and artisan butcher is open to visitors, with brilliant hands-on immersive experiences of working sheepdogs, hand shearing and daily life on a family farm. After experiencing the working farm enjoy a tasting of Calvey's Achill Mountain Lamb bursting with the exquisite flavours of the Wild Atlantic Way. Guided experience with multi-lingual guides.

DURATION: 1hr 30mins



Walking the Wild Atlantic Way

Croagh Patrick Walking Tours, Belclare, Westport, Co Mayo

Tel: 098 26090 / 087 2333 295
gerry@walkingguideireland.com
www.walkingguideireland.com

Croagh Patrick Walking Tours was established by Gerry Greensmyth in 1992 and have been leading quality guided hikes all over Mayo & Connemara ever since. From a famine trail, a woodland walk or a high mountain peak all levels and abilities are welcome. Choose from day long hikes, weekend breaks or week long trips. Christmas and Easter walking festival breaks available.



Glen Keen 'A Woolly Experience'

Glen Keen Sheep Farm & Visitor Centre, Glen Keen, Louisburgh, Co Mayo

Tel: 087 6167396 glenkeenfarm@gmail.com
www.glenkeenfarm.com GPS N 53.6887939 W -9.7869131

'A Woolly Experience' includes an immersive sheepdog herding display followed by a detailed wool spinning demonstration where you will hear the story of traditional sheep farming and its value from the 1600s through the 7 generations while enjoying a Glen Keen brew of hot tea & scrumptious scones! Absorb the historical landscape and connect with this special area of conservation at the on-site restaurant.

DURATION: 1hr 30mins



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BAY COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



The Magic of Inishbofin Eco Island

Connemara Wild Escapes, The Old Rectory,
Cleggan, Connemara, Galway H71K76

Tel: 095 49052 / 086 3771025 cathy@connemarawildescapes.ie
www.connemarawildescapes.ie

Inishbofin is the first Irish island to receive an international ecotourism award. On a mid-morning sailing, enjoy spectacular land and seascapes en route before walking the short distance to the Island Hotel for refreshments and a short film about Bofin's heritage, history and geology. Afterwards head out with maps to enjoy the scenic Westquarter Loop walk. With a selection of other activities on offer there's plenty to fill a day here. Return ferry 1800hrs.



Connemara Cultural Centre at Pearse Cottage

Connemara Cultural Centre, Ros Muc,
Connemara, Co Galway

Tel: 091 574292 tanphiarisaigh@opw.ie
www.heritageireland.ie/en/west/patrickpearsecottage/
GPS 53.386188, -9.619460

The development of a cultural centre at "Teach an Phiarsaigh" in Ros Muc provides visitors with an introduction to the Irish language, Gaeltacht culture and environment, focusing on 1916 leader Patrick Pearse and his relationship with Connemara. The exhibition includes an enhanced walkway from the Cultural Centre to the existing national monument of Pearse's Cottage. Guided and self-guided tours available.

DURATION: 1hr - 1hr 30mins.



Connemara Gaelic Cultural Experience

Cnoc Suain, Connemara, Galway, H91 W44N

Tel: 091 555703 / 087 9544784 info@cnocsuain.com
www.cnocsuain.com
GPS 53.2892569531167 -9.264907834414089

Judged Ireland's "Best Cultural Experience 2017", for a true cultural immersion in the Gaelic way of life; the evocative setting, warm hospitality and authentic experiences make this a must-visit destination. All-weather experiences are participatory, informative and fun, offering a uniquely personal insight into daily life in the local Gaeltacht community: Gaelic language, music, dance, customs and traditions, bogland habitat and the wonders of Sphagnum moss! Admission is via the designated coach (from Galway City) only or as a pre-booked travel group.

DURATION: 1hr, 2hrs and day-experiences.

BAY COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Gastronomic Food Guide

Galway Food Tours / Wild Atlantic Way Food Tours,
51 Cúirt Seoige, Bohermore, Galway

Tel: 086 7332885 galwayfoodtours@gmail.com
www.galwayfoodtours.com GPS 53.273,-9.0526 ± 20m

Galway Food Tours is a guided culinary walking tour of Galway. The tour gives a great overview of the passionate people and the beautiful produce which combine to make Galway one of Ireland's gourmet jewels. Meet artisan producers and sample their products with experienced guide, Sheena Dignam, giving you insights into local favourites and treasured ingredients.

DURATION: 2hrs 30mins.



Learn the Irish Dance of the Wild Atlantic Way

Aras na Gael, 45 Dominic Street, Galway City

Tel: 086 2520672 info@emmaosullivan.com
www.emmaosullivan.com GPS 53.2708° N, 9.0573° W

Learn Irish dance with master tutor Emma O' Sullivan. Individuals and groups welcome. Individual booking includes a 1hr workshop introducing the basics of sean nós dance unique to Connemara and the Atlantic coastal regions - a solo percussive dance so no partner is required. Dancers receive a token dance and performance tuition DVD. Group bookings receive a 1hr 30mins sean nós dance workshop with céili dance instruction.

DURATION: 1hr - 1hr 30mins.



Discover Blueways along the Wild Atlantic Way

info@blueway.ie www.blueway.ie (Mayo & Galway)

Blueways are an invitation to stop and discover an inviting network of water trails on the Wild Atlantic Way offering kayaking and snorkelling in safe environments making them suitable even for beginners. Each site has an information board with trail maps, safety details and information on equipment hire and tuition locally. A truly wonderful experience whether you just drop by one location or plan an odyssey taking in all five. Visit the website for locations and further information.



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Dún Aonghasa, Inis Mór, Aran Islands

BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Achill Experience

Keel, Achill, Co. Mayo, F28 TX49
Tel: 098 43292 www.achillexperience.ie

Mayo's first and only Aquarium with Visitor Centre, see creatures from the deep waters of Achill, Explore the Island and learn about our fascinating history.

OPEN: Mon – Fri, 11.00 – 16.00, Sat & Sun, 12.00 – 15.00

ADMISSION: Adult €4, Child €3, OAP €3.50, Family €12



Keem Bay

Keem Bay on Achill Island, Ireland's largest island, nestles at the head of a valley between Benmore cliffs and Croaghnaun Mountain. To reach this idyllic spot just follow the Atlantic Drive to Keel and then westward via a cliff-top road with spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean. The beach, which is lifeguarded during the summer months, is very popular with swimmers and is the site of a Blueway snorkel trail. If you're feeling so inspired there are several activity providers in the area that offer equipment hire and tuition or you could keep your feet dry and your eyes peeled for the porpoises that regularly visit this sheltered bay and stage amazing acrobatic displays. In the past, this area was a key location for the Achill Basking Shark Fishery, which operated in the 1950s and 60s. During that period, spotters were stationed at Moyteoge Head, which borders the beach, to identify the sharks and direct hunting boats to them. The sharks were targeted for oil which was used as a lubricant in the aerospace industry.



National Museum of Ireland - Country Life

Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 HY31
Tel: 094 9031755 www.museum.ie

Set in the spectacular grounds of historic Turlough Park House, this museum is home to Ireland's National Folklife Collection and shows what life would have been like for our rural ancestors from the 1850s to the 1950s. See how ordinary Irish people lived, during an extraordinary century of change, rebellion, revolution and revival. There are four floors of award-winning exhibition galleries to explore as well as a High Victorian Gothic style country house and 30 acres of formal gardens, walks, woodland and an ornamental lake. The museum is the only National Museum of Ireland site outside Dublin. There is also a café and craft shop onsite.

OPEN: Tues-Sat (10.00-17.00), Sun (14.00-17.00). Closed: Mondays (including Bank Holidays), Christmas Day and Good Friday.

ADMISSION: Free of charge



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BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Michael Davitt Museum & Straide Abbey

Straide, Foxford, Co. Mayo, F26 FX37
Tel: 094 9031942 www.michaeldavittmuseum.ie

Experience an inspiring story of triumph over adversity at the birth and final resting place of one of Ireland's greatest patriots – Michael Davitt 1846-1906 father of the Land League, social reformer, International Humanitarian, Labour rights activist, patron of the GAA and Glasgow Celtic FC. The Museum is housed within the award winning restored church, in which Davitt himself was baptised, and contains a wealth of unique artefacts, which through the life of one man, illustrate an era of land revolution across Ireland and beyond.

OPEN: All year, Daily 10.00 – 16.30 & Sunday 14.00 – 17.00

ADMISSION: By donation



Kiltimagh Museum

Kilkelly Road, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo, F12 HR53
Tel: 094 9381585 www.museumsofmayo.com

The museum is situated in our old railway station. The collection celebrates a way of life now forgotten. Two antiquated train carriages that can be boarded are a unique feature of the museum.

OPEN: Jul & Aug, Daily (14.00-18.00). Viewing during other months by appointment

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Knock - Ireland's Marian Shrine

Knock, Co. Mayo F12 Y226
Tel: 094 9388100 www.knockshrine.ie

Ireland's National Marian Shrine at Knock is the site of a miraculous Apparition in 1879. Set in 100 acres of landscaped gardens and walkways, the Shrine is an international place of pilgrimage, visited by more than one million people each year. With lots to see and do, including an impressive Basilica with one of the largest mosaics of its kind in Europe. The distinctive, glass Apparition Chapel houses a large, sculptural depiction of the Apparition by the famous Italian sculptor Lorenzo Ferri. There are daily public ceremonies and Masses, a museum, guided tours, a café and a hotel.

OPEN: All Year, Daily (08.00 - 22.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Knock Museum

Knock Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo, F12 E3F2
Tel: 094 93 75034 www.knockshrine.ie/museum

Knock Museum is located in Knock Shrine grounds and tells the compelling story of the Knock Apparition of 1879 and sets it in the context of life at that time in the west of Ireland, from living in the thatched house to working in the forge. Knock Museum is fully accredited in the Museum Standards Programme for Ireland. Audio guides are available in seven languages including English, Irish, French, German, Italian, Spanish & Polish

OPEN: Daily (10.00 - 18.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €4, Seniors/Children €3, Group Rate €2, Family Rates available, Children Under 5 (Free)

★ **OFFER:** 1 x free admission with this guide when a 2nd of equal or greater value is purchased



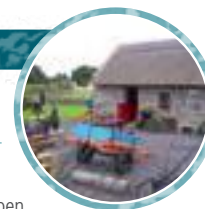
Clogher Heritage Complex

Clogher, Clarendon, Co. Mayo, F12 EK24
Tel: 094 93 60891 www.clogherheritage.com

The Clogher Heritage Complex features the Heritage Cottage and Cottage Garden with a display of vintage farm machinery, a water feature and a picnic area. The restored working forge is open to visitors - Stauntons Forge, Newtown was authentically rebuilt in its former form in 1999, and it reopened in 2001. The Heritage Complex is also the starting point for the Clogher Bog Walk, a loop walk of 8km. The walk takes in the biodiversity of the flora of the bogland, which is a unique habitat for both common and rare protected species.

OPEN: Mon - Fri (10.00 - 15.00). Weekends by arrangement

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Ballintubber Abbey & the Celtic Furrow

Ballintubber, Co. Mayo, F12 W584
Tel: 094 9030934 www.ballintubberabbey.ie

Ballintubber Abbey founded by Cathal Crovderg O'Connor celebrated its Octocentenary (800 Years) in 2016. This remarkable Abbey is the only church in Ireland where Mass has been offered without a break since 1216 A.D. Experience the story of the Abbey that refused to die. Guides and video will tell the visitor the history of the Abbey- restoration, Cromwellian burning, suppression and the story of the notorious priest hunter- Sean a' Sagart. The visitor is encouraged to spend some time to savour the atmosphere of quiet contemplation on the grounds or perhaps walk a few miles of Tóchar Phadraig Pilgrim Path.

OPEN: Ballintubber Abber (All Year, 09.00 - 22.00), Celtic Furrow (Jul & Aug)

ADMISSION: By donation. Guided Tour €5 per person



Signature Point



Wild Atlantic Way



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BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Westport House

Westport, Co. Mayo, F28 TY45
Tel: 098 27766 www.westporthouse.ie

Family destination for fun and adventure. The Birds of Prey Centre returns to the farmyard along with our Giant Ferris Wheel. The Pirate Adventure Park includes Chair-O-Planes & Helter Skelter rides. Hire our beautiful Bell Tents for hassle-free camping.

OPEN: Westport House, Mar – Dec from 10.00.

Pirate Adventure Park, June (Wed-Sun) & Jul-Aug (daily) from 11.00

ADMISSION: Westport House: Adult €13, Child €6.50. Pirate Adventure Park: Family of 4 €60. Westport Train Tour: Adult €10, Child €5, Family of 4 €24

★ **OFFER:** Discounted tickets on sale in Tourist Office for house, park and train



Clew Bay Heritage Centre

The Quay, Westport, Co. Mayo, F28 K302
Tel: 098 26852 www.westportheritage.com

Located in a 19th Century building, The Clew Bay Heritage Centre traces the history of Westport and the Clew Bay area from pre-Christian times to the present day. A wonderful display of artefacts, documents and photographs provide a basis for the presentation of local history, customs and traditions. Guided Walk of Westport every Wed, July & August, starting at The Clock at 11am. Appointment for groups. Charge applies, Tel: 087-6890711.

OPEN: 1st Jun - 30th Sep, Mon - Fri, 10.00 - 17.00, (Jul & Aug, Sun, 14.30 - 17.00). Oct - May, 10.30 - 14.00

ADMISSION: Adult €3, Child (accompanied) Free, Senior/Student €2

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount mid-week on presentation of this guide



Croagh Patrick Visitor Centre

Murrisk, Westport, Co. Mayo, F28 KX75
Tel: 098 64114 www.croagh-patrick.com

The Visitor Centre located at the foot of Croagh Patrick is an ideal base camp whether one is about to climb or is just soaking up the atmosphere of Ireland's ancient holy mountain. The centre provides information, guided tours, coffee shop, craft shop and shower facilities.

OPEN: Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct (10.00-17.00), Jun, Jul & Aug (9.00-19.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on all shop purchases over €50 on presentation of this guide.



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Granuaile & Famine Exhibition Centre

Church Street, Louisburgh, Co. Mayo, F28 HD26
Tel: 098 66341 www.granuaile.org

The Louisburgh Interpretive Centre gives us some idea of the facts of the famous "Pirate Queen" her life and times, through pictures, artefacts, replicas and videos. Also home to an excellent Famine Exhibition.

OPEN: Mon - Fri (11.00 - 16.00, and by appointment)

ADMISSION: Adults €5, OAP/Students €2.50 Family rates and bus tours negotiable.



Glen Keen Farm & Visitor Centre

Glen Keen, Louisburgh, Co Mayo, F28 Y367
Tel: 087 6167396 www.glenkeenfarm.com

Located in one of the most picturesque areas in Europe is one of Ireland's largest working Sheep farms and winner of the prestigious CIE Tours International Gold Award for best Tour Feature in Ireland, 2015! Enjoy the craft shop, café and restaurant, making it an ideal stop on your journey along the Wild Atlantic Way.

OPEN: June, July & Aug Thurs – Sun. (11am – 17.00)

Flexible opening for Groups of 20+ from March - September

ADMISSION: Visitor Centre/Craft Shop free admission. Self Guided walks €4 pp. Group 10+ Sheep Herding Demonstrations €7.00 pp.

★ **OFFER:** Complimentary Tea/Coffee served for Group demonstration bookings of 10+



Killary Harbour

Killary Harbour ('An Caoláire Rua' in Irish), in the heart of Connemara, is one of Ireland's three fjords and forms a spectacular natural divide between counties Galway and neighbouring Mayo. Here, you will find some of the most dramatic scenery in Ireland, so dramatic the area was used as the primary location for the film adaption of John B Keane's play of "The Field". From the northern shore rises Mweelrea, the highest mountain in Connacht at 814m (2671 feet) and to the south you can see the Maumturk Mountains and the Twelve Bens.

There are two small communities in the vicinity: Rosroe on the southern side and Leenane to the east. In Rosroe, you'll find a hostel that was once a residence where philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein stayed for some time after WWII, using it as a quiet place to write. Nearby you can also explore the so-called Green Road, a route that travels eastward along the side of the fjord toward Leenane for 9km (6 miles) and was built in the 19th century as a famine relief project. This area is known for aquaculture, with a salmon farm operating at Rosroe and mussel rafts commonly spotted to the east.



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BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Sheep and Wool Centre

Leenane, Co. Galway, H91 P28K
Tel: 095 42323 www.sheepandwoolcentre.com

Unique in Ireland for its focus on the history of sheep and wool handcrafts with daily demonstrations in carding, spinning and weaving. A short introductory DVD is available in English, Irish, French, German or Italian.

OPEN: 17th Mar - 31st Oct. Mar & Oct. 10.00 – 17.00, Apr to Sep 10.00 – 18.00.

ADMISSION: Adult €5. Senior/Student €4. Pre-booking essential for groups.

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on museum demos



Joyce Country Sheepdogs

Shanafaraghaun, Finny, Clonbur,
Co. Galway, F12 DC94

Tel: 094 9548853 www.joycecountrysheepdogs.ie

Demonstration of working sheepdogs against the dramatic lakeshore backdrop of the Connemara Mountains. Guests also provided with insight into hill sheep farming plus shearing demonstration and interaction with puppies during high season.

OPEN: 1st Mar – 30th Sep, Mon - Sat (demos: 11.00, 13.00 & 15.30)

ADMISSION: Adults €10, Children €5 (5-12yrs), Free (under 5yrs). Group rates available.



Quiet Man Museum

Cong Village, Co. Mayo, F31 TF64
Tel: 094 9546089 www.quietman-cong.com

In 1951 John Ford's movie 'The Quiet Man' starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Barry Fitzgerald was set in the village of Cong. The Quiet Man Cottage Museum is a must for any Quiet Man Enthusiast. Guided Tours of the film locations and Cong Ghost Tours run daily from the Museum. Gift Shop with Quiet Man Gifts.

OPEN: 1st Apr - 31st Oct, Daily (10.00-16.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Child €4, Senior/Student €4, Family €15

★ **OFFER:** €1 discount per person on presentation of this guide.



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Killary Sheep Farm

Bunowen, Leenane, Co. Galway, H91 EPEO
Tel: 087 2988051 www.killarysheepfarm.com

Killary Sheep Farm is a traditional working Connemara Farm overlooking Killary Harbour which is open to visitors. Visitors can experience working sheepdog trials, sheep shearing, turf cutting and bottle feeding orphan lambs. Advance booking is essential.

OPEN: 1st Apr – 30th Sep, Tue - Sun Demos at 11.00, 13.00 & 15.00

ADMISSION: Individuals €10, Families (4 people) €25, Groups (10+) €7pp



Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Walled Garden

Kylemore, Co. Galway, H91 VR90
Tel: 095 52001 www.kylemoreabbey.com

Home to the Benedictine nuns since 1920, the 1000 acre Kylemore estate is the perfect day trip destination. Discover our stunning Victorian Walled Garden, the beautiful Gothic Church, restored rooms in the Abbey, woodland walks, guided tours, musical performances, excellent shopping and dining opportunities.

OPEN: Daily, Mar to mid-Nov (09.30-17.30), mid-Nov to Mar (10.00-16.30), Jul & Aug (09.00-19.00), Bank Holidays (normal working hours)

ADMISSION: Adult: €13, Senior: €10, Student: €9, Family Type A: €26, Family Type B: €35

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on all tickets when this guide is presented



Letterfrack Sea Safari Connemara Boat Tours & Visitor Centre

Derryinver, Letterfrack Bay, Co. Galway, H91 DX63
Tel: 095 43473 / 087 6461189 / 086 1991988
www.letterfrackwatertours.com

Scenic and Wildlife nature tours on Ireland's only Glass-bottom boat. Cruise departs Letterfrack Pier on the N59 beside Avoca Handcrafts and Connemara National Park. The Maritime Centre and craft shop will contribute to an enjoyable outing. Sailings (weather permitting): 11.00, 12.30, 14.30, 16.00, 17.15.

OPEN: Easter - Nov, Daily, 10.00-18.00



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BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Connemara National Park

Letterfrack, Co. Galway, H91 K2Y1

Tel: 095 41054 or 087 2919721

www.connemaranationalpark.ie

The Park offers an exhibition on Connemara's landscape, an audio visual, playground, indoor and outdoor picnic areas, Connemara ponies & Diamond Hill Trails (ranging in length from 15 minutes to 3 hours). Tearoom serving home baking, light lunches, teas & coffees.

OPEN: Visitor Centre: Mar-Oct. Park Grounds: All Year

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Dan O'Hara Homestead

Lettershea, Clifden, Co. Galway, H71 0860

Tel: 095 21246 www.connemaraheritage.com

Learn about 'broken-hearted farmer' Dan O'Hara & Connemara's Colourful Past. Visit Dan's hillside cottage & sit beside the turf-fire. Spectacular views from the Mountains to the Sea. Audio-visual & History Display. Visit Crannog, Ringfort & Clochaun. Restaurant & Craft Shop.

OPEN: 1st Apr - 31st Oct, Daily (10.00-18.00, Last Admission 17.00). Off season by request for groups.

ADMISSION: Adult/Senior €8, Child €4, Student €7, Family (2 adults & 4 children) €20. Group rates on request.

★ **OFFER:** 25% discount off admission on presentation of this guide book.



Derrigimlagh

Located south of Clifden, Derrigimlagh blanket bog is one of Europe's most magnificent wetland environments and a place of wonder and innovation. In the early 20th century, it was at the centre of two outstanding transatlantic technological achievements. In 1907, the great Irish-Italian innovator, Guglielmo Marconi, achieved the first successful commercial wireless transmission of Morse code across the Atlantic. In 1919, daredevil airmen, John Alcock and Arthur Whitten-Brown, risked life and limb to make the first non-stop transatlantic flight from Newfoundland to Ireland, making it the first European site to connect directly with North America. A signposted looped walk (5km) reveals the story of this remarkable place told across 7 stop points of former landmarks, such as Marconi's Condenser House and the cairn marking the landing of Alcock & Brown.



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Connemara Smokehouse and Visitor Centre

Bunowen Pier, Aillebrack, Ballyconneely, Co. Galway, H71 KR29

Tel: 095 23739 www.smokehouse.ie

High quality hand prepared traditional Irish smoked and marinated seafood. Emphasis on freshness, seasonality and sustainability. Wild & Organic Salmon and line caught Smoked Tuna. Multi-Award Winning since 1979. One of Rick Stein's Super Food Heroes. Tours available.

OPEN: Shop open Mon-Fri (09.00-17.00, closed 13.00-14.00). Closed Bank Holidays & Seasonal Holidays.

ADMISSION: Guided tours available. Contact us for details and prices.



Roundstone Music and Craft Shop

The Monastery, Killeen Park, Roundstone, Co. Galway, H91 KD68

Tel: 095 35808 www.bodhran.com

Bodhrán making within an old Franciscan Monastery where Malachy Kearns (or 'Malachy Bodhrán'), manufactures bodhráns in a traditional manner. A small folk museum, 'Craftsman's craft shop' & coffee shop also onsite. Bodhráns are hand painted with Celtic designs and family crests.

OPEN: All year, Daily (10.15 - 18.00, Summer), closed on Sundays from Nov-Mar.

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Conamara

Inbhear, Rosmuc, Co. Galway

Tel: 091 574292 www.heritageireland.ie

Pearse's Cottage (Teach An Phiarsaigh) A striking landscape. Vibrant Gaelic culture. The widespread use of Irish in daily life. Today, these features make South Connemara a special place. In the early 1900s, they also inspired Patrick Pearse – the writer, educator and revolutionary – to build a cottage here in the heart of Connemara. At our new state-of-the-art visitor centre, visitors are invited to explore how land and sea, language and culture are intertwined in this unique corner of Ireland. Then take the short walk across the bog up to Pearse's Cottage itself, preserved just as he left it in 1915.

OPEN: Daily Summer (9.45 – 18.00), Winter (10.00 – 16.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Group €4, Child/Student €3, Family €13



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BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Dún Aonghasa

Kilmurvey, Inis Mór, Aran Islands, Co. Galway
Tel: 099 61008 www.heritageireland.ie

The largest of the prehistoric stone forts on the Aran Islands. Perched on a spectacular cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, the semi-circular fort is enclosed by three massive stone walls.

OPEN: Daily

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Group €4, Child/Student €3, Family €13



Ceardlann, Spiddal Craft and Design Studios

Spiddal, Co. Galway, H91 YR88
Tel: 091 553376 www.spiddalcrafts.com

Ten craft workers designing, creating, making and selling their work. This unique and very accessible craft village, is a "must stop" for visitors interested in Irish culture and craft. An added attraction is our award-winning café Builín Blasta-The Hungry Loaf.

OPEN: All year, Mon-Sat (09.30 - 17.30) & Sun (14.00 - 18.00) Phone for confirmation of times out of season

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Conamara Gaeltacht Experience

An Spidéal (Spiddal), Co. Galway, H91 W44N
Tel: 091 555 703 www.CnocSuain.com

Ireland's "Best Cultural Experience" 2017 4-hour Cultural Excursion from Galway to Cnoc Suain hill-village and Spiddal in the Conamara Gaeltacht. International award-winning experiences in Gaelic culture, nature and heritage. Informative, participatory and fun!

OPEN: June – Sept; Fri, Sat

ADMISSION: Pre-booking essential. Adults only.



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Loughwell Farm Park

Loughwell, Moycullen, Co. Galway
Tel: 091 868631 www.loughwellfarmpark.ie

Loughwell Farm Park is a children's paradise with acres of indoor and outdoor fun. It has some of the largest slides in Ireland suitable for children & adults. It is a great day out for the whole family.

OPEN: Jun - Sep, Daily (11.00 - 18.00). Sep – May, Sat & Sun only (11.00 - 17.30)

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Child €12



Connemara Marble Visitor Centre

Moycullen, Co. Galway H91 YR83
Tel: 091 555102 info@connemaramarble.ie

The Joyce family have quarried Marble for generations. Their Marble adorns the floor of Galway Cathedral and walls of the Senate Chamber in the State Capital Building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. View craftsmen at work. Jewellery & gift items available.

OPEN: May-Oct, Mon-Sun (09.00-17.00). Rest of year, Mon-Fri (09.00-17.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Celtic Crystal Visitor Centre

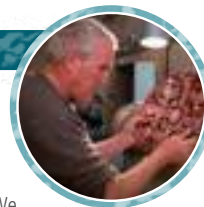
Moycullen, Co. Galway, H91 WE2K
Tel: 091 555172 www.celticcrystalireland.com

A unique visitor experience. Watch our master craftsmen at work hand-cutting traditional, Irish designs featuring the Claddagh Ring, Shamrock, Harp, Celtic spirals and knot work. We also carry an exclusive range of Celtic Crystal Jewellery, Irish knitwear and hand-made crafts.

OPEN: All Year, Mon – Fri (09.00 – 18.00) Apr – Oct, Weekends (09.00 – 17.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge

 **OFFER:** 10% discount crystal giftware on producing this guide (not valid for personalised items)



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Brigit's Garden

Roscahill, Co. Galway, H91 CC90

Tel: 091 550905 www.brigitsgarden.ie

Unique Celtic-themed gardens offer a magic experience for all ages. Explore the four seasonal gardens, discover the sun trail, stone chamber and other features. Discovery trail and fun for children. Garden Café and Gift Shop.

OPEN: All year round, Daily (10.00 - 17.30)

ADMISSION: Adult €8/€6 (high/low season), Senior/Student €6.50/€5, Child €5/€4, Family €24/€18, Under 4's free.

★ **OFFER:** 10% off admission on presentation of this guide.



Aughnanure Castle

Oughterard, Co. Galway

Tel: 091 552214 www.heritageireland.ie

Built by the O Flahertys c1500, Aughnare Castle lies in the picturesque surroundings close to the shores of Lough Corrib. The castle is a well preserved example of an Irish tower house.

OPEN: 2nd Mar – 1st Nov

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Group €4, Child/Student €3, Family €13



Glengowla Mines & Working Farm Experience

Oughterard, Co. Galway, H91 PX22

Tel: 087 252 9850 www.glengowlamines.ie

Explore a 19th century silver & lead mine. Guided underground tours, gold panning station (keep the gems you find!), farm walks, picnic areas & gift shop. The perfect destination for your family day out. Advanced bookings for turf cutting and sheep dog herding demonstrations.

OPEN: Mid-Mar to Mid-Nov (10.00–18.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €10.50, Senior/Student €9.50, Child €4.50, Family €27

*Additional charge applies for turf cutting & sheep dog herding demonstrations.

★ **OFFER:** 10% off all tickets when this guide is presented.



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church

Market Street, Galway City, HNI PY20

Tel: 091 564648 www.stnicholas.ie

The oldest Medieval Church in Ireland that has been in continuous use. Built by the Tribes of Galway on the ruins of an earlier Christian Church circa 1320.

OPEN: All year round, Daily (09.00– 18.00)

ADMISSION: A Donation of €2 per person is requested. Groups with tour guide or Leader €1 each.

★ **OFFER:** Children and Tour Guides are free.



Galway City Museum

Spanish Parade, Galway City, H91 CX5P

Tel: 091 532460 www.galwaycitymuseum.ie

Galway City Museum is a spacious, modern building, situated in the heart of Galway City on the banks of the River Corrib and overlooking the famous Spanish Arch. It houses a variety of permanent and touring exhibitions representing Galway's rich archaeology, heritage and history.

OPEN: Tue – Sat (10.00 - 17.00) & Sun (12.00 – 17.00, Easter to Sep only)

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Claddagh Cottage Museum, Art Centre

Upper Fairhill Road, Claddagh, Galway City, H91 AY80

Tel: 087 8280848 www.claddaghartscentre.com

Katie's Cottage Museum is a restored authentic Cladach ('the shaley shore') traditional dwelling, art and heritage centre in the heart of Galway City's 'Claddagh,' a former fishing village dating back to the 5th century.

OPEN: Mon – Sat (12.00 – 18.00). Sun Closed.

ADMISSION: €5 Museum (entry to cottage, short tour & complimentary tea/coffee) Free to arts & crafts centre.



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Galway Atlantaquaria

The Promenade, Salthill, H91 T2FD
Tel: 091 585100 www.nationalaquarium.ie

The National Aquarium of Ireland is home to the country's largest display of native marine animals. Two floors and over 60 exhibits provide an educational insight into Ireland's native marine and freshwater habitats

OPEN: All Year, Daily (10.00 - 17.00) Weekends (10.00 - 18.00).

ADMISSION: Adult €12, Child €7.50, Senior €8.50, Student €9, Family (2 Adults & 1 Child) €30, Family (1 adult & 2 children) €22, Family (2 adults & 2 children) €33. Last admission is 45 minutes before closing time.



Pure Skill - Fusion of Sport

Knocknacarra, Galway City
Tel: 091 515510 www.pureskill.ie

24,000 sq. feet of indoor sports entertainment in an automated, floodlit, AstroTurf arena. Sports: Baseball, Cricket, Basketball, Soccer, Hurling, Tennis, Rugby, Gaelic Football, Golf Putting and Chipping. Non-contact and weather independent. Complete the scorecard out of 100 points doing all 10 sports.

OPEN: Daily (11.00-19.00). Pre booking essential.

ADMISSION: Adults €20, Children €15

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount mid-week on presentation of this guide.



Claregalway Castle

Claregalway, Co Galway
Tel: 086 2020999 www.claregalwaycastle.com

This superb 15th Century architectural gem is one of the chief Clanrickarde Burke castles. Guided tours, learn its colourful history, view period artefacts in this award-winning restoration project. Home to Galway Garden Festival, music festivals and many cultural and fun events.

OPEN: June - Oct, Thu - Sun (12.00 - 16.00)

ADMISSION: Adults €6, Child/Student/Concession €3



BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Oranmore Castle

Oranmore Village, H91 TFT6
Tel: 086 6003160 www.oranmorecastle.com

A hidden jewel on the shores of Galway Bay. A medieval tower house restored by Anita Leslie and her husband Bill King, sailor and submariner and is now home to her daughter Leonie King (artist) and husband Alec Finn (musician).

OPEN: Weekends June & July (check website), 1st - 31st Aug, 1st - 14th Sept, Daily (Tours: 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €6, Child €3



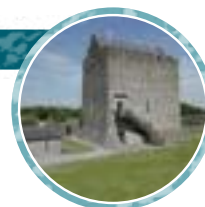
Athenry Castle

Athenry Town, Co. Galway
Tel: 091 844797 www.heritageireland.ie

A 13th Century tower house. The oldest part of the castle is the hall - keep, it is a large rectangular building originally containing a hall at first floor level, & dark storerooms at ground level.

OPEN: 6th Apr - 2nd Nov

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Group €4, Child/Student €3, Family €13.



Athenry Heritage Centre

St. Mary's, The Square, Athenry,
Co. Galway, H65 WC57
Tel: 091 844661 www.athenryheritagecentre.com

Enjoy a Medieval Experience in the Athenry Heritage Centre with dressing up in medieval costume, test your skill with Have-A-Go-Archery and discover history through interactive exhibits. Guided tours available for all visitors.

OPEN: Mar - May, Mon - Fri (10.00 - 16.30), Jun - Aug, Daily (10.30-17.00).

ADMISSION: General Admission €4. Medieval Experience €7.50, Child €6.50, Family €26. Senior/Student discount



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Turoe Farm & Leisure Park

Bullaun, Loughrea, Co. Galway
Tel: 091 841580 www.turoepetfarm.com

Feed and cuddle the animals around the farm, have lots of fun in "Jungle Town" and in the "Inflatable City". Enjoy all the outdoor playgrounds and new Astro Turf Pitch.

OPEN: Summer: June - 31st Aug, Daily (10.00-19.00). All other months: Weekends (13.00-18.00). Extra Opening: Easter, Halloween and Christmas

ADMISSION: Adults €6, Children €12, Family Rates available.

★ **OFFER:** 5% Discount on Presentation of this guide.

Dartfield Horse Museum / Heritage Centre

Kilrickle, Loughrea, Co. Galway
Tel: 091 843968 www.dartfield.com

Dartfield is the vision of the famous horseman, Willie Leahy, largest breeder of Connemara Ponies in the world. Activities available: Horse Riding / Clay Pigeon Shooting / Archery / 4 X 4 Off-Road / Road / Blacksmith Workshop / Café / Tack & Gift Shop. Pre-booking is essential.

OPEN: Jan - Dec, Mon - Sun (09.00 - 18.00).

ADMISSION: Adult €6.50, Child €3.50 (Under 3yrs free) Students/Seniors €5, Family €15, Group of 10+ €4.50 p.p.

★ **OFFER:** 10% Discount on Presentation of this guide.

The Irish Workhouse Centre

St. Brigid's Road, Portumna,
Co. Galway, H53EK74

Tel: 090 9759200 www.irishworkhousecentre.ie

A Real Story in a Real Workhouse! These hated institutions were the last resort of destitute people from the 1840s to the 1920s. Find out about life in the workhouse or poorhouse. Fully guided tours. Exhibitions on various aspects of history on display throughout the year

OPEN: 1st Mar - 31st Oct, Daily from 09.30. Last tour 17.00

ADMISSION: Adult €7, Senior/Student €5, Family €15.
Special rates for schools and groups

BAY COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Portumna Castle and Gardens

Portumna, Co. Galway
Tel: 090 9741658 www.heritageireland.ie

Built before 1618, this Jacobean manor was the seat of the De Burgo family for over 200 years. The castle & gardens include a 17th Century walled kitchen garden. Nearby are Lough Derg, the River Shannon and the beautiful Portumna Forest Park.

OPEN: 6th Apr - 18th Oct (Daily), 19th- 31st Oct (Weekends Only)

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Group €4, Child/Student €3, Family €13

Pallas Karting & Paintball

Pallas, Tynagh, Loughrea, Co. Galway, H62 X265
Tel: 090 9745147 www.pallaskarting.com

Pallas Karting & Paintball offers you fun and exhilaration, whether it is racing a great speed on Europe's Largest Karting Centre or battling it out to see who the top Solider is. Pallas has it all.

OPEN: Open every day except Bank Holidays. 10.00 - 18.00

ADMISSION: Karting from €20pp Paintball and Splatball from €20pp

★ **OFFER:** 20% off our Normal Prices - Monday to Friday

Woodville Walled Garden & Museum

Kilchreest, Loughrea, Co Galway, H91VEY2
Tel: 087 9069191 www.woodvillwalledgarden.com

Colourful herbaceous borders, espaliered fruit trees, Rose garden, water fountain, original Dovecote home to white fantail doves. Museum artefacts from Persse family & Lady Gregory patron to W.B. Yeats. Gift shop, tearoom, toilet & free parking.

OPEN: Easter - Oct (11.00 - 17.30). Feb, Mar & Nov, Fri - Sun (12.00 - 17.30)

ADMISSION: Adults €5, Students €3, Family (2 ad + 2 ch) €15

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount off gift shop purchases over €10



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Cooler Nature Reserve

Cooler, Gort, Co. Galway, H91 HF5X

Tel: 091 631804 www.coolerpark.ie

The nature reserve is 450 hectares of woodland and wetland and the former estate of Lady Gregory. There are marked trails, a visitor centre and tearooms and a picnic area in the walled garden. Walks and family activities during the summer.

OPEN: Reserve: All Year, Daily. Visitor Centre & tearooms: Easter - Sep

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Dunguaire Castle

Kinvara, Co. Galway, H91 W654

Tel: 061 360788 www.shannonheritage.com

Overlooking the picturesque village of Kinvara, is Dunguaire Castle built in 1520. One of its most famous occupants was the surgeon and literary figure Oliver St. John Gogarty.

OPEN: 5th April - 30th Sept (10.00 - 17.00, last admission 16.30).

ADMISSION: Adult €6.60 Child €3.30, Senior/Student €3.85, Family tickets available.

★ **OFFER:** 20% discount on family and adult admission.



Burren Nature Sanctuary

Cloonasee, Kinvara, Co. Galway H91PTK7

Tel: 091 637 444 www.bns.ie

BNS is set on a 50 acre organic farm featuring Burren habitats of shattered limestone, ancient woodland, disappearing lake and wildlife meadow. Along the nature trail: Farm animals, botany bubble, sanctuary café. Audio tour, animal handling, guided walks & adventure play also available. Schools and groups welcome.

OPEN: Mar - Sept (10.00-18.00), Oct - Feb (check website)

ADMISSION: Adults €5, Children €5 (under 4yrs), €10 (over 4yrs), Seniors Free



MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

ACHILL HERITAGE CENTRE

Bunnacurry, Achill, Co Mayo, Tel: 086 3406396 www.achillheritagecentre.com

BELCARRA EVICTION COTTAGE

Belcarra, Castlebar, Co Mayo, Tel 087 9090046 www.museumsofmayo.com

JACK'S OLD COTTAGE

Islandeedy, Castlebar, Co Mayo, Tel: 087 9443626

RONAN HALPIN GALLERY

Newtown, Keel, Achill Island, Co. Mayo, Tel: 098 43375 www.ronanhalpin.com

DÁNLANN YAWL ART GALLERY & PAINTING SCHOOL

Owenduff, Tonagee, Achill Island, Co. Mayo, Tel: 098 36137 www.achillpainting.com

THE WESTERN LIGHT ART GALLERY

Keel, Achill Island, Co. Mayo, Tel: 098 43325 www.achill-island.com

CUSTOM HOUSE STUDIOS & GALLERY

The Quay, Westport, Co Mayo, Tel: 098 28735 www.customhousestudios.ie

THE LINENHALL ARTS CENTRE

Linenhall Street, Castlebar, Co Mayo, Tel 094 9023733 www.thelinenhall.com

WESTPORT TOWN HALL THEATRE

The Octagon, Westport, Co Mayo, Tel: 098 28459 www.westporttheatre.com

AVOCA HANDWEAVERS LETTERFRACK

Letterfrack, Co Galway Tel: 095 41058 www.avoca.ie

THE WHITETHORN GALLERY

Clifden, Co Galway, Tel: 087 2275171 www.thewhitethorngallery.ie

STANDÚN

Tigh Standún, Spiddal, Co Galway, Tel: 091 553115 www.standun.com

126 ARTIST-RUN GALLERY

15 St. Bridget's Place, Hidden Valley, Woodquay, Galway City, Tel: 086 449 1366 www.126.ie

VANDA ART GALLERY

11 Upper Abbeygate Street, Galway City, Tel 087 2855705 www.vandaluddy.com

THE KENNY GALLERY

Liosban Retail Park, Tuam Road, Galway City, Tel: 091 709350 www.thekennygallery.ie

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

47 Dominick Street, Galway City, Tel 091 565886 www.galwayartscentre.ie

THOMAS DILLON CLADDAGH GOLD, CLADDAGH RING MUSEUM

Quay Street, Galway City, Tel: 091 566365 www.claddaghring.ie

LEGEND OF THE CLADDAGH RING VISITOR CENTRE

Shop Street, Galway City, Tel: 091 562310 www.claddaghlegend.com

TOWN HALL THEATRE

Courthouse Square, Galway City, Tel: 091 569777 www.tht.ie

MICK LALLY THEATRE

Druid Lane, Galway City, Tel: 091 568660 www.druid.ie



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ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

NUNS ISLAND THEATRE

23 Nun's Island, Galway City, Tel: 091 565886 www.galwayartscentre.ie

AN TAIBHDHEARC THEATRE

Middle Street Galway, Tel 091 562024 www.antaibhdhearc.com

BLACK BOX THEATRE

Dyke Road, Galway City, Tel: 091 569755 www.tht.ie

GREAT ESCAPE ROOMS

Upper Abbeygate Street, Galway City, Tel: 091 536979 www.greatescaperooms.ie

CAIMILEON ART STUDIO

The Stone Cottage, Tarra Pier, Ballinderreen, Co Galway,
Tel: 091 638876 www.caimileon.com

HERITAGE CENTRES & MUSEUMS

INISHBOFIN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Inishbofin, Co Galway, Tel: 087 9696732

AN CEARD SIOPA HERITAGE HOUSE

Dara O'Coaola, West Village, Inis Oirr, Aran Islands, Tel: 099 75021

LETTERMULLEN & GARUMNA HERITAGE CENTRE

Lettermullen Island, Co Galway, Tel: 091 551744

HALL OF THE RED EARL

Custom House, Druid Lane, Galway City, Tel: 091 564946 www.galwaycivictrust.ie

GALWAY FISHERIES WATCHTOWER MUSEUM

Wolfe Tone Bridge, Galway City, Tel: 091 564946 www.galwaycivictrust.ie

LYNCH'S CASTLE

Abbergate Street/Shop Street, Galway City

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND GALWAY – MUSEUMS

University Road, Galway, Tel: 091 524411 www.nuigalway.ie

LACKAGH MUSEUM

Lackagh, Turloughmore, Athenry, Co Galway,
Tel: 086 4506727 www.lackaghmuseum.ie

CLAREGALWAY MUSEUM & FORGE

Rooaunmore, Claregalway, Co Galway, Tel: 086 7778217 www.claregalwaymuseum.ie

SAINT BRENDAN'S CATHEDRAL MUSEUM

The Presbytery, Loughrea, Co Galway, Tel: 091 841212 www.loughreacathedral.ie

FINNERTYS' MILLS & MUSEUM

Kylebrack, Loughrea, Co Galway, Tel: 086 3855657 www.finnertysmills.ie

KILTARTAN GREGORY MUSEUM

Kiltartan Cross, Kiltartan, Gort, Co Galway, Tel 091 632346
www.gortononline.com/gregorymuseum/

THOOR BALLYLEE

Yeats Tower, Gort, Co Galway, Tel: 091 631436 www.yeatsthoorballylee.org

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POINTS OF INTEREST

ACHILL SECRET GARDEN

Atlantic Drive, Bleanaskill, Achill Island, Co Mayo, Tel: 087 4149895
www.achillsecretgarden.com

GREAT WESTERN GREENWAY

Westport, Co Mayo, www.greenway.ie

GOURMET GREENWAY FOOD TRAIL

Mulranny Park Hotel, Mulranny, Co. Mayo, Tel 098 36000 www.mulrannyparkhotel.ie

MAYO MEMORIAL PEACE PARK – GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Lannagh Road, Castlebar, Co Mayo www.mayopeacepark.ie

CROAGH PATRICK HERITAGE TRAIL

Clogher Community Centre, Clogher, Clarendon, Co Mayo, Tel: 094 9030687
www.irishtrails.ie

CONNEMARA SEAWEED BATHS

Leenane, Killary Harbour, Co Galway, Tel: 095 42408
www.connemaraseaweedbaths.com

SALTHILL PROMENADE

Galway City

CIRCLE OF LIFE GARDEN

Quincentennial Park, Salthill, Galway City www.organdonation.ie

THE SPANISH ARCH

Galway City

CANAL WALK

Eglinton Canal, Galway City

GALWAY CATHEDRAL

Galway City, Tel: 091 563577 www.galwaycathedral.ie

EYRE SQUARE

Galway City

CULTURAL CAMPUS TRAIL, NUI GALWAY

University Road, Galway City, Tel: 091 524 411 www.nuigalway.ie

GALWAY ANTIQUES TRAIL

Galway City

GALWAY POETRY TRAIL

Galway City, www.kennys.ie

THE LADY GREGORY & YEATS HERITAGE TRAIL

Gort & Loughrea, Co Galway www.ladygregoryyeatstrail.com



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REGIONAL TOURS

Year-round tours depart from Galway City, southwards to the Burren's lunar landscapes or westwards to Connemara's haunting scenery and the Aran Islands on the edge of Europe!

CONNEMARA – Choose an itinerary that can include visits to the iconic Kylemore Abbey, Cong village, coastal routes and striking Connemara views.

CLIFFS OF MOHER & THE BURREN – Select a tour to take you to the Aillwee Caves, ancient Poul nabrone Dolmen, breath-taking Cliffs of Moher, and charming village of Doolin.

ARAN ISLANDS – Discover the unique world of the Aran Islands and explore the fabled fort of Dún Aonghasa. Tickets and information available from Galway Tourist Information Centre.

REGIONAL TOUR OPERATORS:

FAHERTY TOURS Tel: 091 442913 www.fahertytours.com

GALWAY TOUR COMPANY Tel: 091 566566 www.galwaytourcompany.com

HEALY TOURS Tel: 091 770066 www.bus.ie

LALLY TOURS Tel: 091 562905 www.lallytours.com

WILD ATLANTIC WAY DAY TOURS Tel: 091 778778
www.wildatlanticwaydaytours.com

TRANSPORT TO ARAN ISLANDS:

ARAN ISLAND FERRIES Tel: 091 568903 www.aranislandferries.com

GALWAY CITY TOURS

GALWAY FOOD TOURS Galway City Tel: 086 7332885, www.galwayfoodtours.com

GALWAY TOURIST TRAIN Tel: 087 2188314 / 087 2188317
www.galwaytouristtrain.com

OPEN TOP BUS 'Hop On/Hop Off' tours of Galway City & Salthill (Operate seasonally) Galway Sightseeing Tours, Tel: 091 524728. Open Top Galway City Tour, Tel: 091 562905. www.lallytours.com

WALKING – Galway's winding medieval streets are perfect for exploring on foot. Bespoke guided walking tours can be arranged throughout the year from the Galway Tourist Information Centre.

BOAT TOURS

CLEW BAY CRUISES Westport Harbour, Westport, Co Mayo, Tel: 087 6066146
www.clewbaycruises.com

LETTERFRACK BAY WATER TOURS Derryinver, Letterfrack, Co Galway, Tel: 095 43473 www.letterfrackwatertours.com

CORRIB CRUISES & CORRIB FERRIES Cong, Co Mayo & Oughterard, Co Galway, Tel: 087 6796470 www.corribcruises.com

CORRIB PRINCESS Woodquay, Galway City, Tel: 091 563846, www.corribprincess.ie

ATLANTIC WAY SAILING Galway Docks, Galway City, Tel: 091 555960,
www.atlanticwaysailing.com

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ISLANDS

Favoured by fishermen, farmers, novelists, exiled monks and fugitive pirates the Islands of the West of Ireland have caught the imaginations of generations. Here tradition and culture combine in a rugged stony landscape. Many are easily accessible by boat, plane, and sometimes by road.

INIS BIGIL (INISHBIGGLE)

Located between the Mayo mainland and Achill Island and accessible across the Bullmouth Channel, one of the strongest currents in Europe. Inis Bigil is a unique island which to this day has a traditional community where small farming and fishing are time-worn traditions. It has stunning panoramic views of west Mayo and is still totally unspoilt. Life here is lived at a different pace and the tranquil atmosphere, old world customs and glorious scenery are beloved of walkers. For day trippers this is an idyllic location for walking and exploration.

GETTING THERE: Sailing from Doran's Point, Ballycroy.
Leneghan Ferries, Tel: 098 45513 / 087 1269618

ACHILL ISLAND

This island is Ireland's largest offshore island and one of the few to be accessible by road. The island boasts of spectacular sea cliffs, awesome scenery, stunning drives, walks and cycle routes and beautiful beaches (many of them Blue Flag Beaches) catering for all types of angling and water sports. Achill Island has the reputation of being an artist's retreat and has festivals and events to suit all. Sporting events and activities include half marathons, surfing, swimming, walking, cycling, scuba diving, climbing, angling and equestrian activities to mention but a few.

CLARE ISLAND

This island guards the entrance to Clew Bay and in former times was the home of the pirate queen Grace O'Malley (Granuaile). Now the people drawn to its shores are mainly anglers, scuba divers, naturalists, those in search of a quiet retreat and walkers. The island has a network of looped walks... climb to the peak of Knockmore, where you'll be enthralled by the panoramic views of Clew Bay and its islands, seabirds, the Blue Flag Harbour Beach and Croagh Patrick on the mainland.

GETTING THERE: Daily Sailings from Roonagh Pier, near Louisburgh, Co. Mayo.
Clare Island Ferry: Tel: 098 23737 / 086 8515003. www.clareislandferry.com
O'Malley Ferry Services: Tel: 098 25045 / 086 8870814. www.omalleyferries.com



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INISHTURK ISLAND

(Island of the Wild Boar) is a scenic little island off the west coast between Inishbofin and Clare Island. If you are looking to get away from the stresses and strains of modern life just hop on the short boat journey from Roonagh Pier to Inishturk, as you step off the ferry you'll immediately notice the difference. The island has an array of archaeological sites and is an environmentalist's paradise with wonderful bird life and unique flora.

GETTING THERE: Daily Sailings from Roonagh Pier, near Louisburg, Co. Mayo.

Clare Island Ferry, Tel: 098 23737 / 086 8515003,
www.clareislandferry.com

O'Malley Ferry Services: Tel: 098 25045 / 086 8870814,
www.omalleyferries.com

INISHBOFIN ISLAND

Located off the west coast of Connemara and is renowned for its impromptu music sessions featuring wonderful local and visiting musicians. Visitors here are captivated by the island's allure and magnificent scenery. Inishbofin is an ecologist's joy with its array of flora and fauna and boasts excellent loop walks, two Green Coast beaches and crystal clear waters ideal for scuba diving enthusiasts. The island's stunning natural harbour makes it an ideal sailing base.

GETTING THERE: Ferries operate all year round from Cleggan, Connemara, Co. Galway. Inishbofin Island Discovery: Tel: 095 45819 / 086 1718829,
www.inishbofinislanddiscovery.com

CEANTAR NA NOILEÁN

A group of islands situated between Kilkerrin Bay and Greatmans Bay, 56km West of Galway City. The main islands are Eanach Mheain, Leitir Moir, Garumna and Leitir Meallain and access is by a chain of bridges and causeways. This scenic area of South Connemara is part of the Gaeltacht (Irish speaking area).



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MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ARAN ISLANDS

Inis Mór, Inis Meáin & Inis Óírr

INIS MÓR

Inis Mór is the biggest of the Aran Islands and one of Ireland's most popular tourist destinations. "Next parish Boston" one can truthfully say when gazing down on the sparkling clear Atlantic Ocean from the Dún Aonghasa cliff face. Also scattered throughout the island are the remnants of 12th Century high crosses and churches. Here you can still see the Aran Jumper being knitted and experience other local crafts such as basket weaving.

INIS MEÁIN

Meaning 'middle island', is the least visited of the three Aran Islands. The unique and traditional Inis Meáin Knitwear is produced here. Inis Meáin too has many sites of historical interest, e.g. Church of the King's Seven Sons, a number of holy wells and the prehistoric stone fort of Dún Chonchúir. While spending time here the famous writer, John Millington Synge got inspiration for his plays. Synge's Cottage is now a museum and is open during the tourist season.

INIS ÓÍRR

Inis Óírr, meaning "south island", is the smallest of the three islands and is a tranquil place, perfect for quiet contemplation and relaxed walks. The island is small enough to see entirely on foot. Ancient monuments worth a visit include the ruins of Teampall Chaomhain (St. Kevin's Church), O'Brien's Castle - a 15th Century tower house which stands within a stone fort, St. Gobnait's Church and the Holy Well of St. Enda. At Áras Éanna Arts Centre, you can attend workshops, see exhibitions and learn about the island's traditional culture.

GETTING THERE BY AIR:

From Inverin, Co. Galway: Aer Arann Islands, Tel: 091 593034, www.aerarannislands.ie
In addition to regular daily services, Scenic Flights are also available which takes visitors over the Aran Islands, Cliffs of Moher and the Connemara coastline.

GETTING THERE BY SEA:

From Rossaveal, Co. Galway: Island Ferries Teo, Tel: 091 568903, www.aranislandferries.com
From Doolin, Co. Clare: Doolin2Aran Ferries, Tel: 065 7075949, www.doolin2aranferries.com
Doolin Ferry Company with Bill O'Brien, Tel: 065 7075555, www.doolinferry.com
The O'Brien Line, Tel: 065 707 5618, www.obrienline.com



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1 BEACHES

Many beaches have been awarded Blue Flag or Green Coast awards attesting to their water quality, safety and environmental status. The Bay Coast offers some spectacular beaches which include:

	Blue Flag		
Golden Strand	The Harbour	Silver Strand	
Dugort	Bertra	Salthill	
Keem	Carrowmore	Loughrea Lake	
Keel	Trá an Dóilin	Traught	
Dooega	Cill Mhuirbhígh		
Mulranny	Trá Mhór		

	Green Coast		
Carrowiskey	Renvyle	Silver Strand	
Silver Strand	Aillebrack	Salthill	
East End Inishbofin	Trá gCoarach Inis Oirr		
Dumhach Beach	Trá Inis Oirr		

This listing refers to 2016. The 2017 listing was not published at time of going to print. The Blue Flag beaches are indicated on the fold out map at the back of this guide.

LIGHTHOUSES

There are many wonderful lighthouses dotted along the Wild Atlantic Way providing wonderful photo opportunities. The lighthouse below provides a unique opportunity to visit a spectacular lighthouse and experience the romance and history, tradition and heritage of these wonderful buildings.

Clare Island Lighthouse, Co Mayo

www.clareislandlighthouse.com

Clare Island lies off the Mayo coast at the entrance to Clew Bay. The Lighthouse sits on the most northerly point of the island. It was built in 1806 and has undergone a complete restoration recently and is now a historic house offering accommodation to visitors.



Keem Bay, Achill Island



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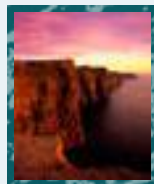
All website & email links are live.

CLIFF COAST: HARD LAND, WARM HEARTS

Beauty and tradition, from Galway through Clare to the north Kerry coast. "The land is hard, the soul is not..." So says Lonely Planet about the Wild Atlantic Way's Cliff Coast, where Ice Age landscapes meet west coast warmth and music is a way of life. This striking seaboard is a place for cliff-top walks, island-hopping, glowing pubs, rich waves of traditional music and soul-stirring views. Think of rainbows in the ocean spray as you walk or cycle around Loop Head; of puffin colonies and wildflowers at the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark; of bottlenose dolphins in the Shannon estuary and views of Clare's hills from Kerry's Cliffs of Dooneen.

North Kerry is home to epic beaches at Banna and Ballybunion, to music and craic in the town of Listowel. Then there's the otherworldly Burren – a vast, limestone pavement spotted with rare flora, ancient roads and a surprisingly tasty selection of food. Finally, to the Flaggy Shore, described by Seamus Heaney in his poem Postscript as a place that can "catch the heart off guard and blow it open". Enough said?

CLIFF COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Cliffs of Moher at Sunset

Cliffs of Moher, Lislarkin North, Liscannor Co Clare

Tel: 065 7086141 info@cliffsofmoher.ie
www.cliffsofmoher.ie GPS 52.9361° N, 9.4708° W

Standing 214m at highest point and stretching for 8 kilometres along the Atlantic Coast, on a clear day you can see the Aran

Islands, Galway Bay, Loop Head, the Dingle Peninsula and Blasket Islands in Kerry. A guided tour, with a trained Ranger, is a special way to learn more about the Cliffs of Moher. Suitable for smaller groups who have special interest in nature, geology, history, geography and tourism, tours should be pre-booked to avoid disappointment.

DURATION: 2hrs. Best experienced early morning or late evening to see the sun set.



Wild Seaweed Foraging Experience

Wild Kitchen, Lahinch, Co Clare

Tel: 087 6877890 info@wildkitchen.ie
www.wildkitchen.ie GPS N.53.72244,W.9 10264

Join Oonagh O' Dwyer on a guided wild food walk to a secret beach, where a family of wild seals play hide and seek on the

rocks nearby, where barnacle geese and wild duck forage on the rick pickings and where you might catch a magical glimpse of hump back whales on the horizon. Your guide will show you how to sustainably harvest up to 12 of Ireland's beautiful seaweeds, explain the history of seaweed harvesting in the area, the nutritional benefits, cooking and drying methods. You will finish with a wild food picnic on the rocks, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. One of the highlights is finding Pepper Dulse, that's called the Truffle of the Sea, and eating fresh Dilisk, to ignite the fifth taste, Umami.

DURATION: 2 hrs.



Taste the Burren with Hazel Mountain Chocolates

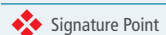
Oughtmama, Bellharbour, Co Clare

Tel: 065 7078847 info@hazelmountainchocolate.com
www.hazelmountainchocolate.com

After renovating their granny's 1950s house into a boutique chocolate factory with an eco-grass roof, Kasha and John

Connolly now deliver a modern taste of the Burren from a farm boasting a 300-year-old heritage. Discover the art of traditional praline making and indulge in delicious pairings like chocolate and Burren juniper berries or even violet petals.

DURATION: 2-3 hours.



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CLIFF COAST:
EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Scattery Island Tours

Kilrush Marina, Kilrush, Co Clare
Tel: 085 2505512 info@scatteryislandtours.com
www.scatteryislandtours.com

Scattery Island Tours offers a daily scheduled ferry service to Scattery Island, off the coast of west Clare. The ferry service departs from Kilrush Marina from May to September with complimentary guided walking tours available on the island during the months of June and August. The service also offers a packed lunch option to allow visitors to enjoy a longer stay on the island. The unique micro climate coupled with the range of historic sites, bird watching and island walking ensures that a visit to the island offers something for everyone. Visitors will be supplied with a walking map of the island. A short video on board the vessel will provide you with a quick but informative introduction to the island as you travel out.



Pub Theatre @ John B. Keane's

37 William Street, Listowel, Co Kerry
Tel: 068 21127 / 086 606446 billyjoekane@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/JohnBKeane GPS 52.4464789,-9.4861723

A short visit to John B. Keane's pub in Listowel allows visitors learn how to pull the perfect pint of Guinness under Billy's guidance as he regales you and your friends with stories of old and his life growing up with a famous father over a pub! And you'll get a certificate to take home as proof. You can also attend the Pub Theatre, a series of 40 minute plays performed in the premises where Keane wrote works like Moll and The Field.

DURATION: 1hr 30mins - minimum 30 minutes if you wish to simply pull the perfect pint



Craft Workshop

Wood Carving with Master Craft Maker John Murphy
Craft Makers, 37 Ashe Street, Tralee. Co Kerry
Tel: 066 7120632 / 086 8524222 deirdre@craftmakers.ie
www.craftmakers.ie GPS 52.2702336 -9.7038748

The wood carving workshop takes place at Craft Makers which is a craft centre housed in a beautiful Victorian building in Tralee. The building houses a craft store, gallery and studios for professional craft makers. John Murphy is an experienced teacher in the art of working with wood. Participants will learn how to use a basic set of carving chisels and the session will also look at different approaches to finishing a piece. Books, tools and timbers suitable for carving will be provided.

DURATION: 2hrs.

CLIFF COAST:
VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Aillwee Cave and Birds of
Prey Centre

Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare, H91 AX26
Tel: 065 7077036 www.aillweecave.ie

Explore one of Ireland's ancient caves, experience the Birds of Prey Centre with flying displays and sample delicious local food products. With experienced tour guides, you can enjoy the beautiful caverns and interact with nature's top predators.

OPEN: Daily, from 10.00. Please check website for further information.

ADMISSION: Cave – Adults €12, Children €5.50
Birds of Prey – Adults €10, Children €8



Burren Perfumery & Floral Centre

Carron, Co. Clare, V95 KC61
Tel: 065 7089102 www.burrenperfumery.com

Visit our manufacturing rooms, view our Burren movie, walk through our educational herb garden, visit the Shop and try all the products, enjoy the Tea Rooms with Homemade local food, learn about the Perfumery through our Summer tours & talks by our staff on perfume, cream, soap- making & skincare. See noticeboard for details.

OPEN: May & Jun (10.00 – 18.00), Jul & Aug (10.00 – 19.00)
Rest of Year (10.00 – 17.00), Tearooms open Apr – Sep

ADMISSION: Free of charge

★ **OFFER:** Free tea or coffee in the tearooms



Michael Cusack Centre

Carron, Co. Clare, V95 HP08
Tel: 065 7089944 www.michaelcusack.ie

The Michael Cusack Centre is dedicated to Michael Cusack, founder of the GAA. At the centre, visitors can enjoy the new famine era cottage and exhibition and walk the new Burren Walking trail.

OPEN: Daily, Apr – Oct (10.00 – 17.00). The Cusack Way Walking trail is open daily all year round.

ADMISSION: Adults €6, Senior/Student €4, Child under 16 €3, Family €16
(2 adults and 2 children). Groups (more than 5 persons) €5 per head



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Signature Point



Wild Atlantic Way

CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Caherconnell Fort and Sheepdog Demonstrations

Caherconnell, Carron, Co. Clare, V95 YK31
Tel: 065 7089999 www.caherconnell.com

Caherconnell Fort is more than twice the size of the regular fort and has on-going excavation each summer. Sheepdog Demonstrations Daily. Trip Advisor and CIE Award of Excellence Winner 2014, 2015 & 2016

OPEN: Mar-end Oct (10.00 - 17.00), Jul & Aug (10.00 - 18.00)

ADMISSION: (Fort / Sheepdog Demos) Adults €7/€5, Students/Seniors €6/€4, Child €3/€3, Under 5 Free, Family €17/€15. Group rates and Joint Admissions available.



The Farmyard

Dabrian, Corofin, Co. Clare, V95 XDC2
Tel: 087 7413618 www.thefarmyard.ie

The Farmyard is a working farm which is open to the public for fun farm activities. All activities are pre booked and packages are tailored according to the needs of the particular groups.

OPEN: All year for pre-booked groups (minimum 20 people)

ADMISSION: Varies according to packages



Dysert O'Dea Castle & Clare Archaeology

Corofin, Co. Clare, V95 A294
Tel: 065 6837401 www.dysertcastle.com

Dysert O'Dea Castle is a fully restored Gaelic Tower House, built in 1480 by the O'Dea clan. Inside, there are 10 rooms displaying local artefacts dating back to 1000bc. There are audio visual presentations available in English, French and German. A tea room is situated on the ground floor.

OPEN: 1st May – 30th Sep (10.00 – 18.00)

ADMISSION: €5 per adult, Group €4 per person, Children €3



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

The Burren Centre & The Kilfenora Céilí Band Parlour

Kilfenora, Co. Clare, V95 W523
Tel: 065 7088030 www.theburrencentre.ie

The Burren Centre offers a comprehensive introduction to the unique Burren landscape and traces the history and music of The Kilfenora Céilí Band. We have a Tea Room, Craft Shop and licensed Tourist Information Point.

OPEN: Daily (10.00-17.00) - Mar, Apr, May, Sep & Oct Daily (09.30-17.30) - Jun, Jul & Aug

ADMISSION: Adults €6, Students €5, Seniors €5, Child (Under 16) €4, Family (2 Adult & 3 Children) €20

★ **OFFER:** 20% off for individual admission



Burren Smokehouse Visitor Centre

Kincora Road, Lisdoonvarna, Co. Clare, V95 HD70
Tel: 065 7074432 www.burrensmokehouse.ie

Discover the secret of salmon smoking and taste our salmon right in our shop. Soak up the nostalgic atmosphere, find locally crafted presents, and let our mosaics tell you the story of the Salmon of Knowledge.

OPEN: Winter Months (11.00 - 16.00), Summer Months (09.00 - 17.00)

ADMISSION: Video & Tastings: Free of Charge. Presentation for groups: Please enquire.



Doolin Cave

Craggyacoradon West, Doolin, Co. Clare, V95 R299
Tel: 065 7075761 www.doolincave.ie

Visit the award winning Doolin Cave and visitor centre located 4 km outside the village of Doolin and 15 minutes' drive from the Cliffs of Moher. Follow in the footsteps of the great explorers Brian Varley and JM Dickenson and re-live their 1952 adventure to discover the Great Stalactite in the cave's main chamber. Afterwards, enjoy a stroll on our farmyard nature trail or try some delicious home baked cake in our on-site café.

OPEN: Daily (10.00 - 17.00) Limited opening Dec. Closed Jan & Feb

ADMISSION: Adult €13.50, Student/Senior €12.00 Child €7.00, Family 2/3 kids €40 Family 4/5 kids €45.00

★ **OFFER:** 10% reduction when you show this guide at reception



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Wild Atlantic Way



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CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience

Liscannor, Co. Clare, V95 KN9T
Tel: 065 7086141 www.cliffsofmoher.ie

A world class visitor experience, facilities include visitor centre, onsite parking, exhibition area, gift shop, cafes, O'Brien's tower, safe & scenic pathways & viewing areas.

OPEN: Daily from 9am, closing with daylight hours. Best time to visit is after 4pm. Buy tickets online & save time.

ADMISSION: Adults €6, Student/Senior €4, Kids under 16 free with parent/guardian.



Moher Hill Open Farm

Cliffs of Moher Road, Liscannor,
Co. Clare, V95 XK00
Tel: 065 7081071 www.moherfarm.ie

Come and visit our wide variety of animals, including llama, deer, ostrich, emu, alpaca and many more. Wizz on the outdoor go karts, and have fun in the indoor play areas including a bouncing castle and ball pool. See website for special events at Easter, Halloween and Christmas.

OPEN: May – Sep, Mon – Sat (10.00 – 18.00), Sun (12.00 – 18.00)

ADMISSION: €8 per person, under 18 months free, OAP €6



Loop Head Lighthouse

Kilbaha, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 T292
Tel: 065 6846429 www.loophead.ie

Visitors are guided to the top of the Lighthouse to take in the magnificent views from the balcony. An Exhibition on the history of Irish Lighthouses is located in the Lighthouse Keepers Cottage.

OPEN: 16th Mar – 5th Nov 2017 (10.00-18.00)

ADMISSION: Adults €5, Children €2, Family (up to 3 children) €12



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

West Clare Railway

Moyasta, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 WE26
Tel: 065 9051284 www.westclarerailway.ie

Working Steam Engine from 1890, various diesel engines, 2km rail trip approx. Museum, Guided Tours & Souvenir Shop.

OPEN: May – Sep, Daily (13.00 – 16.00). Halloween & Christmas specials. Other times on request.

ADMISSION: Adults €10, Children €5, Students/Seniors €6

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on Groups of 25 and over. Family concessions.



Scattery Island Visitor Centre

Scattery Island, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 AD62
Tel: 087 9958427 www.heritageireland.ie

Located where the mighty Shannon River meets the wild Atlantic! Explore the ancient ruins of St Senan's monastery and marvel at the 85 foot tall round tower. Take a free guided tour to learn about the Island's unique folklore.

OPEN: Tours available daily, (late-May to early-Sep). Dependent on tidal and weather conditions.

ADMISSION: Admission and guided tours are free. Charges for ferries to the island contact 085 2505512 or see www.scatteryislandtours.com



Vandeleur Walled Garden

Killimer Road, Kilrush, Co. Clare, V15 E735
Tel: 065 9051760 www.vandeleurwalledgarden.ie

This beautiful garden with a maze, giant chess game and Victorian-style glass house specializes in many unusual and tender plants. Facilities: Bistro, gift shop, conference-room, plant sale area, collection of old farm-machinery, exhibitions, kids play area and butterfly trail.

OPEN: April – Aug, Daily from 10am to 7pm Sept-March, Daily from 9.30am to 5pm, Check website / Facebook for updates.

ADMISSION: Free entry in 2017

★ **OFFER:** Great discount on our plant sale days



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Ennis Friary - 13th Century Franciscan Friary

Abbey Street, Ennis Town Centre,
Co. Clare, V95 AN28

Tel: 065 6829100 www.heritageireland.ie

One of Ireland's earliest surviving Franciscan friaries: Ennis Friary was founded in the 1240's & is the burial place of O'Brien and McMahon families-the ancient Kings of Clare. Visitors can view the friary's famous medieval sculptures & FREE guided tours are available

OPEN: Daily (April – 1st Nov), Apr - Sep (10.00 - 17.15), Oct (10.00 – 16.15)

ADMISSION: Adult €5.00, Group / Seniors €4.00, Students / Children €3.00, Family €13.00 Children under 7 years: FREE – We accept the OPW Heritage Card.

★ **OFFER:** No additional charge for guided tours at any time.



Clare Museum

Arthur's Row, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 EC92

Tel: 065 6823382 www.clarelibrary.ie

Visit the Riches of Clare exhibition that features 6,000 years of Clare's history. The exhibition is displayed using the themes of Earth, Power, Faith and Water and includes artefacts from the National Museum.

OPEN: Jun-Sep (Mon-Sat), Oct-May (Tues-Sat) 09.30-13.00 & 14.00-17.00, Last Admissions (12.30 & 17.00). Closed on Bank Holiday Weekends.

ADMISSION: Free of charge



Craggaunowen The Living Past Experience

Near Quin, Co. Clare, V95 AD7E

Tel: 061 360788 www.shannonheritage.com

Situated on 50 acres of wooded grounds, Craggaunowen interprets Ireland's prehistoric and early Christian eras.

Explore the Crannog, Ring Fort and 'Brendan Boat'. See Craggaunowen Castle built in 1550, wild boar and much more!

OPEN: 25th March – September 2017 (10.00-17.00) (Last Admission 16.00) Opening times are subject to change

ADMISSION: Adult €9.95, Senior €7.55, Family: 2 adults + 2 children €24.85, 2 adults + 6 children €25.75



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Bunratty, Co. Clare, V95 WP63

Tel: 061 360788 www.shannonheritage.com

Explore 15th century Bunratty Castle featuring furnishings and tapestries from the period. Bunratty Folk Park is a stunning recreation of 19th century Irish life featuring over 30 buildings including farm houses and a village street.

OPEN: Year Round (Closed 24th, 25th, 26th Dec). 09.00 - 17.30, Last admission: Folk Park (16.15), Castle (16.00). Opening times are subject to change.

ADMISSION: Adult €16.55, Senior €10.45, Family: 2 adults + 2 children €36.75, 2 adults + 6 children €41.85



Atlantic Airventure Aviation Centre

Link Road, Shannon Town,
Co. Clare, V14 PH34

Tel: 061 363687 www.atlanticaireventure.com

Experience aviation with an educational and enjoyable day out. Visit Shannon Aviation Museum, see jet fighters, airline cockpits, engines, gliders, artefacts and more. Learn about flight and then test your skills in a Flight Simulator.

OPEN: All Year, Mon – Sat (10.00 – 17.00) (Call in advance)

ADMISSION: Museum Visit: Adults €6, Children €3. Flight Simulation Packages (Additional cost). Booking essential. See website for details.



Irish Seed Savers Association

Capparoo, Scariff, Co. Clare, V94 V6W0

Tel: 061 921866 www.irishseedsavers.ie

Come visit our organic seed gardens & orchards, guided (on arrangement) & self-guided tours, shop, children's nature trails, workshops, Ireland's only public seed bank.

OPEN: Tue - Fri (09.30 – 16.30), Sat (12.30 – 16.30)

ADMISSION: General Admission €5, Children Free.



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CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Holy Island / Inis Cealtra

Lough Derg, Mountshannon, Co. Clare
www.holyisland.ie

Located in the south western end of Lough Derg, Holy Island or Inis Cealtra derives its name from 'Inis' (island) and 'Cealtair' (church). Saint Caimin's church along with the Round Tower, St Michael's Oratory, St Brigid's Church, St Mary's Church, The Confessional, Saint's Graveyard, Pilgrim's Path and Bargaining Stone form the main sights of this famous monastic island. For Boat trips and tours, contact Holy Island Tours on 086 8749710.



Saint Flannan's Cathedral

Killaloe, Co Clare, V94 FD36
Tel: 061 375389 www.cathedral.killaloe.anglican.org

A Romanesque cathedral was built in the 1180s but was destroyed soon afterwards by Connacht Forces. A new cathedral, built in the Gothic style, was completed in the early 13th century. The impressive Romanesque doorway of the original cathedral is preserved in the south wall of its successor. During the course of the 16th century Reformation the cathedral passed from Catholic to Protestant control. The bells are rung before service every Sunday, and tours of the tower are available by prior arrangement at a Cost of €2 per person. Enquires for tours to above telephone number.

OPEN: Normally from 9am to 6pm. Sunday service at 11.30am every week.



Limerick Milk Market

Cornmarket Row, Limerick City
info@milkmarketlimerick.ie www.milkmarketlimerick.ie

All-weather venue in the heart of Limerick City established in 1852. Experience the weekly Friday Street Food Market, Saturday Famous Farmers Market and Sunday Soul Market with the best of local Artisan Food, Crafts, Fashion and Family Activities.

OPEN: All Year, Fri (10.00 - 15.00), Sat (08.00 - 15.00), Sun (11.00 - 15.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

The Hunt Museum

The Custom House, Rutland Street,
Limerick City
Tel: 061 312833 www.huntmuseum.com

The Hunt Museum exhibits one of Ireland's greatest private collections of art and antiquities. The C18th Custom House provides an ideal setting for these treasures.

OPEN: Mon – Sat (10.00 – 17.00), Sun (14.00 – 17.00)

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Family €12, Seniors €3.50, Child €2.50

★ **OFFER:** Sun admission FREE, Mon '2 for the price of 1'.



St. Mary's Cathedral

Bridge Street, Limerick City
Tel: 061 310293 Email: stmaryscathedralcoi@yahoo.ie
www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org

Founded in 1168, the Cathedral has a long and fascinating history. With Medieval monuments, notable stained glass, carved monk's choir seats, leper's squint and much more, the Cathedral is well worth a visit.

OPEN: Daily, check times on website. Extra opening by arrangement.

ADMISSION: €4



Limerick City Museum

Former Franciscan Church, Henry Street,
Limerick City
Tel: 061 417826 www.limerick.ie

Local authority museum, with displays illustrating the history of Limerick and its region.

OPEN: Mon – Fri (10.00 - 13.00 & 14.15 - 17.00)

ADMISSION: Free of charge



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CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

King John's Castle

King's Island, Limerick City
Tel: 061 370500 www.shannonheritage.com

Touch, see and hear the history of Limerick in this stunning medieval castle, at the heart of the city for over 800 years. Experience what castle life was like with our 3D projections, touchscreen technology, meet the castle characters, walk the battlements and take in the amazing views across Limerick City.

OPEN: All Year. Closed on 24th, 25th & 26th Dec.

ADMISSION: Adult €12.60, Child €6, Senior/Student €8.95, Family rates available.



Thomond Park Stadium and Museum Tours

Cratloe Road, Limerick City
Tel: 061 421109 www.thomondpark.ie

The stadium tour takes you to places usually only accessible to players & officials. The full stadium tour consists of a museum visit and film, plus visits to pitch side and Munster Dugout, as well as the home & away dressing rooms and post-match interview area.

OPEN: Mon - Sat (advance bookings recommended)

ADMISSION: Adult €10, Child €8, Family (2 adults & 2 Kids) €30

★ **OFFER:** 10% off ticket price with presentation of Pocket Guide.



Limerick City Gallery of Art

Carnegie Building, Pery Square, Limerick City
Tel: 061 310633 www.gallery.limerick.ie

In visiting one of Limerick's foremost tourist attractions, you can see the best of international Contemporary Art, along with works from an extensive Irish Collection.

OPEN: Mon – Wed (10.00 - 17.30), Thu (10.00 - 20.00), Fri- Sat (10.00 - 17.30), Sun (12.00 - 17.30). Closed on bank holidays and public holidays.

ADMISSION: Free of charge



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

The Frank McCourt Museum

Hartstonge Street, Limerick City
Tel: 061 319710 www.frankmccourtmuseum.com

A unique, quirky museum in a listed building (1843), formerly Leamy School in Limerick City Centre. It showcases the actual classroom and 1930s/40s home of Frank McCourt, Pulitzer prize-winning author of Angela's Ashes.

OPEN: Mon – Fri (11.00 – 16.30), Sat & Sun Mar-Sept (14.00 – 16.00) Private viewing available on request.

ADMISSION: Adults €4, Students & Seniors €3, Children under 12 €1, Children under 6 Free, Groups of 10+ 10% discount.



Stonehall Wildlife Park

Curraghchase, Kilcornan, Co. Limerick
Tel: 061 393940 www.stonehallvisitorfarm.ie

A family friendly attraction where all the family will enjoy the large variety of domestic & wildlife animals & all can enjoy indoor play area to have fun, suitable for all ages & all weather conditions.

OPEN: Apr-Jun & Sep-Oct, Sat & Sun only (11.00-18.00). Jul & Aug, Daily (11.00-18.00)

ADMISSION: €8 per person



Coillte Forest Park Curragh Chase

Kilcornan, Askeaton, Co. Limerick
www.coillteoutdoors.ie

300 hectares of mixed woodland and parkland. Attractions include waymarked walks, family cycling, playgrounds, historic house, arboretum, pet cemetery, lake and specimen trees.

OPEN: car park hours; Mar – Oct (07.00 to 22.00), Nov-Feb (08.00-17.00)

ADMISSION: €5 per car (coins only) or €40 Annual Access Card



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CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Adare Heritage Centre

Adare, Co. Limerick, V94 DWV7

Tel: 061 396666 Email: info@adareheritagecentre.ie
www.adareheritagecentre.ie

Historical exhibition, a reconstruction of Adare's unique past from the arrival of the Normans to the ancient Abbeys of the Middle Ages.

OPEN: All year round.

ADMISSION: Free. Donations accepted.



Desmond Hall

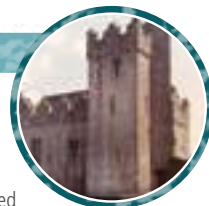
Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

Tel: 069 77408 www.heritageireland.ie

Built by the Fitzgerald's (Earls of Desmond) in the 1200's, the castle has survived numerous sieges and rebellions. The restored medieval banqueting hall is open to visitors, free of charge.

OPEN: Daily tours (25th May – 8th Sep). Otherwise by arrangement.

ADMISSION: Guided tours and admission are free



Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum

Foynes, Co. Limerick

Tel: 069 65416 www.flyingboatmuseum.com

Award winning Museum dedicated to the history of the Flying Boats & passenger travel across the Atlantic from 1937-45. Board the World's only full-size Boeing 314 Flying Boat. Learn how Foynes & the Flying Boats will be forever connected with the invention of Irish Coffee. New Flight Simulators, Children's section, Showcases on the War Years, Control Tower, 1940s Cinema, Maritime Museum & much more...

OPEN: Daily, mid-Mar to mid-Nov, 09.30-17.00 (open until 18.00 Jun-Sep)

Last entry 1 hour before closing

ADMISSION: Adults €11, Seniors/Students €9, Family €28 (2 Adults + 4 Children), Child €6.00, under 5's Free



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Tarbert Bridewell Visitor Centre, Café & Gift Shop

Tarbert, Co. Kerry, V31 X883

Tel: 068 36500 www.tarbertbridewell.com

Built in 1831, Tarbert Bridewell served as a Courthouse and Jail for more than 100 years. History comes to life as visitors experience crime and punishment in 1800's Ireland.

OPEN: Daily: Apr – Oct, 9.30 – 17.30; Oct – Mar, 10.00 – 16.00;
Closed Mid Dec & Jan.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5. Senior/Student: €3.50. Child: €2.50. Family: €12



Lartigue Monorail and Museum

John B. Keane Road, Listowel,
Co. Kerry, V31 HX00

Tel: 068 24393 www.lartiguemonorail.com

Take a demonstration trip on this truly unique train, a re-creation of the world's strangest railway. View the Museum's models and displays and watch historic film of the original railway in operation.

OPEN: Daily, 1st May – 9th Sep: 13.00 – 16.30; 17th – 30th Sep 13.00 – 16.30
(Groups by appointment).

ADMISSION: Adult: €6, Senior: €5, Child: €3 (Under 5 free of charge),
Family: €15, Groups of 10 or more: €5 person.



Seanchaí - Kerry Writers' Museum

24 The Square, Listowel, Co. Kerry, V31 RD93

Tel: 068 22212/57927 www.kerrywritersmuseum.com

Discover the stories & songs of acclaimed Kerry writers including John B. Keane & Bryan MacMahon in a unique audiovisual experience. Filled with an abundance of rich characters, humour, romance and tragedy, the words of the writers are now brought to life by costumed characters. Visit our website for performance times.

OPEN: Jun – Aug: Mon – Sat, 9.30 – 17.00, Sep – May: Mon – Fri,
10.00 – 16.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €6, Senior/Student: €5, Child: €3.50 (under 7 free),
Family (2+2): €12.50

★ **OFFER:** €1 discount midweek on presentation of this guide.



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CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Listowel Castle

The Square, Listowel, Co. Kerry
Tel: 086 3857201 www.heritageireland.ie

Listowel Castle was built by the Fitzmaurice family 'the Lords of Kerry' in the 1400's. In November 1600, the castle was held by Irish rebels during a month long siege before surrendering to the attacking English army.

OPEN: 18th May – 4th Sep. Please refer to our website for more information. It is suggested that large groups should book in advance.
ADMISSION: Free of charge including a guided tour.



North Kerry Museum

Knoppogue North, Ballyduff,
Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92W9k5
Tel: 087 7426231 www.northkerrymuseum.com

The museum houses exhibits from the early Mesolithic, Neolithic & Bronze Age – all the way to the land wars, archaic farming, old industries. A display of geological fossils from the Carboniferous period 345 million years ago is on view. Other features; picture gallery, media room, gift shop, coffee shop and Heritage Garden Centre.
OPEN: Jan 6th - May 31st: Wed – Fri, 10.00 - 16.30; Jun 1st - Sep 30th: Daily, 9.30 - 16.30; Oct 1st - Dec 22nd: Thu & Fri, 10.00 - 16.30.
ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Child: €2.50, Family (2+2): €12.



Ardfert Cathedral

Ardfert, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 7134711 www.heritageireland.ie

The Cathedral dates from the 12th - 17th centuries and has a fine Romanesque west doorway, a magnificent 13th century east window and a spectacular row of nine lancets in the south wall.
OPEN: 13th Apr – 27th Sep. Please refer to our website for more information.
ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Group/Senior: €4, Child/Student: €3, Family: €13. Maximum number on tour 40.



CLIFF COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Kerry County Museum

Ashe Memorial Hall, Denny Street,
Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92 CXE3
Tel: 066 7127777 www.kerrymuseum.ie

Find out what makes Kerry different at Ireland's Museum of the Year 2009. You will discover the unique flavour of the 'Kingdom' at Kerry County Museum, where our displays introduce you to the county's distinctive culture and heritage.
OPEN: Jan – May: Tues – Sat, 9.30 – 17.00; Jun – Aug: Daily, 9.30 – 17.30; Sep – Dec: Tues – Sat, 9.30 - 17.00; Bank Holiday weekends: Sun & Mon 10.00 - 17.00.
ADMISSION: Adult: €5; Child: Free of charge.



Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre

Ballyard Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 7126700 www.traleebaywetlands.org

Activity and nature based visitor experience with 20 meter high observation tower, guided nature boat tours, interactive wildlife exhibition, activity lake with pedalo/rowing Boats, water walkers, climbing wall and boulder complex. See website for Equipment Hire rates.
OPEN: please contact directly for details
ADMISSION: please contact directly for details



Siamsa Tíre National Folk Theatre of Ireland

Town Park, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92XW44
Tel: 066 7123055 www.siamsatire.com

Enjoy the best of authentic Irish music, song and dance with the National Folk Theatre in one of Ireland's busiest theatres and arts centre. Learn the traditions in song and dance workshops, view Irish art in its galleries.
OPEN: Mon - Thurs, Sat & Sun (May & Sep), Mon - Sun (Jun - Aug) at 20.30.
ADMISSION: Varies depending on the performance.



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Aqua Dome

Dan Spring Road, Tralee,
Co. Kerry, V92 T6TW

Tel: 066 7129150 www.aquadome.ie

The Aqua Dome is one of Ireland's largest Indoor Water Worlds & Premier Tourist Attractions. The Aqua Dome offers tropical temperatures all year round and is a great day out for all the family.

OPEN: July to mid Aug: Mon-Fri 10.00-22.00, Sat & Sun 10.00-21.00 Mid Aug to July: Mon-Fri 10.00-22.00, Sat & Sun 10.00-19.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €15, Child: €12, Child under 2: Free of charge.

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount for families and a further 25% discount when a 2 visit family ticket is purchased.



Blennerville Windmill

Blennerville, Tralee, Co. Kerry, V92NCN2

Tel: 066 7121064 www.kerrymodelrail.com

Guided tours of Ireland's largest working windmill, built in 1800 and painstakingly restored. The Visitor Centre contains a multi-lingual exhibition, audio visual presentation, Kerry Model Railway and birdwatch area.

OPEN: Daily; Apr - Oct.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Child: €3, Senior/Student: €4, Family: €15.



Crag Cave

Crag, Castleisland, Co. Kerry

Tel: 066 7141244 www.cragcave.com

Three Attractions in one location! Crag Cave is an all-weather attraction over one million years old, Guided Tours, Adventure Centre for children, Kingdom Falconry, (www.kingdomfalconry.com for prices and information). Birds of Prey flying displays, also Gift Shop & Garden Restaurant.

OPEN: Mid Mar - Dec: Daily 10.00 -18.00, Jan - Mid Mar: Fri - Sun 10.00 - 18.00, (Closed 24th - 27th Dec).

ADMISSION: Adult: €12, Child: €5, Student/Senior: €9, Family: €30 (2+2), €35 (2+4), (Crazy Cave €8 per child for 2 hours playtime).

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on Cave Admission on presentation of this guide.



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ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

THE RUSSELL GALLERY

Newquay, Co Clare, Tel: 065 707 8185, www.russellgallery.net

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

Ballyvaughan, Co Clare, Tel: 065 707 7200, www.burrencollege.ie

THE COURTHOUSE GALLERY & STUDIOS

Ennistymon, Co Clare, Tel: 065 707 1630, www.thecourthousegallery.com

MICHAEL HANRAHAN'S ART GALLERY

Ennistymon, Co Clare, Tel: 086 825 1550, www.michaelhanrahanartist.com

DOREEN DRENNAN ART GALLERY AND GARDEN

Lisdoonvarna, Co Clare, Tel: 087 930 3755, www.doreendrennan.com

BURREN PAINTING CENTRE

Lisdoonvarna, Co Clare, Tel: 065 7074208, www.burrenpaintingcentre.com

KENNY'S LAHINCH ART GALLERY

Kenny's Woollen Mills, Lahinch, Co Clare, Tel: 065 7081400, www.kennywoollenmills.com

KILBAHA GALLERY

Loop Head, Co Clare, Tel: 065 9058843, www.kilbahagallery.com

GLÓR THEATRE

Ennis, Co Clare, Tel: 065 6843103, www.glor.ie

CULTURLANN SWEENEY

Kilkee, Co Clare, Tel: 065 9060769, www.culturlannsweeney.ie

FRIAR'S GATE THEATRE

Kilmallock, Co Limerick, Tel: 063 98727, www.friarsgate.com

HONEY FITZ THEATRE

Lough Gur, Co Limerick, Tel: 061 385386, www.loughgur.com

BELLTABLE ARTS CENTRE

69 O'Connell Street, Limerick City, Tel: 061 953400, www.limetreetheatre.ie

LIMERICK CITY GALLERY OF ART

Pery Square, Limerick City, Tel: 061 310633, www.gallery.limerick.ie

DOLANS

Dock Road, Limerick City, Tel: 061 314483, www.dolanspub.com

LIME TREE THEATRE

Mary Immaculate College, Limerick City, Tel: 061 953400, www.limetreetheatre.ie

UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL

University of Limerick, Tel: 061 331549, www.uch.ie

THE LOFT THEATRE@ THE LOCK BAR

3 George's Quay, Limerick City, Tel: 061 413733, www.lockebar.com

TUBRID ART STUDIO

Ardfer, Co Kerry, Tel: 087 6579093

THE COTTAGE STUDIO GALLERY

Ballybunion, Co Kerry, Tel: 086 0664435, www.thecottagestudiogallery.com



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ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

EDEN ART GALLERY AND STUDIO

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7121824

JOHN HURLEY ART GALLERY

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 087 2838895, www.hurleyscapes.com

THE JANE HILLARD GALLERY

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7180055, www.janehillard.com

CRAFT MAKERS

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7120632, www.craftmakers.ie

ATLANTIC CREATIONS ARTS & CRAFTS

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 089 2218221

IVYLEAF THEATRE & ART CENTRE

Castleisland, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7141135

ST. JOHN'S THEATRE AND EXHIBITION GALLERY

Listowel, Co Kerry, Tel: 068 22566, www.stjohnstheatrelistowel.com

SIAMSA TÍRE

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7123055, www.siamsatire.com

HERITAGE CENTRES & MUSEUM

CLARE HERITAGE CENTRE AND GENEALOGICAL CENTRE

Corofin, Co Clare, Tel: 065 6837955, www.clareroots.com

DEVALERA MUSEUM

Bruree, Co Limerick, Tel: 086 3949230

KILMALLOCK MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL TOWN TRAIL

Kilmallock Co Limerick, Tel: 063 98259

IRISH PALATINE HERITAGE CENTRE

Rathkeale, Co Limerick, Tel: 069 63511, www.irishpalatines.org

PLUNKETT HERITAGE CENTRE

Dromcollogher, Co Limerick, Tel: 063 83433

BISHOP'S PALACE

King's Island, Limerick City, Tel: 061 313399, www.limerickcivictrust.ie

LIMERICK MASONIC CENTRE

King's Island, Limerick City, info@freemasonsnorthmunster.com

ARABELLA HOUSE

Tralee, Co Kerry, Tel: 066 7137611

CASTLES, ABBEYS AND CHURCHES

CORCOMROE CISTERCIAN ABBEY

Bell Harbour, Co Clare, www.clarelibrary.ie

KILFENORA CATHEDRAL AND CROSSES

Kilfenora, Co Clare

QUIN ABBEY

Quin, Co Clare, www.clare.ie

ADARE FRANCISCAN FRIARY

Adare, Co Limerick, www.adareheritagecentre.ie

ASKEATON CASTLE AND FRANCISCAN FRIARY

Askeaton, Co Limerick, Tel: 061 392149

GLENSTAL ABBEY

Murroe, Co Limerick, Tel: 061 621000, www.glenstal.org

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

Cathedral Place, Limerick City, Tel: 061 414624

BALLYHEIGUE CASTLE

Ballyheigue, Co Kerry, www.ballyheiguecastlegolfclub.com

CARRIGAFOYLE CASTLE

Ballylongford, Co Kerry

FITZMAURICE CASTLE

Ballybunion, Co Kerry

KYRIE ELEISON ABBEY

Abbeydorney, Co Kerry

ARDFERT CATHEDRAL

Tralee, Co. Kerry, www.heritageireland.ie

RATASS CHURCH

Tralee, Co Kerry, www.dioceseofkerry.ie

ST JOHN'S RC CHURCH

Tralee, Co Kerry, www.dioceseofkerry.ie



De Valera Museum, Bruree, Co Limerick



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WALKING

CLARE

The Burren is a unique landscape which extends over 160 square Kilometres. A number of guides will offer escorted walks through the Burren, detailing the history of how this unique limestone rock was formed. View the flora and fauna along with discussions on the botany, geology and farming in the area. For more information, visit:

www.burrenbeo.com, www.burren.ie or www.burrengeopark.ie

Take a guided walking tour of the magnificent medieval town of Ennis to learn about the many sites of interest, the historical legends and the old traditions. For more information, visit www.visitennis.com or contact one of the local guides

ENNIS WALKING TOURS – Tel: 087 6483714, www.enniswalkingtours.com

BENONI'S ARTY AND NATURE WALKS – Tel: 085 1257787

OLLIE'S TOURS – Tel: 086 2023534

In the lovely town of Killaloe in East Clare, explore the magnificent St Flannan's Cathedral with the Bell Tower Tour, Tel: 061 375389

LIMERICK

In Limerick City, one can avail of a range of guided walks and evening time historical and medieval tours, including the **ANGELA'S ASHES TOUR**, the **Kings Island Tour** and the **Georgian Limerick Tour**. For more info, contact Noel Curtin Tel: 087 2351339, noelcurtin@hotmail.com

In West Limerick, take in an excellent guided tour of **ASKEATON FRIARY AND DESMOND CASTLE** with local guide Anthony Sheehy, Tel: 061 392149. Also, nestled in the Mullaghareirk mountain range are the Broadford-Ashford Walking Trails. See www.walkbroadfordashford.com

In **SOUTH LIMERICK**, explore the ancient and unspoilt landscape in Ballyhoura with some fantastic walking and biking trails. See www.ballyhouracountry.com for details.

NORTH KERRY

THE GREAT SOUTHERN TRAIL follows the route of the Limerick-Tralee railway line which closed in the mid-seventies. Visit www.southerntrail.net

HISTORIC WALKING TOUR OF TRALEE – learn about the history of Tralee Town from its foundation in 1216 to the present day. Duration approximately 1 hour. Contact Breda Walshe, Tel: 087 2229910

TRALEE GUIDED WALKING TOUR - explore Tralee's 800 year History with Ann Ellard, Tel: 087 9537142, www.traleewalks.ie

NORTH KERRY HERITAGE TRAILS,
Tel: 087 7426231, www.northkerryheritagetrails.ie

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

REGIONAL TOURS

From Ennis, Co. Clare:

BARRATT TOURS offer daily bus trips (April to Mid-October) to the Burren and Cliffs of Moher. For more information, visit www.4tours.biz or Tel: 061 333100

BUS EIREANN operate a daily route from Ennis via the Burren and Cliffs of Moher to Galway which travels along the Wild Atlantic Way. See table No. 350 for schedule on www.buseireann.ie

From Limerick City:

BARRATT TOURS also offer day trips to the Burren and Cliffs of Moher and Blarney and Cork City from Limerick City (see contact details above).

PADDYWAGON TOURS offer a day trip to Cliff Of Moher, Ring of Kerry and Dingle Peninsula from Limerick. See www.paddywagontours.com or Tel: 061 419341

RAILTOURS IRELAND offer a pickup service in Limerick Bus & Rail Station for a one day trip to Cliffs of Moher. See www.railtoursireland.com or Tel: 01 8560045

LIMERICK CITY TOURS:

OPEN TOP BUS TOUR (SEASONAL) – operated by Red Viking, visit www.redvikingtours.com, Tel: 061 394033

HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE TOURS (SEASONAL) – operated by Limerick Carriage Tours, visit www.limerickcarriagetours.com, Tel: 085 1578356

KAYAK TOURS ON THE RIVER SHANNON – operated by: Nevsail Watersports: www.limerickadventures.com or Tel: 086 3308236 GetWest, www.getwest.ie, Tel: 087 9404274

SAIL BOAT TOURS OF LIMERICK CITY – operated by Nevsail Watersports www.limerickadventures.com, Tel: 086 3308236

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING TOURS – operated by: Nevsail Watersports: www.limerickadventures.com or Tel: 086 3308236 GetWest, www.getwest.ie, Tel: 087 9404274

CYCLING TOURS OF LIMERICK CITY & UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK – operated by: GetWest, www.getwest.ie, Tel: 087 9404274



For more information, call into our **Tourist Offices** (listed on page 1 of this guide) or see www.wildatlanticway.com or download the Wild Atlantic Way app



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BOAT TRIPS

CLIFFS OF MOHER & ARAN ISLANDS

From Doolin in Co. Clare, you can explore the Aran Islands and experience a one hour pleasure cruise underneath the majestic Cliffs of Moher. Contact:

CLIFFS OF MOHER CRUISES – Tel: 087 9581465 www.cliffsomohercruises.ie

CLIFFS OF MOHER CRUISES & DOOLIN2ARAN FERRIES –

Tel: 065 7075949, www.doolin2aranferries.com

DOOLIN FERRY COMPANY WITH BILL O'BRIEN – Tel: 065 7075555, www.doolinferry.com

THE O'BRIEN LINE – Tel: 065 7075618, www.obrienline.com

LOUGH DERG & RIVER SHANNON

In east Co. Clare you will find the serene Lough Derg, the largest lake on the River Shannon.

From Killaloe, you can experience a 1hr pleasure cruise on Lough Derg, Contact:

KILLALOE RIVER CRUISES – Tel: 086 8140559, www.killaloerivercruises.com

From Mountshannon, you can take a guided boat trip to Holy Island on Lough Derg, and explore the history of this peaceful island with a local guide. Contact:

HOLY ISLAND TOURS – Tel: 086 8749710

DOLPHIN WATCHING BOAT TRIPS

In the Shannon Estuary in West Clare, you can find Ireland's only resident group of bottlenose dolphins. Boat trips are available from Kilrush and Carrigaholt to view these beautiful mammals in their natural environment. Contact:

DOLPHIN DISCOVERY – Kilrush, Tel: 065 9051327, www.discoverdolphins.ie

DOLPHINWATCH – Carrigaholt, Tel: 065 9058156, www.dolphinwatch.ie

SCATTERY ISLAND

Explore this unique uninhabited island with its ruins of a monastic settlement. Contact:

SCATTERY ISLAND TOURS – Tel: 085 2505512, www.scatteryislandtours.com

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

BEACHES

Many beaches have been awarded Blue Flag or Green Coast awards attesting to their water quality, safety and environmental status. The Cliff Coast offers some spectacular beaches which include:



Blue Flag

Fanore

Lahinch

Milltown Malbay

Spanish Point

Whitestrاند

Kilkee

Cappa Pier

Ballycuggeran

Mountshannon

Ballybunion North

Ballybunion South

Ballyheigue

Banna

Fenit



Green Coast

Bishops Quarter

Seafield

This listing refers to 2016. The 2017 listing was not published at time of going to print. The Blue Flag beaches are indicated on the fold out map at the back of this guide.

LIGHTHOUSES

There are many wonderful lighthouses dotted along the Wild Atlantic Way providing wonderful photo opportunities. The lighthouse below provides a unique opportunity to visit a spectacular lighthouse and experience the romance and history, tradition and heritage of these wonderful buildings.

Loop Head Lighthouse, Co Clare

www.loophead.ie

Loop Head Lighthouse overlooks the Atlantic Ocean in west Clare. Its cliff top position affords 90m high views of the sea down to Kerry Head and Dingle across the Shannon and up the Clare coast and to the Cliffs of Moher in the north. Visitors can take a guided tour up the tower and go out onto the balcony to witness these magnificent views.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

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EXPLORE FURTHER INLAND: ROSCOMMON

Considered ‘The Heart of Undiscovered Ireland’, this unspoilt rural landscape offers a surprising, pleasant and peaceful holiday experience, far removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

The natural beauty of Roscommon is studded with captivating historic sites and buildings, with a wealth of unique places to visit and things to do. The County is a scenic paradise serviced by a network of quiet country roads and an unspoilt landscape. Unwind on boat trips down Ireland’s longest river ‘The Shannon’ with its islands, tributaries and lakes, from Lough Allen and Lough Key in the north of the County to Lough Ree in the south. Or explore the unique landscape and wildlife including Lough Key Forest and Activity Park. Angling, especially coarse angling, is particularly popular on the many undisturbed rivers and lakes.

Very much an undiscovered experience!



Lough Key, Co. Roscommon

ROSCOMMON: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Arigna Mining Experience

Arigna, Carrick-on-Shannon,
Co. Roscommon, N41YP78
Tel: 071 9646466 www.arignaminingexperience.ie

A unique underground tour in Ireland’s last working coalmine. All tours guided by ex-miners, and suitable for all the family.

OPEN: All year, 7 days per week, from 10.00 with last tour at 17.00

ADMISSION: Adult €10, Student/OAP €8, Child €6. Family/Group Rates on request.

★ **OFFER:** 10% off admission when guide presented. Subject to conditions.



Boyle Abbey

Boyle, Co. Roscommon

An impressive and well preserved 13th Century Cistercian abbey with a restored gatehouse from the 16th/17th Century.



Castlecoote House

Castlecoote, Co. Roscommon
Tel: 090 6663794 www.castlecootehouse.com

Castlecoote House, home of The Percy French Festival, elegant Georgian House, with landscape gardens running down to the beautiful river Suck. Afternoon teas and tours of the house and grounds.

OPEN: 1st April – 31st October, Daily (14.00 – 18.00).

ADMISSION: €7.50 (House & Grounds) Children under 5 free.



Castlerea Railway Museum

Main St., Castlerea, Co. Roscommon F45 E920
Tel: 087 2308152 www.hellskitchenmuseum.com

The only railway museum in the country with a full size locomotive train.

OPEN: All Year (please phone in advance).

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior €3, Group €3.



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ROSCOMMON: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Clonalis House

Castlerea, Co. Roscommon
Tel: 094 9620014 www.clonalis.com

Ancestral home of The O'Connors of Connaught, who were the traditional kings of Connaught.

OPEN: 1 Jun-31 Aug, Mon-Sat (11.00-17.00, last tour 15.45).

ADMISSION: €8, Senior/Student €7, Child €5 (under 5 free) Family discount available.

★ **OFFER:** 5% discount on presentation of this guide



County Roscommon Heritage & Genealogy Centre

Church Street, Strokestown,
Co. Roscommon, F42 N273
Tel: 071 9633380 www.roscommonroots.com

Provides a genealogical research service for people who have Roscommon Roots.

OPEN: All Year, by appointment.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



Derryglad Folk & Heritage Museum

Derryglad, Curraghboy, Athlone, Co.
Roscommon, N37 W1K8
Tel: 090 6488192 www.derrygladfolkmuseum.com

Over 7,000 items that focuses on farm and folk life in Ireland from the 18th Century. Dairy byones display. Wheelchair accessible. Open Bank Holidays.

OPEN: May - Sep, Mon - Sat (10.00 - 18.00, or anytime by appointment).

ADMISSION: Adult €6, Child €4, Family €18. Adult group €5 (20 plus).

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on presentation of this guide.



ROSCOMMON: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Dr. Douglas Hyde Interpretative Centre

Portahard, Frenchpark,
Co. Roscommon, F45 X223
Tel: 087 7823751

Exhibition telling the life story of Douglas Hyde (1st President of Ireland). Audio guides and film available. Grave is located beside the centre.

OPEN: May-Sep inclusive (by appointment only).

ADMISSION: Free of charge, donations welcome.



Elphin Windmill

Windmill Road, Elphin, Co. Roscommon
www.elphinwindmill.blogspot.ie

Built in the 1730's to grind wheat, barley & oats for the local population. It became uneconomic to maintain by the 1830's before being renovated by a local community group and officially re-opened by Gabriel Byrne in 1996.

OPEN: All Year. (Closed Christmas & Bank Holidays).

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Children €3 (under 16), Family €12.



Glendeer Pet Farm

Drum, Athlone, Co. Roscommon
Tel: 090 6437147 www.glendeerpethfarm.ie

There are lots of cute animals to pet, feed and you can even hold some of the smaller animals such as puppies, chicks, rabbits and guinea pigs. Animal interaction at its best! Enjoy a stroll on the new fairy trail, relax in our coffee shop, or enjoy your picnic while the kids play in the indoor and outdoor play area.

OPEN: Daily, 17th March - end of Sep.

ADMISSION: €8 per person, Children under 18 months free.

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on presentation of this guide.



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ROSCOMMON: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

King House – Boyle Town Mansion & Military Barracks

Main St., Boyle, Co. Roscommon, F52WR26

Tel: 071 9663242 www.kinghouse.ie

Magnificent restored Georgian Mansion with a range of interactive exhibitions. Also, The Mary McAleese Collection.

OPEN: Apr - Sep, Tue – Sat (11.00 – 17.00), July & Aug, Sun.

ADMISSION: Adult €5, Senior/Student/Child €3, Family €15 (2 Adults & 3 Children) Audio Guide €1

★ **OFFER:** 10% discount on presentation of this guide.



Lough Key Forest & Activity Park

Lough Key Forest Park, Boyle,
Co. Roscommon, F52 PY66

Tel: 071 9673122 www.loughkey.ie

Lakeside Forest Park with Visitor Centre, Café & Marina, offering unique activities such as Boda Borg, a Tree Canopy Trail, Zipit, Bike Hire and Segway Glides.

OPEN: Mar - Sep (7 days a week); All other months (Fri, Sat & Sun)

ADMISSION: Individual, Family and group rates available for all activities in the park.



Rathcroghan Visitor Centre

Cruachan Aí, Tulsk, Castlerea,
Co. Roscommon, F45 HH51

Tel: 071 9639268 www.Rathcroghan.ie

Royal Capital of Connacht - the Táin, Queen Maeve, Exhibition and Guided Tour of Archaeological Sites.

OPEN: All Year, Mon - Sat (09.00 - 17.00), Sun (12.00 - 16.00, May - Sep only)

ADMISSION: (Exhibition Tour / Scheduled Site Tour / Combination)

Adult €5/€8/€12, Senior/Student €4/€7/€10, Child €3/€3/€6.

★ **OFFER:** 2 for the price of 1 (Exhibition only).



ROSCOMMON: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Roscommon Castle

Roscommon Town, Co. Roscommon

13th Century Norman castle alongside the town park with a mile of walks, pond with ducks, modern playground and outdoor gym for adults.

OPEN: Year Round (free).



Roscommon County Museum

Market Square, Roscommon Town, F42 KT02

Tel: 090 6625613

Artefacts reflecting Irish urban and rural life with a large photographic collection.

OPEN: Mon – Fri (10.00 – 17.00), Sat (10.00 – 14.00).

ADMISSION: Adult €2, under 16's €1, Family €5 (2 adults + 3 children)
Group discounts.



Strokestown Park

Strokestown, Co. Roscommon, F42 H282

Tel: 071 9633013 www.strokestownpark.ie

Home of the Irish National Famine Museum, 18th Century mansion and six acre Walled Garden.

OPEN: All year, 10.30 - 17.30 (check website for details)

ADMISSION: Adult €13.50, Student/Senior €12, Family €28, Child €6 (5 – 17yrs)
Discount for admission to just 1 or 2 attractions.

★ **OFFER:** 10% off admission.



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OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Dive into the great outdoors

With its vast expanse of blanket bog, the wonderfully distinct landscape of Connemara makes a lasting expression. They've been coming here to 'get away from it all' for centuries - and what a perfect location in which to momentarily escape the clamor of modern living.

A great way to explore its undulating terrain is by fat-bike. These cool cycles, with their oversized tyres, allow enthusiasts to traverse this gloriously wild terrain and to cover significant distances too.

Pedal power of a more conventional variety can be found along the length of Mayo's Great Western Greenway. It's become a firm favourite among locals and visitors alike since its full 42km route opened in 2011. Those who love cycling in areas of great natural beauty simply must venture along this trail that follows the line of the old Westport-Achill railway. Water sports lovers are in for a treat in this part of Ireland, too. They're proud of the waves that wash to shore in Co. Clare and places like Lahinch are celebrated by surfers from near and far. But you don't have to be experienced on the board - there are several surf schools in the vicinity that can help novices to catch their very first Atlantic wave.

If deep-sea diving is your thing, you should head to Inishbofin Island where the crystal clear waters that surround it offer the optimum conditions for those who want to explore the marine world beneath the surface. Don't forget, you can enjoy the great outdoors without breaking sweat - or getting wet. It's not uncommon to practice yoga poses on the Burren and what better way to 'salute the sun' first thing in the morning than among the wildflowers and rocky limestone vista of this unforgettable landscape along the Wild Atlantic Way.

Stand Up Paddleboarding, Kilkee, Co Clare

ADVENTURE & WATERSPORTS

There are few feelings to compare with that moment when you ride your first Atlantic wave. You've managed to stay standing on your surfboard and your heart is still racing from the thrill. Now for that next wave...

Surfers have long flocked to the West of Ireland thanks to conditions that are among the finest on the planet but you, too, can learn how to master this most exacting of sports thanks to the surf schools throughout the Wild Atlantic Way, including one of the great surf meccas, Co. Clare. Everyone is catered for, including young children.

Water sports lovers have an abundance of choice in the west - whether you fancy scuba-diving, open-water swimming, kayaking or stand-up paddling. Where better to improve your skills than along the rugged coastline of the West? And you can hire any equipment you need here - and there's plenty of tuition available too.

And if adventure sports are your thing, you've come to the right place too. Cliff-climbing, mountaineering and trail-running are popular here and there's a long tradition of adventuring activities at Killary Harbour, which divides counties Mayo and Galway. It's one of Ireland's three fjords - and a place that captivates.

WALKING & CYCLING

A vast expanse of blanket bogland, a great blaze of heather, the turquoise ocean in the distance... a walk in Connemara is not just about embracing the magnificent beauty that is all around you, it's just the tonic to help you feel as though you're leaving the tribulations of daily life behind.

There are numerous way-marked trails in Connemara - and throughout the Wild Atlantic Way - and they cater for everyone from those fancying an hour's walk in an area of fabulous scenery to hiking aficionados keen to make a day of it amid the region's mountains and valleys.

Cyclists have long been drawn to the West, too, and cliff-hugging coastal roads are adored by seasoned riders. But there are plenty of shorter routes to appeal to the more casual cyclist, including the Great Western Greenway which covers the old Westport to Achill rail line.

And then there's a very different type of cycling: fat biking is a novel, but ideal, way to explore the undulating karst landscape of the Burren. These special off-road bicycles with their super-wide tyres allow you to get wonderfully close to nature - and you can cover a lot of ground, too.



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ANGLING

Bundorragha, Finlough, Doolough and Glencullin - they are the names of rivers that hold a special place in the hearts of anglers. Collectively, they are in the Delphi region of south Mayo and it's in these waters that some of the finest salmon in the country are to be found.

The Wild Atlantic Way is a stunning destination for angling aficionados. Whether it's rivers like those at Delphi, great lakes famed for their fish or coastal and off-shore locations where the world's your oyster, there is a huge amount of choice in the West for both the devoted angler or those keen to give this most tranquil and rewarding of pursuits a go for themselves.

And there are few better ways in which to be one with your surrounds, be it at sea around the island-dotted Clew Bay, taking a boat into the midst of peaceful Lough Mask on the Mayo-Galway border or waiting patiently for trout to bite on the River Clare, near Tuam, Co. Galway. Thanks to the temperate climate and our position at the North Atlantic Drift there is a huge choice of fish to be caught and the western coastline is home to more than 80 species. That's quite a catch.



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EQUESTRIAN

It is often said that the Irish have a love affair with the horse - and with good reason. These marvellous equine creatures helped shape our way of life for hundreds of years and they remain beloved by many today.

One can see that in the numerous race meetings, like the Galway Races, where our passion for super-fast thoroughbreds is demonstrated every July. Ballybrit Racecourse is one of the very best places to appreciate the Sport of Kings - and its location in the City of the Tribes ensures there's plenty of post-race entertainment thanks to great, convivial pubs and some of the country's best restaurants.

But that adoration is also to be found in the stables and riding schools that have cropped up along the Wild Atlantic Way and where riders of all ages can enjoy a canter on a Blue Flag beach or among the dry stone walls of Connemara.

And it's in this marvellous region - one of five National Parks along the Wild Atlantic Way - where the indigenous Connemara Pony originated. They are still bred in the Clifden area and these athletic, nimble animals embody the elemental beauty of the landscape from which they sprung.



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Angling in Connemara, Co. Galway

Horse Riding on Bertra Beach, Co. Mayo

GOLF

There's nothing quite like it that feeling of walking along the fairway after teeing off and savouring the salty Atlantic air, drinking in the sight of those waves rolling to shore in the distance and discerning the persistent hum of the ocean.

Golfing on the Wild Atlantic Way is a special experience because you don't just get to test your skills on demanding links courses, where the winds blowing in off the sea force you to play at your very best, but you also get to immerse yourself in areas of spectacular natural beauty where land and water meet.

There are courses to suit all, whether it's the prized championship course that has previously hosted the Irish Open or the links courses close to shore that are as elemental as golf gets. Several hotels in the region have a great golf pedigree and all have got the '19th Hole' experience down to a fine art - whether you're after a post-round pint or food that's local, seasonal and heavily weighed towards the seafood that has made the Wild Atlantic Way such a popular location for foodies. And those keen to drive a golf ball into the clear Atlantic air.

GARDENS

It is a horticultural wonderland where flowers found as far apart as Spain and Iceland grow side by side in the same soil and where green-fingered lovers from all over the world descend in early summer when the wild flowers are in full bloom. It's the Burren, of course, and this singular landscape in Co. Clare boasts some of the rarest plants and flowers in the country. It never fails to raise spirits. This natural garden - one of five great National Parks in the Wild Atlantic Way - is a must for fauna lovers, but there is no shortage of wonderfully tended gardens throughout the region, many of which are open all year round. Several weave a snare, not least the Co. Galway garden that takes you on a magical journey into the heart of Celtic heritage and mythology - it's to be found in the heart of native woodland which, in turn, is ringed by wild flower meadows.

And, then, there are walled gardens where the horticultural expertise of our Victorian forebears live on to this day, and where some of the finest gardeners in the country ensure that the rich seasonal bloom is as soul-soaring as always.



Brigit's Garden, Co Galway

FAMILY FUN

Fabulous family fun in the wild

Time seems to move at a different pace when you're travelling by horse-drawn caravan. This traditional mode of transport allows you to experience the beauty of the Mayo countryside in a way that just wouldn't be the same by car. You're at one with the landscape as you trundle along country boreens. It's family fun with a difference.

The Wild Atlantic Way is all about familial experiences far removed from the norm. Families with a love of rural walks or cycling - and an interest in history - should explore the Derrigimlagh Trail, near Clifden in Connemara, now forever associated with aviators Alcock and Brown and cable pioneer Marconi, while water sports enthusiasts of all ages can enjoy a variety of water sports from sailing to paddle boarding right along the coast. There are urban pleasures to investigate in Galway and Limerick cities - great shops, cafes and restaurants - and memorable activities off-the-beaten-track, whether it's taking a guided boat tour around Clew Bay, where there's reputed to be an island for every day of the year, to celebrating the splendid isolation of Loop Head Lighthouse, one of the great beacons on the Atlantic coast.

Families with a fondness for adventure sports will want to explore Killary Harbour on the Mayo-Galway border: one of the country's three fjords, and now a mecca for dare-devils young and old, while those after more leisurely downtime may want to take a reviving stroll on one of the west's most pristine beaches at Dog's Bay, Co Galway. Even travelling to your destination can leave long-lasting memories. Negotiating the cliff-hugging coast road on Achill or driving the evocatively named Sky Road in Connemara where you will want to stop and drink in the magnificent surrounds, are adventures in themselves.



Foynes Flying Boat Museum, Co. Limerick



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FOOD

Feast your way through unforgettable food

Ever since 1954, they have been descending on the Co. Galway coastal village of Clarenbridge to celebrate the oyster. This marvellous mollusc is elevated above all other foods during the Clarenbridge Oyster Festival every autumn. This is a place where a walk in beautiful fishing villages like Roundstone, Co. Galway, and Liscannor, Co. Clare, will give you an appetite to experience the freshest of fish - and the bounty of the sea has helped sustain these vibrant communities for generations.

Seafood is king right along the Wild Atlantic Way, and you will experience stunning dishes to demonstrate just how great the local catch is, but fear not all carnivores there is plenty to tempt you too. Connemara Hill Lamb is famed around these parts - it's as free-range as you can get, reared on a diet of natural fresh herbs, heathers and grasses dictated by nature itself. But those proud farmers of Achill insist their mountain lamb - who graze freely high above the breathtaking Keem Strand - is every bit as special.

Picnicking al fresco, especially at the scenically located Discovery Points, such as Loop Head in Co Clare, is a perfect way to enjoy the great food of the area, but there is a plentiful supply of traditional pubs that take the humble chowder and seafood platter to a new level, not least when accompanied by a creamy pint of porter and a traditional seisiún.

And there's a host of high-end options too, including a pair of Michelin-starred restaurants in Galway city that are helping to make the City of the Tribes one of the most exciting destinations for seasoned foodies on the Island of Ireland. Whether it's simple or sophisticated, this is food to savour with family and friends.

FOOD

FOOD TRAILS

GOURMET GREENWAY FOOD TRAIL – Mulranny Park Hotel, Mulranny, Co. Mayo
This food trail has been devised by the Mulranny Park Hotel, in association with Mayo food producers, to showcase the wonderful artisan food in the vicinities of Mulranny, Newport, Westport and Achill.
Tel: 098 36000, www.mulrannyparkhotel.ie

THE BURREN FOOD TRAIL – The Burren, Co. Clare
As one of Ireland's most intriguing food destinations, the Burren has a lot to offer. Themed trails and a weekly food series uncover the path your food takes from field to plate. Come meet the producers, dine in award-winning restaurants and learn something new!
Tel: 065 7072295, www.burren.ie

FOOD TOURS

THE CONNEMARA FOODIE EXPERIENCE – Connemara Abalone, Rossaveal, Co. Galway
The Connemara Foodie Experience takes you to the heart of Connemara to taste the finest and freshest produce of the region in a beautiful, wild and rugged environment.
Tel: 091 591307, www.mungomurphyseaweed.com

GALWAY FOOD TOURS – Around the Market Place, Galway City, Connemara & Aran Islands. Tours around Galway's finest food destinations. Experience the sounds, sights, tastes and alluring atmosphere of the west, one of Ireland's gourmet jewels. Meet artisan producers and sample their products,
Tel: 086 7332885, www.galwayfoodtours.com

WILD KITCHEN WILD FOOD WALKS ON LAND & SEASHORE – Callura South, Lahinch, Co. Clare. Wild Kitchen guides wild food walks along the Wild Atlantic Way and surrounds. Discover many edible types of seaweed, plants, flowers, herbs, berries and fruit.
Tel: 087 6877890, www.wildkitchen.ie

FARMERS & COUNTRY MARKETS

Take in the atmosphere of our markets, by browsing around and sampling the local and organic produce such as farmhouse cheeses, salmon, meats and a wide range of organic fruit and vegetables. For more information log on to www.wildatlanticway.com, www.bordbia.ie or www.countrymarkets.ie



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WHAT'S ON

Find a passion for fantastic festivals

It is a fortnight in July where everybody who's anybody in the arts world seems to descend on the City of the Tribes. The Galway International Arts Festival celebrates theatre, music and literature - and more - and its packed programme is top-drawer.

It's a reminder that the Wild Atlantic Way is not just a place of extraordinary beauty, but a region with a wonderful cultural heritage that can enrich our lives. And the huge range of festivals and events are there to thrill, inform and entertain us. Whether it's a multi-day extravaganza or an intimate gathering, they reinforce the truth that so many visitors to the area quickly sense - the way of life is different here.

The Burren Slow Food Festival is a calendar favourite. Every May, the people of this singularly beautiful part of Co Clare honour the produce and livestock of the region and show that the best food is seasonal, free-range and local.

Dedicated music events can be found at virtually every turn, with the International Choral Festival in Limerick city and the Westport Folk and Bluegrass Festival now so firmly established they are part of the fabric of the Wild Atlantic Way.

From Kinvara to Keem Strand and from Clarenbridge to Castlebar, there are festivals and events that celebrate food and drink, walking and hiking, running and cycling - and every arts discipline under the sun taking place year round.

Some have been rooted in the same town or village for decades. Others are completely new events that vie to do something that little bit different. Either way, you meet people who are passionate and dedicated about making their patch of the Wild Atlantic Way the very best it can be. And you'll want to return time and again to be part of that unique community vibe that is true to the Wild Atlantic Way.



Galway International Arts Festival, Galway City (July)

WHAT'S ON

BAY COAST

JUNE

INISH ISLAND CONVERSATIONS

1 – 4 June Inishbofin, Co Galway
www.inishfestival.com

WESTPORT FOLK AND BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

9 – 11 JUNE Westport, Co Mayo
www.westportfolkbluegrass.com

JULY

GALWAY FILM FLEADH

11- 16 July Galway City
www.galwayfilmfleadh.com

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

17 – 30 July Galway City www.giaf.ie

SCOIL ACLA, TRADITIONAL MUSIC & CULTURAL SUMMER SCHOOL

22 – 29 July Achill Island, Co Mayo
www.scoilacla.ie

AUGUST

GALWAY CUP

9 – 12 August Galway City
www.galwaycup.com

GALWAY PRIDE FESTIVAL

11 – 20 August Galway City
www.galwaypridefestival.com

CRUINNÍU NA MBAD

18 – 20 August Kinvara, Co Galway
www.kinvara.ie

WESTPORT ARTS FESTIVAL

18 - 21 August Westport, Co Mayo
www.westportartsfestival.com

SEPTEMBER

WESTPORT FESTIVAL OF CHAMBER MUSIC

8 – 10 September Westport, Co Mayo
www.westportchambermusic.ie

CLIFDEN ARTS FESTIVAL

14 – 24 September Clifden, Co Galway
www.clifdenartsfestival.ie

WESTPORTS OF THE WORLD

14 – 17 September Westport, Co. Mayo
www.destinationwestport.com

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL OYSTER AND SEAFOOD FESTIVAL

22 – 24 September Galway City
www.galwayoysterfestival.com

BATTLE FOR THE BURNING LAKE

29 September – 1 October
Achill Island, Co Mayo
www.battleforthelake.com

OCTOBER

CLARENBRIDGE OYSTER FESTIVAL

5 - 8 October Clarenbridge, Co Galway
www.clarinbridge.com

BABORÓ INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN

16 – 22 October Galway City
www.baboro.ie

GALWAY COMEDY FESTIVAL (VODAFONE COMEDY CARNIVAL)

Dates TBC Galway City
www.vodafonecomedycarnival.com

FEILE CHRUITE ACLA 2017

27 – 30 October Achill Island, Co Mayo
www.achillharpfestival.ie



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CLIFF COAST

JUNE

TOUR DE BURREN

17 June Ballyvaughan, Co Clare
www.tourdeburren.com

DOOLIN FOLK FESTIVAL

16 – 18 June Doolin, Co Clare
www.doolinfestivals.ie

LIMERICK SINGS INTERNATIONAL CHORAL FESTIVAL

22 – 25 June Limerick City
www.limericksings.com

JULY

SCOIL SAMHRAIDH WILLIE CLANCY

1 – 9 July Miltown Malbay, Co Clare
www.scoilsamhraidhwillieclancy.com

ENNIS STREET ARTS FESTIVAL

3 – 9 July Ennis, Co Clare
www.ennisstreefestival.com

LIMERICK PRIDE FESTIVAL 2017

10 – 16 July Limerick City
www.limerickpride.ie

PIG N PORTER

14 – 16 July Old Crescent RFC, Rosbrien, Co Limerick
www.pignporter.com

FOYNES AIR SHOW AND A CELEBRATION OF IRISH COFFEE

22 July Foynes, Co Limerick
www.foynesairshow.com



There are numerous other shows, events and festivals taking place throughout the Bay Coast & Cliff Coast. For more information, call into our Tourist Offices (listed on page 1 of this guide), see www.wildatlanticway.com or download the Wild Atlantic Way app.

RING OF CLARE CYCLE

29 July Ennis, Co Clare www.ringofclare.ie

AUGUST

SCARIFF HARBOUR FESTIVAL

3 – 6 August Scariff, Co Clare
www.scariff.ie

FLEADH CHEOIL NA HÉIREANN

13 – 21 August Ennis, Co Clare
www.fleadhcheoil.ie

ROSE OF TRALEE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

16 – 22 August Tralee, Co Kerry
www.roseoftralee.ie

SEPTEMBER

LIMERICK JAZZ FESTIVAL

22 – 24 September Limerick City
www.limerickjazz.com

OCTOBER

ENNIS FOOD FESTIVAL

12 – 15 October Ennis, Co Clare
www.ennisfoodfestival.com

NOVEMBER

ENNIS TRAD FEST

9 – 13 November Ennis, Co Clare
www.ennistradfest.com



Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, Ennis, Co Clare (August)



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ITINERARIES

Part of what makes the Wild Atlantic Way so compelling is the year-round sights, sounds and experiences. Hugging the robust coastline, this journey boasts sheltered bays, sandy beaches, hidden coves and gorgeous inlets.

Along the way you'll encounter pretty seaside villages that play host to traditional local music, while clifftop walks offer breath-taking views of ice-age landscapes. On your journey you'll find yourself effortlessly unwinding and relaxing into the Wild Atlantic Way of life.



Cyclists at Black Head, Co Clare

5 DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1

CLIFDEN – DERRIGIMLAGH – ROUNDSTONE – PEARSE COTTAGE – GALWAY

STAGE 1: DERRIGIMLAGH, COUNTY GALWAY (R341)

Travelling south from Clifden, your first Signature Discovery Point on the Wild Atlantic Way is Derrigimlagh. One of the most arresting lowland blanket bogs in Europe, this haunting landscape offers much to explore. A five-kilometre signposted looped walk reveals a journey into the past, highlighted by monuments of magnificence including remnants of the world's first permanent transatlantic radio station, constructed by Guglielmo Marconi in 1907, and a memorial to Alcock and Brown; the first pilots to fly non-stop across the Atlantic.

STAGE 2: DERRIGIMLAGH TO PEARSE COTTAGE (66.4KM VIA R341 AND R340)

Depart for Rosmuc (1hr 20mins) in the heart of the Connemara Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking region). En route, stop-off at Roundstone at bodhrán (Irish drum) maker Malachy Kearns' workshop. Malachy crafts unique instruments that have featured in the famous Riverdance show! At Rosmuc, step into the shoes of Pádraig Pearse; revered writer, teacher and leader of the 1916 Rising. Pearse was hugely fond of peaceful Rosmuc, and his charming little cottage stands as a fitting reflection. Adjacent, you'll find the Connemara Cultural Centre housing an interactive exhibition showcasing Pearse's powerful legacy, and exploring the area's rich history, culture and landscape.

STAGE 3: PEARSE COTTAGE TO GALWAY CITY (54.4KM VIA R336)

Glorious Galway City is next! Hug the coast for just over an hour, enjoying picturesque views en route. Take a tasty bite out of what's known as the 'City of the Tribes' with Galway Food Tours. Let Sheena Dignam lead you on the 'Around the Market Place' tour stopping at award-winning eateries, and some delicious hidden gems. Sample everything from cheese and artisan meats to chocolate and beer – yum! Once you've had your fill, bed down for the night in one of Galway's many great places to stay.



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5 DAY ITINERARY

DAY 2

GALWAY – BALLYVAUGHAN – DOOLIN

STAGE 1: GALWAY CITY

A fabulous blend of contemporary and old Ireland, bohemian Galway can be explored either independently or on a walking tour through winding, cobbled streets, taking in iconic Eyre Square, the ancient medieval quarter and landmarks like the Gothic University Quadrangle. Discover the Claddagh Village, once a distinct fishing community with its own king, and home to the Claddagh ring. The village's rich heritage can be further explored at Katie's Cottage, where music, dance and storytelling bring new life to beloved tradition.

STAGE 2: GALWAY CITY TO BALLYVAUGHAN (50.1KM VIA N67)

Just over an hour's drive away is the pretty fishing village of Ballyvaughan – unofficial capital of the Burren! Perched on the Burren's terraced mountainside, Ailwee Cave is a dramatic underworld of bridged chasms, strange formations and a thunderous waterfall. The accompanying Birds of Prey Centre is popular with avian enthusiasts and novices alike. For a truly unique experience take a 'Hawk Walk' through hazel woodland and across Burren limestone pavement.

STAGE 3: BALLYVAUGHAN TO DOOLIN (29.4KM VIA R477)

From one charming fishing village to another – stop in Doolin (40mins) and experience the magic of Doolin Music House. This humble abode boasts a warm, lively atmosphere that's second-to-none. Christy Barry is an informed trad musician, who'll happily explain the nuances of this lively genre, while his partner, Sheila, is an accomplished artist whose work is proudly displayed around the house. Scheduled sessions take place throughout the week, otherwise upon request. Enjoy a tasty dinner locally when you're done, before settling down for the night.



Galway City

5 DAY ITINERARY

DAY 3

DOOLIN – CLIFFS OF MOHER – LAHINCH – LOOP HEAD

STAGE 1: DOOLIN TO CLIFFS OF MOHER (9KM VIA R478)

Day three begins on an epic note, following a short 12-minute drive from Doolin. Defined by nature across millions of years, the stunning, 8km long Cliffs of Moher stand over 200 metres above the ocean. Internationally renowned, the cliffs are home to the 19th century gothic-style O'Brien's Tower, and provide a terrific vantage point for nearby wonders like An Branán Mór sea stack and the Aran Islands. If conditions are right you may even catch a glimpse of surfers grappling with the mysterious and challenging Aileen's Wave!

STAGE 2: CLIFFS OF MOHER TO LAHINCH (10.4KM VIA R478)

A 15-minute spin takes you to Lahinch, a popular seaside resort, where surfing, archery, sea kayaking and cycling are just some of the great family-friendly activities on offer. There are plenty of operators to choose from all offering opportunities to enjoy the array of outdoor activities available.

STAGE 3: LAHINCH TO LOOP HEAD (68.8KM VIA N67 AND R487)

After an active afternoon in Lahinch, follow the coast to Loop Head Peninsula. A shining beacon since 1854, Loop Head Lighthouse (open March to October) is a major local landmark. From its soaring clifftop position, enjoy 90m-high views of the sea down to Kerry Head and Dingle and across the Shannon to the Cliffs of Moher. On a guided tour, learn all about the area's rich maritime history. You'll be ready for a well-earned rest at this stage, so after dinner, bunk down in any of the villages on the peninsula or in nearby Doonbeg.



Cliffs of Moher



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5 DAY ITINERARY

DAY 4

LOOP HEAD – TARBERT – BALLYBUNION – BROMORE CLIFFS – TRALEE

STAGE 1: LOOP HEAD TO KILLIMER TO TARBERT (55.4KM VIA R487 AND N67)

Follow the winding road for about ¾ hour passing through a series of towns and villages, before taking to the water! A 20-minute ferry ride takes you across the Shannon Estuary from Clare to the historic village of Tarbert in what's affectionately known as the 'kingdom' of Kerry, thanks to its incredibly dramatic scenery. On this, the only car ferry on the Wild Atlantic Way, enjoy the rugged nature of land and sea and the fresh salty air that sums up this region. If you're lucky, dolphins will accompany you on the crossing!

STAGE 2: TARBERT TO BALLYBUNION (25KM VIA R551)

Just 25 kilometres away lies beautiful Ballybunion; a seaside resort with a golden sandy beach and famous for its two golf links courses. A tour with local legend and All-Ireland Piping Champion and historian, Danny Houlihan, introduces you to Kerry's lush glens and valleys and its colourful wildlife by bike or on foot, at your chosen pace.

STAGE 3: BALLYBUNION TO BROMORE CLIFFS (3.7KM VIA R551)

Only a 7-minute drive away is another titanic landmark of the Cliff Coast; the sheer 180-foot Bromore Cliffs which have been sculpted by the elements over millennia. Enjoy a walk along the precipice – it's well-fenced and suitable for explorers of all ages. The cliffs are home to an array of wildlife and vegetation, with falcons, guillemots, and rock doves among the flying population. In the ocean far below, you might also spot Atlantic grey seals, bottlenose dolphins and, sometimes, sea otters!

STAGE 4: BROMORE CLIFFS TO TRALEE (46.3KM VIA R551)

Kerry's capital, Tralee, is just under an hour's drive. In this buzzing town, step back into ye olde Ireland on a walking tour of Ashe Street and Denny Street. Take in Victorian period shopfronts and façades while covering key milestones in Irish history between 1895 and 1930. An evening at Siamsa Tíre, the National Folk Theatre is a wonderful way to engage with Irish culture, music, song and dance. Spend the night locally after enjoying a hearty dinner in one of Tralee's many lively bars and restaurants.

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5 DAY ITINERARY

DAY 5

TRALEE – TRALEE BAY WETLANDS – BLENNEVILLE

STAGE 1: TRALEE

There's more to enjoy in Tralee today. Known internationally for the annual Rose of Tralee Festival which sees the streets come alive with theatre and street performance, the town is both a quaint slice of old Ireland and an ever-evolving cultural hub. The Kerry County Museum & Medieval Experience is critically acclaimed and well worth a visit as it charts the history and archaeology of county and country over 7,000 years.

STAGE 2: TRALEE BAY WETLANDS CENTRE

The crystal blue waters of Tralee are a sight to behold, and you can experience them in style with Tralee Bay Wetlands, on the outskirts of the town. Explore the manmade lake in pedal boats and canoes, or on the Centre's pretty walks and cycleways.

STAGE 3: TRALEE TO BLENNEVILLE (4.7KM VIA N86)

On the final leg of your journey, an eight-minute drive takes you to Blennerville and Ireland's largest working windmill. A monument of resilience, the impressive structure was built in 1800 and operated for about 40 years before falling into disarray, only to be restored again in the 1980s. Today, it's the centre of a major visitor attraction on the shores of Tralee Bay, and a relaxing way to conclude your journey.

To continue to travel further south on the Wild Atlantic Way, why not explore the Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast? You'll find more touring route options at www.wildatlanticway.com and on the **FREE app**.



Blennerville Windmill



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GETTING AROUND

BUS

BUS ÉIREANN (NATIONAL BUS COMPANY)

Services to all main towns and cities throughout the region. Bus Éireann also offers a 'hop-on / hop-off' "open-road" Tourist Travel Pass which allows unlimited travel on Bus Éireann services nationwide for a period of 3 days out of 6 consecutive days. It is possible to purchase extra days to extend the pass. For more information please contact Bus Éireann on 096 71800 or www.buseireann.ie

Tel: 01 836 6111 www.buseireann.ie

OTHER BUS OPERATORS

A number of coach companies provide transport offering frequent services locally and nationally across Ireland. Please contact your nearest Tourist Office (see list on contents page) or visit www.transportforireland.ie

RAIL

IARNRÓD ÉIREANN IRISH RAIL NETWORK

Tel: 1850 366222 www.irishrail.ie

FROM/TO DUBLIN

There are daily services from/to:
Westport, Castlebar, Galway, Limerick and Tralee.

GALWAY/LIMERICK

There are daily services from/to:
Galway City and Limerick City via Athenry and Ennis

TAXI

These are widely available, particularly in larger towns. Phone directory enquiries on 11811 or 11850 for a list of operators. For details of taxis that provide a service to wheelchair users, visit www.wheelchairtaxi.ie

GETTING AROUND

DRIVING

Wild Atlantic Way – please see map of this world famous route at the back of this guide or visit www.wildatlanticway.com

Motorways – the M6, M7 and M18 motorways link larger urban areas such as Dublin, Galway and Limerick and have greatly reduced the travel times to and from various parts of the West. Please note that most motorways operate a toll booth system.

Car Hire – most car hire companies have desks in the airports and in larger towns. Please contact your nearest Tourist Office (see list on contents page) or visit www.carrentalcouncil.ie

BIKE HIRE

A number of bike hire companies operate throughout the region. Please contact your nearest Tourist Office (see list on contents page).

Coca Cola Zero Bikes is an exciting new addition to the cities of Galway and Limerick. Bike stations are located throughout the cities to provide a healthy and convenient means of transport. www.bikeshare.ie

VEHICLE & PASSENGER FERRY

Shannon Ferry operates daily sailings between Killimer, Co Clare & Tarbert, Co Kerry. The Ferry will take you and your vehicle on this memorable 20 minute journey across the majestic Shannon Estuary linking the iconic tourist destinations. www.shannonferries.com

GETTING TO THE ISLANDS

Getting to the islands has become virtually hassle free with the option of ferry and flights to choose from on some routes. For detailed information, see pages 31, 32, 33 & 60 or contact your nearest Tourist Office (see contents page).



Top Tip: A good option when looking to co-ordinate public transport in Ireland is www.transportforireland.ie. The Transport for Ireland Journey Planner is a useful tool that shows the services that are available. You can use the Journey Planner online, or download the app for android or iPhone.



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