



# GOLDEN IRELAND

Autumn/Winter 2021/2022

IT'S YOUR TIME



*Discovering*  
BEGINS HERE

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THE BEST HOTEL  
OFFERS FOR THE  
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AUTUMN/WINTER  
GARDENING BY COLM  
O'DRISCOLL OF  
AIRFIELD ESTATE





## THE COVID-19 SAFETY CHARTER FOR TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES.

### LOOK OUT FOR THE LOGO AT HOTELS AND PARTICIPATING TOURISM BUSINESSES!

WHEREVER CUSTOMERS SEE THE COVID-19 SAFETY  
CHARTER LOGO, THEY'LL KNOW THAT:



THE BUSINESS AGREES TO FOLLOW THE  
RECOMMENDED CLEANING AND SAFETY GUIDELINES



ALL STAFF HAVE COMPLETED HYGIENE  
AND SAFETY CONTROL TRAINING



THE BUSINESS IS SUBJECT TO BEING SPOT-CHECKED

The Covid-19 Safety Charter is endorsed by Fáilte Ireland and the Government of Ireland



# GOLDEN IRELAND.ie

IT'S YOUR TIME

## Céad Míle Fáilte to the Autumn/Winter edition of The Golden Ireland Guide.

**W**elcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of The Golden Ireland Guide. Firstly, to you our customers and guests, thank you very sincerely for your support and custom. Without you we would not be here!

This Autumn/Winter we are delighted to be part of Fáilte Ireland's Keep Discovering marketing campaign. Our mission is what drives us to do everything possible to promote holidays in Ireland for the Actively Retired. We strive to make a positive impact on tourism in Ireland, and to offer great value packages and holiday inspiration from the four corners of Ireland.

I am delighted to welcome new hotels to Golden Ireland in 2021, including Dingle Benzers Hotel, Brooks Hotel, The Address Collection, the iNua Collection, Clifden Station House Hotel Connemara, The Hardiman, Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Mulroy Woods Hotel in Donegal and The Hastings Hotel Group in Northern Ireland.

We are very excited to announce that our new look Golden Ireland website is coming soon which will allow you to book your next getaway break directly with Golden Ireland.ie

So whether you want rest or excitement, time alone or with others, low cost or luxury, let Golden Ireland help you plan your next trip in Ireland. From the beauty of the Wild Atlantic Way, to the treasures of Ireland's Ancient East, let's Keep Discovering this beautiful country of ours!



Beir bua agus Beannacht!

*Geraldine McGlynn*

Geraldine McGlynn

Managing Director of Golden Ireland





SKELLIG MICHAEL, CO. KERRY IRELAND.



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GROUP

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[www.hotel67.ie](http://www.hotel67.ie)



The Brehon, Killarney, Co. Kerry.  
[www.thebrehon.com](http://www.thebrehon.com)

Explore the wonders of the Wild Atlantic Way, Ring of Kerry or Lakes of Killarney.

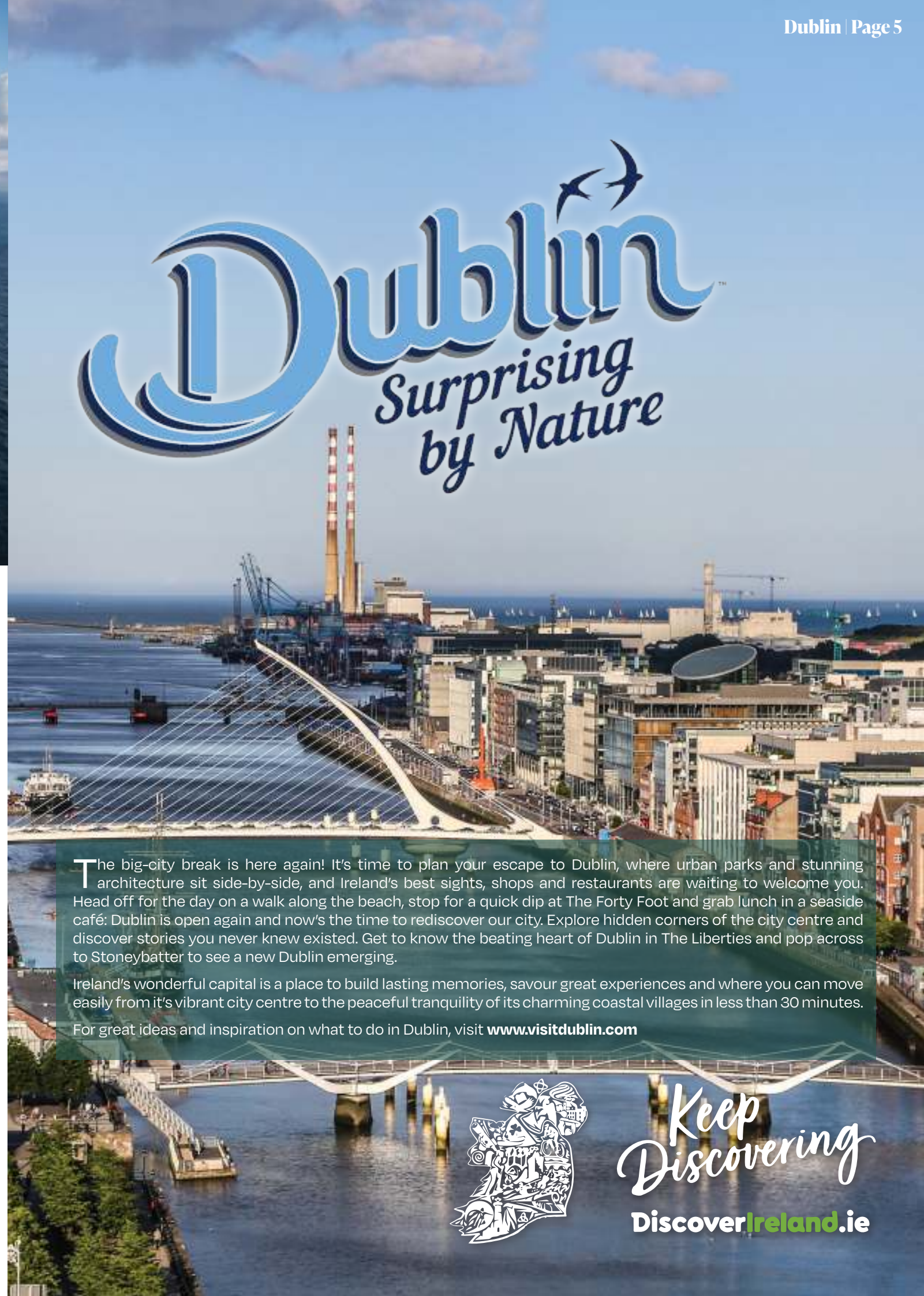
DISCOVER A CHOICE OF 4-STAR HOTELS WITH  
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# Dublin

*Surprising  
by Nature*



The big-city break is here again! It's time to plan your escape to Dublin, where urban parks and stunning architecture sit side-by-side, and Ireland's best sights, shops and restaurants are waiting to welcome you. Head off for the day on a walk along the beach, stop for a quick dip at The Forty Foot and grab lunch in a seaside café: Dublin is open again and now's the time to rediscover our city. Explore hidden corners of the city centre and discover stories you never knew existed. Get to know the beating heart of Dublin in The Liberties and pop across to Stoneybatter to see a new Dublin emerging.

Ireland's wonderful capital is a place to build lasting memories, savour great experiences and where you can move easily from it's vibrant city centre to the peaceful tranquility of its charming coastal villages in less than 30 minutes.

For great ideas and inspiration on what to do in Dublin, visit [www.visitdublin.com](http://www.visitdublin.com)



*Keep  
Discovering*  
**DiscoverIreland.ie**



# See & Do in Dublin's Fair City!



## Airfield Estate

Overend Way, Dundrum, Dublin 14  
Tel: +353 (0)1 9696666 [www.airfield.ie](http://www.airfield.ie)  
Airfield Estate is Dublin's only 38-acre working farm and gardens which is open to the public all year round. On the estate you will find many attractions including the Overend family home, food and ornamental gardens, vintage cars, working farm.



## Casino Model Railway Musuem

Malahide, Co. Dublin. Tel: +353 (0)61 711222  
[www.modelrailwaymuseum.ie](http://www.modelrailwaymuseum.ie)  
Step back in time and explore one of the world's most unique model railway collections. The Casino Model Railway Museum is one of Dublin's newest visitor attractions located in the idyllic village of Malahide and within walking distance of Malahide Castle & Gardens.

## GAA Musuem & Tours

Croke Park, Dublin 3.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 819 2323  
[www.crokepark.ie/gaamuseum](http://www.crokepark.ie/gaamuseum)  
A trip to Croke Park simply wouldn't be complete without experiencing the treasured GAA Museum. Get ready to immerse yourself in the spine-tingling and completely unique story of Gaelic games from ancient times to the present day. This museum is like no other sporting museum you'll ever visit.

## Chester Beatty

Dublin Castle, Dublin 2.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 407 0750  
[www.chesterbeatty.ie](http://www.chesterbeatty.ie)  
Winner of 'European Museum of the Year' and considered 'one of the best multi-cultural museums in Europe', the library's world renowned collection features artworks, manuscripts and rare books from around the world dating from 2700BC to the present day.



## Christchurch Cathedral

Christchurch Place, Dublin 8.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 6778099  
[www.christchurchcathedral.ie](http://www.christchurchcathedral.ie)  
Situated in the heart of the city, Christ Church Cathedral is Dublin's oldest working structure, and has welcomed pilgrims and visitors for almost 1,000 years. A working cathedral, Christ Church is renowned for its magnificent architecture and fascinating history. Admire the stunning stained glass and unique floor tiles of the cathedral nave.



## Cook's Academy,

19 South William Street, Dublin 2.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 6111667  
[www.cooksacademy.com](http://www.cooksacademy.com)  
Cooks Academy is Dublin's leading cookery school. Enjoy an authentic Irish cookery experience where participants learn how to cook Irish food using local, artisan produce and then participants dine on the delicious food that they make.



## Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

Dalkey, Co. Dublin.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 2858366  
[www.dalkeycastle.com](http://www.dalkeycastle.com)  
Costumed actors bring history to life with a fun theatre performance as part of a one hour guided tour. Meet characters and learn about writers and creative artists from Joyce to Bono and Beckett to Maeve Binchy in the Writers' Gallery. Climb to the battlements for magnificent views of sea and mountains.



## Dublinia

Christchurch, Dublin 8.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 6794611  
[www.dublinia.ie](http://www.dublinia.ie)  
Dublinia is located at the heart of Viking and Medieval Dublin. Take a step back in time and experience what life was like onboard a Viking warship, visit a Viking house, take a trip down bustling medieval street and learn of the myths and the mysteries surrounding the Vikings and their legacy.



## EPIC The Irish Emigration Musuem

CHQ Custom House Quay, Dublin 1.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 906 0861  
[www.epicchq.com](http://www.epicchq.com)  
EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum is a state-of-the-art interactive experience located in the beautiful vaults of the CHQ building in Dublin's Docklands, the original departure point for so many of Ireland's emigrants.



## Farmleigh House & Estate

Phoenix Park, Dublin 15.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 8155914  
[www.farmleigh.ie](http://www.farmleigh.ie)  
Farmleigh is a 78-acre estate inside Dublin's Phoenix Park. The government bought it in June 1999 to provide accommodation for high-level meetings and visiting guests of the nation. Farmleigh is a unique representation of its heyday, the Edwardian period.



## Glasnevin Cemetary Musuem

Dublin 11. Tel: +353 (0)1 882 6550  
[www.glasnevintrust.ie](http://www.glasnevintrust.ie)  
Since 1832, more than 1.6 million people have been interred in Glasnevin. Glasnevin Cemetery covers 124 acres of glorious parkland. Explore the Victorian Garden cemetery as your guide shares the stories of Ireland.



## Guinness Storehouse

St. James's Gate, Dublin 8.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 408 4800  
[www.guinness-storehouse.com](http://www.guinness-storehouse.com)  
A visit to the magical home of Guinness is a must on any tour of Dublin. Guinness Storehouse is Ireland's top visitor attraction located in the heart of the Guinness Brewery at St James's Gate. Housed in an old fermentation plant, now the seven-storey visitor experience tells the story of this world famous drink.



## Jameson Distillery

Bow Street, Smithfield, Dublin 7.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 807 2355  
[www.jamesonwhiskey.com](http://www.jamesonwhiskey.com)  
As well as being a highlight of Dublin's tourism trail, the new look Jameson Distillery Bow St. (awarded World's Leading Distillery Tour at the World Travel Awards 2018, 2019) is fast becoming the go-to place for locals to enjoy a Jameson.



## Malahide Castle & Gardens

Malahide, Co. Dublin. Tel: +353 (0)61 711222  
[www.malahidecastleandgardens.ie](http://www.malahidecastleandgardens.ie)  
Malahide Castle is a beautiful and historic medieval castle, with a fascinating story dating back to the 12th Century. Located on the beautiful north coast of Dublin City, Malahide Castle was once owned by the Talbot Family for nearly 800 years and is one of the longest owned castles by one family in the country.



## MOLI – Musuem of Literature Ireland

UCD Naughton Joyce Centre, 86 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 477 9811 [www.moli.ie](http://www.moli.ie)  
The Museum of Literature Ireland combines cutting-edge digital interactive exhibitions on Irish writing with priceless literary artefacts from the Irish State collections.



## National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

Glasnevin, Dublin 9  
Tel: +353 (0)1 804 0300  
[www.botanicgardens.ie](http://www.botanicgardens.ie)  
Join one of our experienced guides for a stroll through the gardens and glasshouses of Ireland's premier garden. Get an insight into one of Dublin's iconic landmark Heritage sites, the National Botanic Gardens.



## National Musuem of Ireland

Tel: +353 (0)1 677 7444  
[www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)  
Preserving and presenting the stories of Ireland and its place in the world. Offering a variety of exhibitions in our four museums: Decorative Arts & History, Collins Barracks, Dublin 7, Natural History Museum, Merrion Square, Dublin 2, Archaeology, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 and Museum of Country Life, Castlebar, Co. Mayo.



## Rathfarnham Castle

Rathfarnham, Dublin 14. Tel: +353 (0)1 493 9462  
[www.rathfarnhamcastle.ie](http://www.rathfarnhamcastle.ie)  
This Elizabethan period fortified house was commissioned in 1583 by the Archbishop-Chancellor of Ireland, Adam Loftus (d.1605), as his private residence. Since coming into State care in the nineteen eighties much of the building has been restored to its Georgian splendour and today it features a collection of original fine art.



## St. Patrick's Cathedral

St. Patrick's Close, Dublin 8.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 453 9472 [www.stpatrickscathedral.ie](http://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie)  
Saint Patrick's Cathedral provides a window into 800 years of Irish history, religion, art, architecture, music and literature. Enjoy a self-guided experience at your own pace, including a visit to the grave of Jonathan Swift.



## The Little Musuem of Dublin

15 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 661 1000  
[www.littlemuseum.ie](http://www.littlemuseum.ie)  
The Little Museum experience, overlooking St. Stephen's Green, covers the three floors of the beautiful Georgian townhouse and is centred on a guided tour of our main exhibitions.

## Optimum Chauffeur Drive

Tel: +353 (0)1 814 8873  
[www.optimumchauffeurdrive.ie](http://www.optimumchauffeurdrive.ie)  
Why not let one of our experienced guides take you on a historical walking tour around our wonderful city. This tour takes up to 2 ½ hours and can be tailored to meet you or your groups interests. Cost: €190 for up to 6 people.

## Trinity College & The Book of Kells

Dublin 2. Tel: +353 (0)1 896 2320  
[www.tcd.ie/visitors/book-of-kells/](http://www.tcd.ie/visitors/book-of-kells/)  
Trinity College Dublin, founded in 1592 by Queen Elizabeth I is the oldest university in Ireland and is famous for its graduates such as Swift, Goldsmith, Wilde and Beckett. The Old Library and the Book of Kells Exhibition is a 'must see' on the itinerary of all visitors to Dublin.







Roganstown Hotel & Country Club

★★★★

Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 P2EA

Active Retired 2 Night Stay

Two night package from

€109 per person sharing

Roganstown Country House is tucked away on a quiet country road in North County Dublin. Our 52 bedrooms offer timeless luxury coupled with all the modern conveniences you would expect in a 4 star hotel. Our bars and restaurants offer a variety of menus and , while our extensive leisure centre includes an 18 metre swimming pool, while our spa offers a menu of treatments designed for indulgence and relaxation. Our 18 hole, Christy O'Connor Junior designed golf course is the jewel in Roganstown's crown.

Two 18-Hole Golf Courses

Full Gym

On-Site Parking

Swimming Pool (18m)

Spa



Castleknock Hotel

★★★★

Diswellstown Road, Porterstown Dublin 15

From €162.50 per person sharing / €325 total stay

Embrace Autumn at Castleknock Hotel with a 'Timeless Escape', enjoy a 2, 3, or 4-night stay, dinner inclusive, lunch on a day of your choice and much more. unwind at our deluxe spa with a rejuvenating treatment. Explore Farmleigh House and Gardens and enjoy the beautiful grounds of the Phoenix Park or unwind at our deluxe spa with a rejuvenating treatment. Toast to your autumn break away with a nightcap on our cosy heated Patio while you reminisce under the stars.

Golf

Gym/Fitness Studio

On-Site Parking

Swimming Pool

Spa

Afternoon Tea



Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge

★★★★

Merrion Road, Dublin 4, D04 P3CS

Golden Years 2 Night Dinner Bed & Breakfast Offer

Valid Sunday - Thursday

from €125 per person sharing (valid ID required)

Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge is one of the finest 4 star hotels in the heart of Dublin. This stunning Victorian property is one of Dublin's most eye catching hotels. Located next door to the RDS and in the beautiful leafy area of Ballsbridge. The hotel is situated beside the DART station which services Dublin City alongside Dublin city bus routes. The hotel is also within walking distance of Dublin City Centre, and Sandymount Strand.

Afternoon Tea

Fitness Suite

On-Site Parking



The Address Connolly

★★★★

Amiens Street, Connolly, Dublin D01 X6P6

Taste the Address

€149.00 per night

Treat yourself with one of our 1 or 2 night "Taste the Address" packages at the Address Connolly. Your package includes: Overnight luxury accommodation, Signature cocktail on arrival, Full Irish breakfast each morning, 3 Course evening meal in the award winning McGettigans Cookhouse, Lily O'Briens chocolates in your room, Late checkout to 1pm and an Exclusive "Return to Address" €20.00 voucher on checkout for your next visit to any of The Address Collective Hotels.

Afternoon Tea

Fitness Centre

City Centre



The Address Citywest

★★★★

Kingswood Village, Citywest, Dublin 22. W580

Taste the Address

€149.00 per night

Taste The Address - Treat yourself with one of our 1 or 2 night "Taste the Address" packages at the Address Citywest. Your package includes: Overnight luxury accommodation, Signature cocktail on arrival, Full Irish breakfast each morning, 3 Course evening meal in the award winning McGettigans Cookhouse, Lily O'Briens chocolates in your room, Late checkout to 1pm and an Exclusive "Return to Address" €20.00 voucher on checkout for your next visit to any of The Address Collective Hotels. visit to any of The Address Collective Hotels.

Afternoon Tea

Fitness Centre



Brooks Hotel

★★★★

Drury St, Dublin City.

Autumn Getaway Offer

From €195 per night

Situated on Drury Street only minutes from Grafton Street and St. Stephen's Green in the fashionable heart of Dublin City, Brooks Hotel is the perfect place to stay this Autumn, whether for business or pleasure. This four-star boutique hotel has everything you could possibly need on its doorstep. Bedrooms offer luxurious beds and special touches to include a pillow menu, turn down service, complimentary mineral water and The White Company Toiletries. Explore everything Dublin City has to offer with an overnight stay this Autumn with a complimentary room upgrade and full cooked to order breakfast.

Fitness Suite



Royal Marine Hotel

★★★★

Dún Laoghaire, Co Dublin

3 Night Older and Wiser Package from €462

Enjoy a 3-night stay in the Royal Marine Hotel. There is so much to see and do in Dún Laoghaire, and the Royal Marine is the perfect base to explore. Rate inclusive of:

- Full Irish Breakfast
- An award-winning 4-course meal on each evening in one of our Restaurants.
- Full use of Pier Health Club
- Complimentary car parking
- Complimentary Wifi access throughout the hotel
- Free Cancellation 24 hours prior to arrival
- No booking fee

Nádúr Spa

Restaurant

Wifi



Stauntons on The Green

★★★

83 St. Stephen's Green South, Dublin 2, D02 HD86

Reunite and Reconnect

From €99.50 pps

Located in the centre of Dublin's most fashionable neighbourhood, Stauntons on the Green is the perfect place to stay for business or pleasure. Check in to an overnight stay with your favourite people with a glass of Prosecco on arrival. Catch up with Afternoon Tea at Bestseller Cafe on Dawson Street and explore the Museum of Literature Ireland with free entry for all guests staying on this rate.

Afternoon Tea



Number 31

★★★★

31 Leeson Close, Dublin 2, D02 CP70

A Stylish Stay with Delia's Famous Breakfast

From €67 pps

Number 31 is an oasis of peace and quiet, hidden behind a creeper-clad wall, on the city's Georgian Mile. A popular choice for design enthusiasts, here light colour and texture all combine in a gentle ambience of peace and calm. The combination of spacious and supremely comfortable accommodation, warm hospitality, an exceptional location and Number 31's renowned breakfast has made here a destination of choice for many a seasoned traveller.

Afternoon Tea

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museum

National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Archaeology

Natural History (currently closed)

Decorative Arts & History

Country Life

Open: Sunday & Monday 1pm to 5pm. Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm.

For more information visit: [www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

Bookings: [bookings@museum.ie](mailto:bookings@museum.ie) Tel. +353 (0) 1 6777 444 Email: [info@museum.ie](mailto:info@museum.ie)

To book any of these offers, visit [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie) | E: [info@goldenireland.ie](mailto:info@goldenireland.ie) | T: 00 353 (0)64 6630267





Dublin Delights

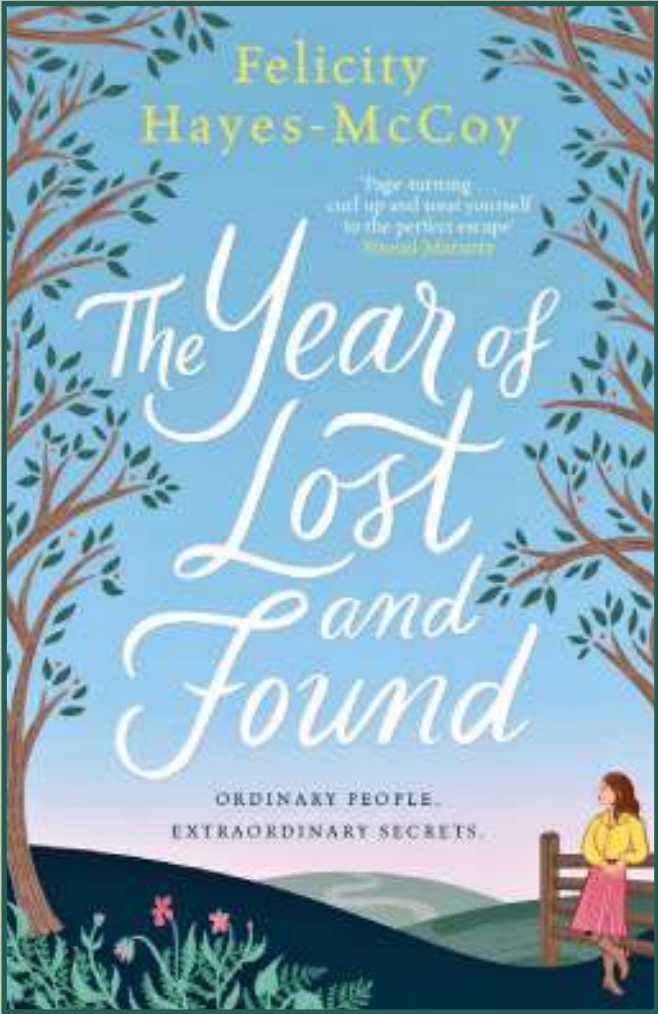
by Felicity Hayes-McCoy

Recently, Wilf and I took to the road from West Kerry feeling excited and, to tell the truth, uncertain of what lay ahead. With my new novel out, and bookshops reopened, Golden Ireland had arranged a trip for us to the bright lights of Dublin, where we hadn't been for a year.

I'm a Dubliner, so to go there as a tourist felt strange. But, arriving at Brooks Hotel, only a short walk from Grafton St, I saw this was a chance to discover more about a city I thought I knew. We stayed two nights and everyone, from Jessica on reception to Anne, the manager, our waiters, and the lovely people in housekeeping, went the extra mile to make us feel at home. Some of Brooks' stylish bedrooms have a contemporary vibe while others are more traditional, and among its joys were the meals produced by Executive Chef Patrick, who's created the hotel's little urban garden and often forages wild ingredients. Immensely knowledgeable and talented, he's dedicated to freshness and sustainability.

Visits to Dublin's tourist attractions have never been so relaxed, as tickets must be booked online, and crowding isn't permitted. Highlights of our trip were the Book of Kells and the Long Room at Trinity College Library. Like many Irish people, I've been wary of the queues the exhibition attracts, but, with fewer foreign tourists about, queuing is minimal, and you can linger in front of the stunning medieval manuscript. We found the same sense of ease in the Museum of Literature

“Visits to Dublin’s tourist attractions have never been so relaxed”



About The Author

USA Today bestselling author Felicity Hayes-McCoy writes the successful 'Fin Farran' novels, published in Ireland/ the UK by Hachette Books, in the US/Canada by HarperCollins, and translated into eight languages. Dublin-born, she's married to the English writer and opera director, Wilf Judd. They work and live in West Kerry and inner-city London, and together wrote Dingle And Its Hinterland: People, Places and Heritage, a guide to the western end of Ireland's Dingle Peninsula.

The Year of Lost and Found, the seventh Fin Farran novel, was published by Hachette in June 2021.



Ireland, a partnership between University College Dublin and the National Library. Here state-of-the art displays are housed in gracious Georgian rooms in which many of the writers they celebrate once attended lectures (or, in the case of my generation of UCD students, rehearsed plays). Wilf and I lunched in the courtyard café, admiring a tree beneath which James Joyce posed for his BA graduation photo in 1902. Afterwards, we wandered through an arched gateway into Iveagh Gardens, a hidden, green oasis in the very heart of the city.

Next day, waved off by Patrick, who'd emerged from his kitchen to stand on the pavement discussing pickling techniques, we drove to Ballsbridge. I grew up close to this southside suburb with its redbrick housing, leafy park and riverside walks, and had never realised how convenient it is as a base for a city break. The Clayton Hotel there is a Victorian building, originally a school, and our bright, modern room had a view of its iconic tower, crowned by an ornate iron weathervane. Drinks and snacks could be had at tables scattered on the lawn, dinner was served in a modern bar that opens onto a sunken courtyard, and breakfast included a generous vegan option to set you up for the day.

Between visits to bookshops, our sightseeing continued, including a stroll down the quays from O'Connell St to the Jeanie Johnston, a full-scale modern replica of a nineteenth century ship that took Irish emigrants fleeing famine and disease to the New World. We learned that, unusually, the original vessel's owner had actively sought a humane captain, and employed a doctor, on its sixteen transatlantic voyages, each of which carried up to three hundred men, women and children. In the nearby EPIC Emigration Museum, Europe's leading tourist attraction in 2019 and 2020,

interactive displays provide a remarkably detailed look at Irish history and worldwide achievement. There we met Tania, a charming Portuguese staff member, who told us she found Ireland very welcoming, and wondered if that was because we're a nation of emigrants. So, both venues offered heart-warming thoughts at a time when the world is learning to recognise the implications of interdependence and the vital importance of empathy

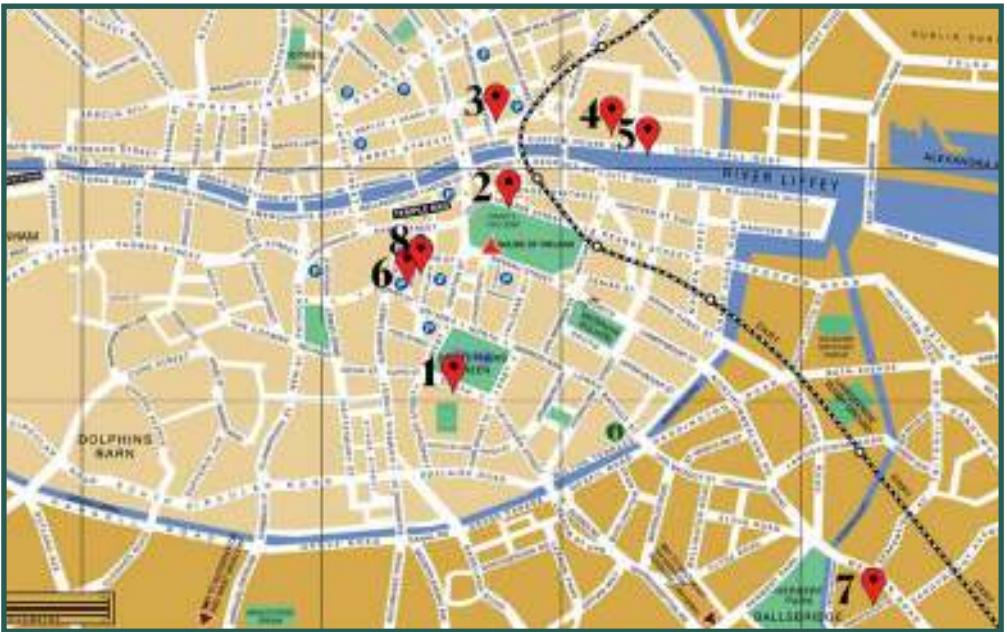
Before becoming an author, I was an actress, and worked briefly for Dublin's Abbey Theatre. In those days it hadn't begun its backstage tours run by James Hickson, whose enthusiasm for, and knowledge of, his subject is amazing. Visitors range from theatre buffs to design students, to people with tickets for an Abbey show who'd like an enhanced experience. It was magical to feel the bubbling excitement as the lights have begun to go up after months of darkness. It's a special kind of energy, specific to the backstage world, and participants in James's tours can share it.

Our break provided a delightful mix of urban edge and unexpected tranquillity. Airfield Estate is a 38-acre working farm in Dundrum, about twenty minutes' drive from Ballsbridge. There, amid glorious organic growth, our guide, Irene, told us the story of Letitia and Naomi Overend, sisters who bequeathed the estate to the nation "for education and recreation". Active farmers and cattle-breeders, indefatigable charity workers, and dauntless – if occasionally dangerous – drivers of vintage cars, the

Overend women themselves favoured high-end recreation. A tour of their lovely, Victorian villa reveals memorabilia found in the attic, including photos of skiing trips in the 1930s and cruises to exotic locations. I can't think of a more lovely day out in Dublin, and a picnic from Overends Kitchen which "connects land and table, farmer and eater" provided the perfect lunch among drifts of flowers.

Our last night was spent on the northside, in the Bonnington Hotel which has smart décor, an impressive pool and health club, and majors in family and romantic breaks and city getaways. It's close to Dublin's National Botanic Gardens, a quick bus-ride to the city centre, and a short drive to quiet beaches. And, like the Overend sisters and Patrick at Brooks, it knows the importance of traceable and locally-sourced ingredients. Being close to Croke Park, the home of the GAA, we decided to eat in the hotel's sports bar, and had delicious beefburgers from Dexter cattle reared in South Tipperary served with chips made from potatoes grown on a local farm. The bar, with its young, efficient staff, TV screens and neon lighting, was a fun setting in which to end a brilliant city staycation. We slept well in a comfortable bed before driving back to West Kerry. And I can honestly say that, when we'd set out, I'd had no idea how much of Dublin there still was to discover.

To organise your next trip to The Treaty County, contact the team at Golden Ireland today on 064 663 0267 or visit our website [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie).



1. MoLI – Museum of Literature Ireland, UCD Naughton Joyce Centre, 86 St Stephen's Green, Saint Kevin's, Dublin, D02 XY43
2. Trinity College Dublin & The Book of Kells, College Green, Dublin 2
3. Abbey Theatre, 26/27 Abbey Street Lower, North City, Dublin 1, D01 K0F1
4. EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, The Chq Building, Unit 32 /33, Custom House Quay, Dublin 1
5. The Jeanie Johnston: An Irish Famine Story, Custom House Quay, North Dock, Dublin 1, D01 KF84
6. Brooks Hotel, 62 Drury St, Dublin, D02 TV06
7. Clayton Hotel Ballsbridge, Merrion Rd, Dublin 4, D04 P3C3
8. Stokes Books, 19 Market Arcade, South Great Georges Street, Dublin 2



# Autumn/Winter Gardening

By Airfield Estate Head Gardener - Colm O'Driscoll

*It is a common misconception that there is little work to be done in a garden over the autumn and winter months. In truth work done at this time has the potential to transform your garden for the following spring and summer. Gardening in the cold dark wet days of winter may not sound appealing but tasks completed now will be well rewarded the following spring. The list of jobs to complete over the winter months is lengthy so here are some of the most rewarding tasks to focus your efforts on over the winter months.*



## Plant Bulbs

Few tasks are as rewarding and as easy as planting bulbs. Bulbs of daffodils crocus, and tulips will be available for sale in all garden centres from September. Be sure to purchase good quality bulbs and plant them on a cool dry day. A general rule for bulb planting is to plant the bulb 2-3 times the depth of the bulb itself. So, the bigger the bulb the deeper the hole. All bulbs are best planted as soon as you purchase them with the exception of Tulips. Tulips are best planted from November onwards when soil temperatures are cooler. Planting tulips in the colder months reduces the chance of them catching a common fungal disease called tulip fire. Spring bulbs are ideal for containers meaning no matter how small your garden is there is always room for some spring bulbs.



## Bare Root Trees & Shrubs

Bare root trees and shrubs will be available from November to March. As the name suggests plants sold bareroot have no pots which enables garden centres to sell them at lower prices meaning better value for the customer. Hedging plants, fruit trees, roses and many trees are all available bare root at this time of year. This is unquestionably the most cost-effective way to plant a hedge or add fruit trees to your garden.



Crimson Clover

## Don't Winter Dig

Winter digging vegetable plots was historically recommended as the best way to improve soil structure and aerate heavy clay soils. However modern science has dispelled this myth which will come as a great relief to gardener's sore backs. Rather than expending all your energy digging over the soil it is much more beneficial to have living roots in the soil or cover the soil with a mulch. Green Manure cover crops include plants such as crimson clover, vetch, or rye. If sown in September, they will grow happily over the winter months protecting your soil life and suppressing weed growth. They can then be incorporated into the soil in the spring. Alternatively, you can cover the soil with mulch or compost. Green waste compost is ideal as it protects the soil structure suppresses weed growth and feeds the soil life.



Daphne bholua 'Jacqueline Postill'

## Winter Colour

It is possible to have year-round flowers in your garden. Winter flowering shrubs and perennials often have great scent in order to attract the few pollinators that are active at this time of year. One of the best winter interest shrubs is the evergreen Daphne bholua 'Jacqueline Postill'. Plant this shrub close to a door or gateway to ensure you enjoy its magnificent scent is appreciated. Underplant this shrub with hellebores and snow drops to create a colourful winter planting scheme.



## Winter Crops to Sow now

Three of the easiest winter crops to sow in the vegetable garden are Broadbeans, Garlic and winter onion sets. Broadbeans are best sown during the month of October and will provide an abundance of delicious beans next June. One of the best varieties to grow in an Irish climate is a variety called 'Super Aquadulce'. Sow the beans 15cm apart in rows spaced 25cm apart. Garlic and onion sets can also be planted from October onwards. Although onion and garlic sets are often sold alongside flowering bulbs it is important to not plant them as deeply. Both garlic bulbs and onion sets are best planted shallowly in drills so that the tip of the set is just below or flush with the soil surface. Both crops will be ready to harvest the following July.



## Winter Lettuce

Given Irelands relatively mild winters it is possible to have a year-round supply of lettuce growing in your garden. Key to achieving this is growing varieties suited to our winter climate. One of the best varieties to grow outside is a variety called 'Brighton'. Sow seeds from September through to October for a supply of fresh green leaves throughout the winter months.



## Airfield Estate

Overend Way,  
D14 EE77,  
Ireland

**t: +353 (0)1 969 6666**

**e: [hello@airfield.ie](mailto:hello@airfield.ie)**

Airfield Estate is Dublin's only urban farm, gardens, heritage experience and woodlands set out across 38 acres. With a simple mission to inspire and enable people to make better food choices and by better they mean better for your pocket, planet and health.

With acres of green space, farm animals, beautiful plants and woodlands, Airfield offers you the perfect spot to explore and enjoy the great outdoors.





# Eileen Smith in Dublin

*Dublin City is full of variety, is brimming with culture, and has so much to offer – from the great outdoors, walking tours, fashion boutiques and an array of retail stores, as well as some of the best hotels and restaurants in the country. With so much to see and do, the capital has so many hidden gems we’ve yet to experience. In the month of July we promoted Dublin City for the Keep Discovering Campaign, and what better person to show us some of the best places to visit, than Eileen ‘Style Queen’ Smith of Style Counsellor’s Fame. The glamorous octogenarian is no stranger to fashion and style, with upwards of 55,000 followers on Instagram and for one weekend, we got an insight into Eileen’s ideal way to spend a weekend break in the city.*

*Lisa from the team at Golden Ireland was delighted to have the opportunity to meet Eileen personally and ensure she was all set for the weekend ahead. They met at the charming Brooks Hotel, a 4-star luxury boutique hotel in the heart of Dublin City Centre, ideally located just a 2 minute walk from Grafton Street.*



## The Charming Brooks Hotel

If you’re seeking a hotel which has charm and personality, and a team who provide their guests with a warm and welcoming atmosphere, Brooks Hotel is for you. Eileen was well looked after throughout her stay, and after a long day of discovering Dublin City Centre, she was able to relax and unwind in the hotel’s on-site restaurant; Francesca’s, where she enjoyed an exquisite meal prepared by award-winning Head Chef Patrick McLarnon and his team.

**For the best available rates head over to [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie) to book your stay at Brooks Hotel.**



## The Little Museum of Dublin

Discover the amazing story of Dublin at “Dublin’s Best Museum Experience”, The Little Museum of Dublin. Eileen was provided with a guided tour by Brenda & Eamon who told the remarkable story of the Irish Capital. The Little Museum also offer their famous, guided walking tours of St Stephens Green

**T: +353 1 6611000**

**E: [fiona@littlemuseum.ie](mailto:fiona@littlemuseum.ie)**

**A: 15 Saint Stephen’s Green, Dublin, Ireland.**



## St Stephen’s Green

A Victorian public park with over 3.5km of pathways lined with trees, spring and summer colourful Victorian flower bedding and herbaceous borders. With an ornamental lake, a garden for the visually impaired, a waterfall, and fifteen commemorative sculptures located throughout the green, be sure to set aside plenty of time so you can discover every inch of this beautiful park.

## Best Places to Shop

A staycation in Dublin City Centre would not be complete without a spot of retail therapy, and what better place to start than Brown Thomas on Grafton Street. – the heart of the capital’s shopping district

## Powerscourt Townhouse

Set in a Georgian House, located just a short stroll from Grafton Street, you will experience more than a shopping centre. Powerscourt Townhouse is steeped in history, dating back to the 18th century. Inside you will find a number of retailers including antique galleries, boutiques and restaurants. Many shops also specialise in Irish made goods, making it the perfect place to pick up a special gift.



## Afternoon Tea at The Ivy

Eileen escaped the bustling city centre for a couple of hours and indulged in a time honoured tradition of Afternoon Tea at The Ivy Dawson Street. The Ivy offers the locals, businesses and visitors to Dublin a relaxed yet sophisticated dining experience.

**To organise your next trip to one of Europe’s oldest and greatest cities, contact the team at Golden Ireland today on 064 663 0267 or visit our website [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)**



## WILD ATLANTIC WAY SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN



It’s time - to pack your bags and head off along the 2,500 km coastal stretch of the Wild Atlantic Way. With so many destinations and experiences to choose from, Ireland has never felt bigger – so prepare to make a break for it on the Wild Atlantic Way. It’s finally time to travel beyond the back garden: to follow a legendary coastal trail that’s open once more for exploration and relaxation. Set your spirit soaring with craic agus ceol in Westport, cycle coastline trails and uncover hidden beaches in Connemara, or savour the delicious seafood and fresh Atlantic air of Kinsale. And if you yearn for an adventure, look no further than Killarney, nestled in an awe-inspiring National Park.

For more information, visit [www.discoverireland.ie/wild-atlantic-way](http://www.discoverireland.ie/wild-atlantic-way)



*Keep Discovering*  
**DiscoverIreland.ie**



# Beautiful Co. Clare

With its jaw-dropping coast carved by the roaring Atlantic, County Clare is an otherworldly place, full of legends and natural beauty.

Venture along its memorable coast through buzzing seaside towns from Doolin to Kilkee. Hike hidden trails through a stunning lunar landscape

and cruise the majestic Shannon at Killaloe. Enjoy traditional music, legendary pubs and famous festivals with menus sourced from nearby farms and waters.

Clare has many secrets to share and plenty more to explore - for more, see [www.clare.ie](http://www.clare.ie)



## Aillwee Cave & Birds of Prey Centre

Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare.  
Tel: +353 (0)65 7077036

Pre-booking essential on [www.aillweecave.ie](http://www.aillweecave.ie)  
Discover both overground and underground experiences @ Aillwee. Let our knowledgeable guides welcome you to Aillwee Cave - the dramatic underworld of this unique landscape. The Birds of Prey Centre is one largest and most varied collection of raptors in Ireland. Not forgetting a stop to the Farmshop, which reveals the one of a kind, 35-year story of Burren Gold Cheese Making at Aillwee.



## JP Clarke's Country Pub

Bunratty, Co. Clare.

Tel: +353 (0)61 363363 [www.jpclarkes.ie](http://www.jpclarkes.ie)

A warm and welcoming dining experience in the heart of the medieval village of Bunratty, JP Clarke's is the ideal spot for visitors and regulars alike. Located minutes from the main Galway to Limerick road (N18) with plenty of parking, Clarke's has a reputation for its fresh and tasty cuisine and its exemplary service - the restaurant even featured on RTE's At Your Service!



## Doolin Music House

Doolin, Co. Clare. Tel: +353 (0)65 7074584  
[www.doolinmusichouse.com](http://www.doolinmusichouse.com)

Doolin Music House hosts evenings of traditional Irish music in the home of Sheila Quinn & Christy Barry the renowned flute player. The evenings are relaxed with great music and stories about the tunes and the history of music in the region. Sheila and Christy create an intimate atmosphere with a blazing turf fire in their living room.



## Cliffs of Moher

Liscannor, Co. Clare. Tel: +353 (0)65 7086141  
[www.cliffsofmoher.ie](http://www.cliffsofmoher.ie)

The Cliffs of Moher are a signature discovery point on the wild Atlantic Way. The Cliffs stretch for 8 km (5 miles) and rise to 214 metre (702 feet) over the Atlantic Ocean. It is home to Ireland's largest seabird colony with up to 30,000 breeding pairs. There are over 600 metres of pathways and viewing platforms along the cliff edge. The views are breath-taking with the Aran Islands, the Kery mountains and Galway Bay all visible on a clear day.



## Loop Head

[www.loopheadlighthouse.ie](http://www.loopheadlighthouse.ie)

A view of forever and a fascinating look into the past. The drama of Ireland's rugged West Coast shoreline and the soft beauty of Co. Clare's postcard-pretty countryside. A trip to Loop Head Lighthouse is a visit of contrasts, centered around this beacon of hope that has perched majestically on the scenic headland of Loop Head peninsula for hundreds of years, looking down on the fury of the Atlantic Ocean 90 meters below.



## Scattery Island

Kilrush, Co. Clare. [www.scatteryislandtours.com](http://www.scatteryislandtours.com)

Located just off Kilrush in Co. Clare, and recently awarded The European Destination of Excellence for 2017 (EDEN), Scattery Island is truly a unique visitor experience on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. Visitors to the island are amazed at the wealth of historic sites, which includes five Churches, a Cathedral, a magnificent Round Tower, Napoleonic War Artillery Battery and a working Lighthouse. Guided walking tour will immerse you in the island's rich history.



## Burren Perfumery

Carron, Co. Clare. Tel: +353 (0)65 7089102  
[www.burrenperfumery.com](http://www.burrenperfumery.com)

Located in the heart of the Burren, The Burren Perfumery draws inspiration from the flora and beauty of the Burren landscape to create its signature perfumes, certified organic skincare and artisan range of hand-crafted soaps and candles, using the very best ingredients. A workshop offering hands-on blending experience and introduction to oils.



## Doolin Cave

Doolin, Co. Clare. Tel: +353 (0)65 7075761  
[www.doolincave.ie](http://www.doolincave.ie)

Descending over 70 metres/200 feet, view the Great Stalactite that weighs over 10 tonnes and an impressive length of over 23 feet long. It is the largest free-hanging Stalactite in Europe and the third largest in the World. What is even more astounding than the size, is that the Great Stalactite was formed from a single drop of water over thousands of years.



## Shannon Springs Hotel

★★★★

Shannon, Co. Clare

### SSH...want to know the best kept secret in Clare?

In a sea of traditional hotel offerings, we provide something a little bit different. Combining tradition with innovation, we offer the best of both worlds.

The Old Lodge Gastro Pub, with live music and AA Rosette dining creates a welcoming atmosphere and craic like you wouldn't believe. Comfort is king in our recently redesigned bedrooms, offering a safe respite from the outside world.

We might be named SSH but we just can't keep quiet about how proud we are of our hotel. Stay with us and let us show you why.



## Old Ground Hotel Ennis

★★★★

Station Road, Clonroad Beg, Ennis, Co Clare

### 3 Nights B&B, 1 Dinner on an Evening of Your Choice and Tea/Coffee & Scones on a Day of Your Choice

The 4 star Old Ground Hotel is ideally situated on the doorstep of The Burren, Bunratty, Cliffs of Moher and many more Wild Atlantic Way highlights, and is a top hotel choice for a staycation in Ireland. For overseas visitors coming from further afield, we are also a quick 20-minute drive from Shannon International Airport.



## Falls Hotel & Spa

★★★

Ennistymon, Co Clare

### Over 50s Five Night Package From €400 per person

Exclusive offer for guests over 50's, five night stay including breakfast each morning, a three-course dinner in the Cascades every evening, welcome reception with tea and biscuits on arrival and free access to the facilities in our Aqua and Leisure Centre.

The Falls Hotel & Spa in Ennistymon, is a family run hotel at the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way, and at the gateway to the Cliffs of Moher & Burren UNESCO Geopark. They passionately support sustainable tourism.



## Hotel Woodstock

★★★★

Shanaway Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 TR25.

### Young At Heart From €75 per person per night

With so much to see and do on our doorstep, and complimentary use of our leisure facilities, Hotel Woodstock is the ideal place for your break away.

Included in this offer: Overnight stay in one of our spacious Double or Twin rooms, Plated Full Irish breakfast, 2 course evening meal in our intimate Bar or Restaurant, Late check-out until 1pm, Complimentary access to our Leisure Club, Complimentary Wi-Fi, Reduced golf rates at Woodstock Golf Club (€25 per person)



To book any of these offers, visit [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)



# Kerry - The Kingdom

Experience Kerry and its gloriously moody landscapes, dramatic headlands and crashing waves. You'll remember the roar of the ocean long after your visit.

Discover charming towns and villages with brightly painted houses, traditional pubs and colourful shopfronts.

Travel the curving country roads and narrow mountain paths of this stunning county. Book a break to Kerry, you'll soon understand why it's christened The Kingdom.

## Derrynane House & National Historic Park

Caherdaniel, Ring of Kerry.  
Tel: +353 (0)66 9475113  
www.derrynanehouse.ie

Derrynane House is the ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell, lawyer, politician and statesman. Situated in garden and parklands on the scenic Wild Atlantic Way, the house displays many artefacts of O'Connell's life and career.



## Killarney House & Gardens

Town Centre, Killarney.  
www.killarneynationalpark.ie

Killarney House and Gardens have been carefully restored to their former glory and today you can enjoy a tour of the historic rooms and take in the beauty of the gardens. Our new interpretive exhibition will be a gateway to Killarney National Park and lead you to discover more about this beautiful landscape and our work to protect it.



## Dingle Cookery School

An Choill, Dingle. Tel: +353 (0)86 8723521  
www.dinglecookeryschool.com

A lovely mix of food history, demonstrations and hands on cookery giving a deep understanding of Irish food. A welcome with scones and tea while stepping back 10,000 years in our food history. Learn how to prepare fresh fish, a local lamb, traditional Irish soda bread and a lovely dessert before sitting down to a wonderful meal.



## Dingle Whiskey Distillery

Dingle. Tel: +353 (0)66 4029011  
www.dingledistillery.ie

The Dingle Distillery welcomes visitors to enjoy a tour of our facility where the entire production process, for all our products, are explained and a whiskey and a gin/vodka sample is provided. Our distillery tour will give you an introduction into Irish whiskey and into the Dingle Distillery.



## Kerry County Museum

Denny Street, Tralee. Tel: +353 (0)66 7127777  
www.kerrymuseum.ie

Make your way to Kerry County Museum and explore times gone by through its array of artefacts, interactive galleries and hands-on activities. This fascinating venue highlights the rich heritage of County Kerry.



## Kerry Writers Museum

The Square, Listowel. Tel: +353 (0)68 222212  
www.kerrywritersmuseum.com

This fascinating museum portrays the lives of North Kerry's famous writers including John B. Keane, Bryan MacMahon and Maurice Walsh with an informative audiovisual experience. Discover Kerry Writers' Museum in a beautifully restored 19th-century Georgian residence next to Listowel Castle.



## Siamsa Tíre

Tralee. Tel: +353 (0)66 7123055  
www.siamsatire.com

As home to the National Folk Theatre, we present five months of folk theatre productions from our repertoire between May and September. From October to April, Siamsa Tíre hosts a wide range of events, including touring drama, classical music, comedy, dance and opera along with productions by local groups and musical societies.



## Muckross House, Gardens and Traditional Farms

Killarney. Tel: +353 (0)64 6670144  
www.muckross-house.ie

This magnificent Victorian mansion - one of Ireland's leading stately homes - is situated amidst the spectacular scenery of Killarney National Park. Elegantly furnished rooms portray the lifestyles of the landed gentry, while downstairs in the basement you can experience the working conditions of the servants employed in the House back in the day.



## Skellig Chocolate Factory

Ballinskelligs. Tel: +353 (0)66 9479119  
www.skelligschocolate.com

Skelligs Chocolate is Ireland's only open-plan chocolate factory. We are located on The Skellig Ring on the Wild Atlantic Way, overlooking the UNESCO World Heritage site & one of 15 Signature Discovery points of the Wild Atlantic Way; Skellig Michael. Visitors are welcome from February through to December to see our Award-Winning chocolates being made.



## Tralee Bay Wetlands

Ballyard, Tralee. Tel: +353 (0)66 7126700  
www.traleebaywetlands.org

Popular at home and abroad with locals, tourists, walking enthusiasts, nature lovers, day trippers, coach groups, garden clubs, school tours and families, Tralee Bay Wetlands Eco & Activity Park is equipped with not only scenic views but also with full visitor facilities, including the Lakeside Café onsite, an Ecology and Wildlife Park and Self Guided Nature Tour.



## Ballygarry Estate, Hotel & Spa

Leebrook, Tralee, Co. Kerry, Ireland, V92 W279.

### Autumn Staycation Offer From €249 pps

A luxurious estate hotel perfectly located in the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way. Discover the charm, warmth and homely welcome that has become synonymous with Ballygarry.

#### Your Package Includes:

Three Nights Accommodation, Complimentary upgrade to a superior room, Hot Whiskey on arrival in Owen Mac's Bar, Full Irish Breakfast each morning, 4 course Dinner on one evening of your choice.

- Nadúr Spa
- Fitness Suite
- Wifi
- Bicycles Available
- Daily Newspaper
- On-Site Parking
- Bar
- Dining



## Dingle Skellig Hotel

Dingle, Co Kerry

### Skellig Seniors Programme From €395 pps

The Dingle Skellig Hotel sits on the shores of Dingle bay and offer fantastic facilities and a breathtaking setting for an amazing relaxed break.

With a selection of organised programmes taking place twice a year including their popular open golfing competition break and an exclusive 4 night senior programme you can enjoy a line up of activities including a guided tour of Sleat Head, a visit to Dingle Oceanworld, discounted Spa treatments or simply enjoy the coastline walks just outside the hotel.

- Spa
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Swimming Pool
- Coastal



## Dingle Benners Hotel

Main Street, Dingle, Co Kerry.

### Young at Heart Break From €490.00 for 2 sharing

Dingle Benners Hotel is located in the heart of Dingle town and surrounded by award winning restaurants, unique shops and an array of things to do - all within walking distance! This historic boutique hotel is famed for its food including afternoon tea, awarding winning breakfast, and their amazing team.

This Young at Heart package includes a 3 night stay, award winning breakfast each morning, dinner on one night and a welcome tea, coffee and sweet treat on arrival.

- Wifi
- Bar
- Dining
- Afternoon Tea
- On-Site Parking
- Daily Newspaper
- Town Centre



## Dromhall Hotel

Muckross Rd, Dromhale, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V92 PY80

### Golden Years Breaks

The team at Dromhall Hotel have been turning moments into memories for 60 years. Boasting 72 luxurious guestrooms finished to the highest of standards to ensure you experience an unforgettable nights rest. Rejuvenate and recharge at Club Santé with a 20-metre swimming pool, sauna & steam room, or relax with a spa treatment at the Zen Day Spa. This 4-star hotel also offers two dining options: the elegant Abbey restaurant which offers breakfast and private dining, or the award winning Kayne's Bar, Brasserie & Terrace.

- Spa
- Leisure Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Pet Friendly



## Castlerosse Park Resort

Lakes of Killarney, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 VN5P

### Golden Breaks at the Castlerosse Park Resort €235.00 per person sharing €265.00 per single room

3 Nights accommodation with breakfast and 4 course dinner each evening (Fourth night optional at a special price)

Day time activities including a gardening talk and a guided park-walk, Aqua Aerobics - Booking is essential, Evening Entertainment - Traditional Music on two evenings. Please note all activities will be dependent on Covid Restrictions at the time.

- Treatment Room
- Fully Fitted Gym
- Hair Salon
- Swimming Pool
- 9 Hole Golf Course
- On-Site Parking



## Gleneagle Hotel & Apartments

Muckross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

### Best Rate Bed and Breakfast From €50 pps

We are so much more than just a hotel. We are a welcoming smile, excitement in the air and memories in the making. We are the best entertainment and all sorts of fun filled activities. We are our beautiful surroundings and our vibrant town. We are delicious food, gorgeous guestrooms and a team that is dedicated to taking care of you and yours. We cannot wait to welcome you back to a new era at The Gleneagle Hotel & Apartments.

- Afternoon Tea
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Golf
- Swimming Pool





### Great Southern Killarney

★★★★

East Avenue, Killarney, Co.Kerry, V93 R866.

#### Active Retirement 2 Night Break €315 total stay

Great Southern is Killarney's Premier Historic Hotel since 1854. Located in Killarney town centre, directly adjacent to Killarney Bus & Train stations, yet with over 6 acres of gardens, Great Southern is without a doubt a superb and unrivalled location. Residents enjoy a welcoming bar, a gourmet restaurant and a traditional Afternoon Tea service served daily in The Grand Foyer.

- On-Site Parking
- Swimming Pool
- Fitness Centre
- Afternoon Tea
- Wheelchair Accessible
- On-Site Parking
- Bar
- Restaurant
- Beauty Rooms



### Killarney Royal Hotel

★★★★

College Street, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 XC90

#### Active Retirement 2 Night Break €315 total stay

Killarney Royal is a luxurious 4 star hotel conveniently located in the heart of Killarney town. Killarney Royal is brimming with character, charm and a loyal team dedicated to ensuring that each and every stay is a memorable one. As well as 32 luxurious bedrooms Killarney Royal also offers guests exceptional cuisine in The Candle Room Restaurant and the Bar Bistro or enjoy the time-honoured tradition of Afternoon Tea by the fireside in The Lobby Lounge.

- Elevator
- 24-hour Reception
- On-Site Parking
- Bar
- Restaurant
- Wheelchair Accessible



### Hotel Killarney

★★★

Cork Road, Killarney Co. Kerry, V93 FX00.

#### Autumn Mini Break B&B with Main Course and Glass of Wine! From €67.50 per person sharing

From August 29th on select midweek dates.  
\* Main course and juice included for kids \*  
Complimentary Breakfast Included \* Free Parking \* Complimentary access to Club Vitae leisure centre during your stay.

Experience all of Kerry's beauty at Hotel Killarney. Located only one mile from Killarney town centre, Hotel Killarney has superb facilities and an extensive range of activities to suit everyone.

- Swimming Pool
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Bar



### Innisfallen Hotel

★★★

Fossa, Killarney, Co. Kerry. V93CR90

#### Room Only Rate from €79

The Innisfallen Hotel is conveniently located at the gateway to the Ring of Kerry and the Wild Atlantic Way. Innisfallen Hotel also offers a variety of accommodation options which are well equipped and spacious to suit guests for a leisure or activity break in Killarney, Kerry or the South West of Ireland.

- Bar
- Golf Nearby
- On-Site Parking



### Randles Court

★★★★

Muckcross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 N264.

#### Golden Years Breaks

This unique 4-star hotel has been welcoming guests since 1906. Famous for its Irish hospitality, guests will enjoy the comfort and elegance of an era long since passed complemented by the most modern of facilities. Unwind in luxurious, spacious guest rooms, enjoy a drink in Wiggs Bar, Randles Conservatory or Terraced Garden, after a fine dining experience, spend some downtime in the Leisure Club or indulge and pay a visit to Zen Day Spa. A stay at this family owned Killarney hotel is truly a unique experience.

- Spa
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Swimming Pool



### Scotts Hotel Killarney

★★★★

Town Centre, Scotts Street, Killarney, Co Kerry.

#### Golden Years Breaks

Located in the heartbeat of Killarney, this 4-star hotel has created a home away from home with an array of facilities to meet all of your needs and make your break special, no matter what kind of experience you are seeking. Scott's Hotel consists of 120 stylish bedrooms, 2 bars, outdoor courtyard restaurant serving the best of Irish & International cuisine, and complimentary onsite parking, with Killarney National Park, St Mary's Cathedral, and a variety of shops and restaurants within walking distance.

- Bar
- Restaurant
- On-Site Parking



### The Ashe Hotel

★★★★

Main Street, Tralee, Co Kerry

#### Active Retired Breaks in Beautiful Kerry October to March 2 Nights DBB €120pps 3 Nights DBB €175pps

The Ashe Hotel is a stylish four star hotel located in the town centre of Tralee on a quiet side street yet walking distance to cafes, bars, the towns' famous Rose Gardens and more. With 97 bedrooms, every comfort is considered. Enjoy great cocktails and craft beers at Alfies Bar & Lounge and delicious Irish food served throughout the day. Sit al fresco on the Terrace with a great coffee and relax after a day spent touring the region.

- Afternoon Tea
- On-Site Parking



### The Brehon and Angsana Spa

★★★★

Muckcross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 N264.

#### Best Rate Bed and Breakfast From €60pps

No matter where you are or how beautiful the backdrop – we believe you have to deliver outstanding, genuine service every day. This is what we do. Exceptional surroundings complemented by exceptional service... this is The Brehon Way.

The design and decorative inspiration for our award-winning hotel comes from our spectacular setting. The classical detailing of Killarney's stately home, Muckcross House, inspired the exterior. While inside, the dappled light and rich green hues of Killarney's ancient oak forests instil a sense of calm.

- Spa
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Swimming Pool
- Afternoon Tea
- Golf



### The Lake Hotel

★★★★

Lake Shore, Muckcross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 RR59

#### Two Nights Bed & Breakfast and One Evening Meal September From €217 per person, October From €177 per person

Indulge in a 2 night escape with breakfast each morning and dinner on one evening at The Lake Hotel. Surrounded by nature, only 2kms from Killarney town centre, the hotel is perfectly located to explore all that the wonderful Killarney area has to offer.

- Afternoon Tea
- Golf Nearby
- Fitness Centre
- Wellness Centre
- On-Site Parking



### The Rose Hotel

★★★★

Dan Spring Road, Cloon Beg, Tralee, County Kerry

#### Over 50's Mid Week Breaks From €130pps

The moment you arrive at The Rose Hotel, you feel the warmth of our hospitality embrace you like an old friend and the welcome is always the same – heartfelt and personalised. With 161 beautifully appointed rooms and suites created with luxury in mind, every visit elicits a sense of occasion. Set against the magnificent backdrop of the Slieve Mish Mountains, and conveniently located within walking distance of the town centre, ideal for sampling Tralee's bustling mix of traditional music pubs, restaurants, cafés, and high street favourites.

- Spa
- Fitness Centre
- On-Site Parking
- Afternoon Tea





# Eileen Smith in Killarney

Killarney is one of Ireland's most charming towns with its legendary lakes and picture-postcard landscapes, visitors will experience the warmest of welcomes and feel instantly at home. As part of the Keep Discovering Campaign with invited the queen of style Eileen Smith, and daughter Suzanne to visit our home town and explore the sublime beauty of the area.



## Great Southern Killarney

Great Southern is Killarney's premier historic hotel, an iconic retreat for over 160 years, it is without a doubt a superb and unrivalled location. Located in Killarney town centre, directly adjacent to Killarney Bus & Train stations, Eileen & Suzanne enjoyed leisurely strolls in the 6 acres of gardens, relaxed in their beautifully appointed accommodations and experienced authentic Irish food with traditional afternoon tea in the luxurious surrounds of the Victorian Drawing Rooms and dinner in both the Garden Room restaurant and The Candle Room at Killarney Royal, the sister hotel of Great Southern.

**For the best available rates head over to [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie) to book your stay at the Great Southern Killarney.**

**Active Retirement – 2 Night Break from €315 total stay**



## Killarney Jaunting Cars

A trip to Killarney isn't complete without a tour of Killarney National Park onboard a Traditional Jaunting Car, Eileen and Suzanne enjoyed the unique beauty of the parks wildlife, and tree-lined avenues before arriving at Ross Castle, they were then invited onboard the MV Lake Cruiser and witnessed the picturesque lake, Lock Léin and majestic mountains whilst enjoying the live commentary from their Captain.

**T: 064 6633358**

**E: [info@killarneyjauntingcars.com](mailto:info@killarneyjauntingcars.com)**

## Muckross House, Gardens & Traditional Farms

This magnificent Victorian mansion is one of Ireland's leading stately homes, situated amidst the spectacular scenery of Killarney National Park. They met with skilled craftworkers, who demonstrated their skills in the crafts of weaving, pottery and bookbinding. With Eileen's love of gardening, she thoroughly enjoyed walking through the gardens filled with exotic trees, a fine collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, an outstanding rock garden and beautiful tree-fringed lawns.

## Aran Sweater Market

Located on College Street in Killarney, selling authentic Aran sweaters direct from the Aran Islands. The Aran Sweater Market acts as a guardian of this proud island tradition as it continues to grow as an international fashion item.

## The Kilkenny Store

The Kilkenny Store stocks an array of top Irish Designers such as Fee G, Caroline Kilkenny, Orla Kiely and Waterford Crystal, all internationally renowned for their talented and individual designs and creations. Whether you're seeking fashion and accessories, a special gift, handmade jewellery, Waterford crystal or hand-thrown pottery The Kilkenny Store has an array of wonderfully designed products for you to choose from.

**A: 3 New Street, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 Y2HV**

**T: 064-6623309**

## Macbees Boutique

A retail highlight was Eileen's visit to Macbees, established by Mary McBride in 1984 as one of Ireland's first multi-brand luxury boutiques. This independent boutique houses the latest in established and emerging fashion brands and is a modern luxury shopping destination that gives a local experience with a global view with styles ranging from luxe laid-back casual to show-stopping occasion-wear in sizes 6 to 20..

**A: 6 New Street, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93HF59**

**T: +353 64 66 33633**

**To organise your next trip  
to one of Ireland's most  
charming towns, contact  
the team at Golden Ireland  
today on 064 663 0267  
or visit our website  
[www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)**



# FALLS HOTEL & SPA

## ENNISTYMON

*At the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way*

**Enjoy a mid-week break in Clare... Explore the Burren, walk the beaches, visit the Cliffs of Moher and so much more**

### Active Retired Breaks

- Enjoy tea/coffee and biscuits upon arrival
- Dinner Every Evening
- Relax with a treatment in the River Spa
- Browse around the lovely market town of Ennistymon
- No single supplement

**3 Nights Dinner B&B €180pp / 5 Nights Dinner B&B €310pp**

### Bridge & Whist Breaks

Four nights B&B with dinner every evening, tea/coffee and biscuits upon arrival. Daily bridge or Whist clinics, evening entertainment in the bar. Organised hotel activities such as flower arranging, social dancing, aqua aerobics

**Bridge Breaks €305 pp: Oct 10th-14th, Oct 17th-21st, Oct 31st - Nov 4th, Nov 14th-18th**

**Whist Breaks €295 pp: Oct 3rd-7th & Nov 28th- Dec 2nd**

**Falls Hotel & Spa, Ennistymon, Co Clare**  
T: 065 7071004 | E: [reservations@fallshotel.ie](mailto:reservations@fallshotel.ie) | W: [fallshotel.ie](http://fallshotel.ie)




# CLONAKILTY PARKHOTEL



**Explore West Cork this Autumn**  
from **€69DBB** pps.  
per night, midweek. Terms apply.

Tel. 023 8836400, [www.clonakiltyparkhotel.ie](http://www.clonakiltyparkhotel.ie)



# CLIFDEN STATION HOUSE HOTEL

## Connemara

*Golden Years 3 Night Package*

**Mid-Week Offer**

3 Nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast  
Discounted treatments in Renew Skincare & Beauty  
Discounted shopping in Millar's of Connemara  
**€249 Per Person Sharing in Single/Twin Room**  
**€279 Per Person Sharing Deluxe Room**  
**For Bookings Please Call: 095-21699**



# West Cork

From buzzing streets and vibrant festivals to sweeping bays and unforgettable landscapes, West Cork is brimming with Irish culture, old and new. Experience its dramatic coastal landscapes, historical treasures and spectacular islands.

### Bantry House & Gardens

Seafield, Bantry. Tel: +353 (0)27 50047  
www.bantryhouse.com

Bantry House & Garden, the stunning stately home of the Earls of Bantry and their descendants the White Family. The estate, situated overlooking Bantry Bay is open from April to October and includes a tearoom. Bantry House & Garden hosts a number of events including classical and traditional music festivals, product launches, food festivals and outdoor theatre and is a popular location for television and films.



### Beara Peninsula & Beara Way

West Cork Tel: +353 (0)27 70054  
www.bearatourism.com

Explore the Beara Peninsula, a tapering 30 mile-long forefinger of land that borders the counties of Cork and Kerry. With a unique climate not found anywhere else in Ireland, discover Mediterranean plants and sub-tropical trees here. Make time to scout out Martello Towers, holy wells, and famine ruins, or visit Dursey Island and take an exhilarating trip on Ireland's only cable car.



### Clonakilty Distillery

Clonakilty. Tel: +353 (0)23 8840635  
www.clonakiltydistillery.ie

Clonakilty Distillery in Clonakilty, County Cork is an award winning distillery owned by the Scully family. Clonakilty Distillery makes premium single pot still whiskey and innovative gin collections. Uncover the history of the distillery and get a detailed insight into the drinks on a tour and finish it off with a guided tasting. Choose your favourite ingredients and make your own gin in the gin making school, before finishing off your day with a modern, Irish meal in the distillery's restaurant.



### Charles Fort

Kinsale, Co. Cork. Tel: +353 (0)21 4772263  
www.heritageireland.ie

Visit this unique star-shaped military fortress that has stood guard over Kinsale harbour for over three hundred years. This star-shaped military fortress was constructed between 1677 and 1682, during the reign of Charles II, to protect the town and harbour of Kinsale. As one of the largest military forts in the country, Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history.



### Garnish Island

Glengarriff, West Cork. Tel: +353 (0)27 63040  
www.heritageireland.ie

You can witness the Gulf Stream working its magic on Garnish (Garinish) Island in the sheltered harbour of Glengarriff in Bantry Bay. The island is an oasis of sub-tropical blooms and oriental plant life displayed in the world-famous Illnacullin gardens. Take the trip out on a small ferry or waterbus and watch for the colony of friendly seals along the way.



### Michael Collins Centre

Castleview, Clonakilty. Tel: +353 (0)23 8846107  
www.michaelcollinscentre.com

Discover the fascinating Michael Collins Centre near Clonakilty. This historical place was set up by Tim and Dolores Crowley. Tim, a historian and writer, is a cousin of Michael Collins through his great grandmother, Marianne McCarthy.





## Limerick - The Treaty County

Limerick's important role in Irish history is evident in its medieval city streets, Norman strongholds and ancient Irish monuments, but it's the people that are the real legacy of the Treaty County. Enjoy a friendly welcome from the Limerick locals as you discover the county's many charms.

For more information, visit [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)



<h3>King John's Castle</h3> <p>Limerick City. Tel: +353 (0)61 711222 www.kingjohnscastle.com</p> <p>Named after the villainous king from Robin Hood, King John's Castle is a 13th Century stronghold on King's Island in the heart of medieval Limerick. One of the best-preserved Norman castles in Europe, its recent state-of-the-art upgrade introduced interactive activities and exhibitions, CGI animations and projections that really bring its story to life.</p>	<h3>Thomond Park</h3> <p>Cratloe Road, Limerick. Tel: +353 (0)61 421109 www.thomondpark.ie</p> <p>There's nothing like experiencing the "Munster roar" in Thomond Park and seeing the unique synergy between the Munster rugby team and the fans at a live game. Go one better with a behind the scenes Thomond Park tour and access places normally reserved for players and coaches.</p>	<h3>The Hunt Museum</h3> <p>Rutland Street, Limerick. Tel: +353 (0)61 312833 www.huntmuseum.ie</p> <p>In the heart of Limerick on the banks of the Shannon, the Hunt Museum's eclectic collections reflect the diverse interests of its founders, John and Gertrude Hunt. You'll be treated to artefacts from ancient Greece and Rome, art by modern masters like Jack B Yeats, Pablo Picasso and Henry Moore.</p>	<h3>Milk Market</h3> <p>Limerick City. Tel: +353 (0)61 214782 www.milkmarketlimerick.ie</p> <p>Ireland's oldest weekly market, The Milk Market is an enduring Limerick institution where you can pick up the best artisan food or fresh family essentials, each weekend. You'll see traditional fare like crubeens alongside fresh seafood and homemade sauces as you soak up the buzz and chatter you'd expect from a working market.</p>
<h3>Foynes Flying Boat &amp; Maritime Museum</h3> <p>Foynes, Co. Limerick. Tel: +353 (0)69 65416 www.flyingboatmuseum.com</p> <p>A visit to Foynes Flying Boat &amp; Maritime Museum, just a short spin from the city, transports you back to the thirties and forties, when Foynes was a vital hub in the development of transatlantic passenger flight.</p>	<h3>Lough Gur</h3> <p>Bruff, Co. Limerick. Tel: +353 (0)61 385186 www.loughgur.com</p> <p>The stunning views and walks around Lough Gur are impressive enough but you'll also find ancient burial mounds, megalithic tombs, forts and standing stones scattered around this mysterious landscape.</p>	<h3>Ballyhoura Way</h3> <p>Tel: (063) 91300 www.visitballyhoura.com</p> <p>An attractive and varied route through the lush pastureland of the Golden Vale. The Ballyhoura Way is part of the O'Sullivan Beara trail and stretches 90kms from John's Bridge in North Cork to Limerick Junction in Co. Tipperary.</p>	<h3>Adare</h3> <p>Co. Limerick. <a href="http://www.adarevillage.com">www.adarevillage.com</a></p> <p>Just a half hour from Limerick City, the heritage town of Adare on the banks of the River Maigue is a required stop on any tour of Limerick. It's a postcard perfect village that has no shortage of attractions. There's the 19th Century Adare Manor, the gorgeous thatched cottages that once housed the manor's workers, the ruins of three ancient monasteries, the impressive Adare Heritage Centre and a celebrated golf course.</p>

### Clonakilty Park Hotel

Park Road, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 RD23

★★★

#### Explore West Cork this Autumn - €79DBB PPS

Offer includes bed & breakfast & a 3 course evening meal. Relax and unwind with a daily complimentary newspaper. Full use of our leisure club & gym facilities. The hotel is also Fáilte Ireland Safety Charter accredited. Clonakilty town centre is approx. an 8 minute stroll from the hotel. It is a town of tall spires, towers and historic buildings. It is also renowned for its variety of craft shops and boutiques.



☕ Afternoon Tea

🏊 Swimming Pool

🏋️ Fitness Centre

🎬 Cinema Room

🅅 On-Site Parking

### Greenhills Hotel

Ennis Road, Limerick City, V94X22RV

★★★

#### Golden Escape 3 Night Break Prices from €255 (available Sunday-Thursday)

The family run 4-star hotel is the perfect base for a relaxing getaway break whilst exploring all that the West coast has to offer. A warm welcome awaits, with complimentary Homemade scones & preserves, served with Tea/Coffee, while you get settled into your comfortably appointed bedroom. Visit the leisure centre, have a swim, use the fitness facilities, or unwind in the sauna or Jacuzzi before joining us for dinner, followed by a relaxing drink in our bar or secluded garden area.



🛀 Spa

🏊 Swimming Pool

🏋️ Fitness Centre

🅅 On-Site Parking

☕ Afternoon Tea


### Limerick City Hotel

Lower Mallow Street, Limerick City, Co Limerick

★★★

#### Romantic Break €159 per night

Experience a luxurious stay at Limerick City Hotel. This year we deserve a treat even more, so take your "someone special" and come stay with us for a night of pampering in the Limerick City Hotel. Our package includes overnight accommodation, Full Irish Breakfast the following morning, Fresh fruit in your room upon arrival with Afternoon Tea and €30 voucher towards Food and Beverages in McGettigans Bar and a leisurely checkout of 1pm.



☕ Afternoon Tea

📍 City Centre Location

### Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Limerick

Ennis Road, Limerick City, V94X22RV

★★★★

#### Rates from €54.50pps

With the wild Atlantic on one side and Ireland's most vibrant city on the other, it makes us the perfect 4\* destination this Autumn; people are often surprised to experience the effortless tranquillity here at The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa. During your stay, take advantage of the peace and tranquillity of the hotel's 20 acres of private woodlands and spacious landscaped gardens. Featuring on-site Tennis and Basketball Courts, Walking Trails and striking views of the Woodcock Mountains, the Radisson Blu Limerick is perfectly positioned for what will be your greatest escape ever.



🍵 Elemis Spa

☕ Afternoon Tea

🍽 Dining

🅅 On-Site Parking

🏊 Swimming Pool

🏋️ Fitness Centre

🧘 Hair Salon

♿ Wheelchair Accessible

🏌 Golf Nearby



# A weekend in Limerick, the Treaty County



*As part of our partnership with Fáilte Ireland and the Keep Discovering campaign, Golden Ireland teamed with influencer Padraig Howley who kept his audience of 81k Instagram followers entertained earlier this year as he shared his journey to adopt a vegan diet and all round healthier lifestyle. Limerick City & County Council worked with Golden Ireland to help plan a weekend filled with activities from Pigeon Clay Shooting to a cruise on the River Shannon for Padraig and daughter Tara, and we are delighted to share the highlights with you all.*



## Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa

For their two day getaway, the 4-star Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa was where they called home. Padraig and Tara praised the team for their warm welcome and how well they accommodated Padraig's vegan diet. Quietly tucked away on 20 acres of wonderfully green woodland, featuring on-site tennis and basketball courts, walking trails, an indoor pool and spacious rooms, it's the perfect destination for a weekend escape.

**For the best available rates head over to [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie) to book your stay at the Radisson Blu Hotel.**

## Adare Village

Padraig and Tara made the most of fabulous weather and took a stroll through Adare Town Park & visited Adare Heritage Centre. If you're looking for a great spot for lunch, you have to stop at Stacpoole Coffee House, owned and run by Helen & Sebastian Stacpoole, Padraig and Tara couldn't get over the fabulous service and great tasting food they experienced in this quirky cafe.

**T: 061 396 409**  
**A: The Thatched House, Main St, Adare, V94 KH64**



## Lazy Dog Shooting

Later that afternoon they headed off to Kilfinane, in a hidden gem of breath taking scenery, lies the best Sporting Clay bird Ground in Munster, Lazy Dog Shooting. With Padraig being a former trophy winner, this activity was right up his street, however he left defeated by daughter Tara!

Lazy Dog Shooting caters to all levels of experience and can be enjoyed by hobbyists, or those simply seeking a fun day out with family or friends.

**T: 087 907 9556**  
**E: [lazydogsite@gmail.com](mailto:lazydogsite@gmail.com)**  
**A: Ballintober, Kilfinane, County Limerick**



## Happy Food at Home

The Milk Market is Limerick's most famous market, it's the place where you can buy the freshest of food produce; delicious, organic, in-season, natural, artisan foods. Saturday is the day of the Farmers Market and Street Food. Padraig & Tara met with Ciara from Happy Food at Home who believes in creating great flavour combinations for plant-based dishes. Padraig & Tara enjoyed a delicious lunch and also picked up some yummy vegan treats from sister company, Happy Dogs at Home, to take home to their dogs Saoirse & Jasper.

**T: 087 647 8693**  
**A: Little Top Cafe at, Cornmarket Row, The Milk Market, Limerick, V94 TX29**



## The Ilen Project

Gary at The Ilen Project organised a very special trip for Padraig and Tara, a cruise on the river Shannon and Kings Island on their Gandelow Boats.

"Our goal locally is to rebuild the cultural interface between Limerick and its surroundings, realising the munificence of our natural and built marine inheritance"

**T: 086 264 0479**  
**E: [info@ilen.ie](mailto:info@ilen.ie)**  
**A: A K Ilen Company, 94 Henry Street, Limerick, V94 XN6V**



## King John's Castle

With the assistance of James, one of King John's Castle courtyard animators, Padraig and Tara experienced over 800 years of dramatic local history.

They enjoyed state of the art interpretive activities and exhibitions in the visitor centre as well as the numerous courtyard games such as archery and abseiling. Head to the Golden Ireland website to find out more [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)

**A: King John's Castle, Nicholas St, Limerick**



## The Locke Bar

The Locke Bar is one of Limerick's oldest pubs dating back to the Siege of Limerick in 1690. Now known for having live music and Irish dancing 7 nights a week and two sessions a day April to November. Padraig & Tara thoroughly enjoyed their award winning gastro pub style dinner with fabulous views overlooking the Abbey River.

**T: 061 413 7333**  
**A: 3 George's Quay, Limerick, V94 K8KX**



## Nevsail Watersports

Nevsail is Limerick and Clare's premium Adventure Centre for Watersports in Ireland. Their aim is to share their love of watersports and adventure activities with the people of Ireland and they believe in the benefits of getting active outdoors and experiencing adventure activities develop personalities and improve people's overall health and happiness. Padraig & Tara finished their weekend away on a high, on Sunday morning they went on a Kayaking trip on the River Shannon and enjoyed the landmarks and wildlife. The team at Nevsail were friendly and informative rounded off their trip with unforgettable memories.

**T: 086 330 8236**  
**E: [info@nevsailwatersports.com](mailto:info@nevsailwatersports.com)**

**To organise your next trip to The Treaty County, contact the team at Golden Ireland today on 064 663 0267 or visit our website [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)**



# Gorgeous Galway

Epic coastlines, magnificent beaches and lofty mountain peaks, marvel at the epic scenery in the County Galway.

Visit energetic Galway city and discover the rich history of its medieval stone walls. Listen to talented buskers and watch colourful street acts before heading on to picturesque Oughterard and the wilds of Carna.

Galway's unique culture and dramatic landscape captivate visitors. Plan your trip now.

## Aran Islands

Experience the Aran Islands, the three islands, Inishmore (Inis Mór), Inishmaan (Inis Meáin) and Inisheer (Inis Oírr) each have their unique identities but you'll receive a warm welcome on each one. Lofty lighthouses, holy wells and historic monuments are to be found. Explore the peaceful islands with its wild flowers, stony hills and golden beaches.



## Galway City Museum

Spanish Parade, Galway City.

Tel: +353 (0)91 532460

[www.galwaycitymuseum.ie](http://www.galwaycitymuseum.ie)

Situated behind the famous Spanish Arch, Galway City Museum houses exhibitions which explore aspects of the history and heritage of Galway City. Ongoing exhibitions included Routes to the Past (Prehistoric Galway); Galway Within the Walls (Medieval Galway); Pádraic Ó Conaire: the Man and the Statue, The Galway Hooker and SeaScience.

## Connemara National Park

Letterfrack, Co. Galway. Tel: +353 (0)91 9541054

[www.connemaranationalpark.ie](http://www.connemaranationalpark.ie)

Visit County Galway and explore the spectacular Connemara National Park. It covers some 3,000 hectares of scenic mountains, expansive bogs, glorious grasslands and enchanting woodlands. Explore the park and admire the incredible scenery where rugged mountains dominate the dramatic landscape.

## Teach an Phiarsaigh (Pearse's Cottage)

Rosmuck, Carraroe. T: (091) 574292

This restored cottage was the former summer residence and summer school of Patrick Pearse (1879-1916), leader of the 1916 Rising. Situated near Rosmuck village in the heartland of Connemara's Gaeltacht district. Pearse's Cottage is a small restored cottage overlooking the breathtaking lakes and mountains of Connemara, County Galway.

## Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Walled Garden

Kylemore, Connemara. Tel: +353 (0)95 52001

[www.kylemoreabbey.com](http://www.kylemoreabbey.com)

Visit Kylemore Abbey and see its magnificent Victorian walled garden and neo-Gothic church in majestic Connemara. The Benedictine nuns of Kylemore invite visitors to experience this magnificent place. From the love story that started it all, to engineering initiatives, model farms, royal visits, and the Abbey's former role as a girls boarding school, learn about Kylemore's rich history.



## Brigit's Garden (Gairdín Bhríde)

Pollagh, Rosscahill. Tel: +353 (0)91 550905

[www.brigitsgarden.ie](http://www.brigitsgarden.ie)

Brigit's Garden is a magical place located in Roscahill, County Galway. This family friendly locale features four gardens which represent different Celtic festivals. There is also a café, nature trail, children's discovery trail, ring fort and more.

## Galway Bay Hotel

★★★★

Salthill Road Lower, Upper Salthill, Co Galway

### 2 night Over 50s packages From €171 pps

2 nights luxury accommodation at the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way.

A Full Irish breakfast served in our Bay Brasserie

A delicious 4 course dinner is included each evening with your menu specially curated using the very best of local produce by our talented chefs.

Discounts off a huge range of local activities and attractions. Complimentary access to our health & leisure centre.



Afternoon Tea



Swimming Pool



On-Site Parking



Fitness Centre



Golf



Cinema Room



Pet Friendly



## The Ardilaun

★★★★

Taylor's Hill, Galway City, H91 H29F

### Fabulous Fifties Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Package From €65 - €95 pps

Galway's popular Ardilaun Hotel continues to enchant guests with great-value breaks for the over 55's - offering luxurious accommodation, dining in the Camilaun Restaurant or The Ardilaun Bistro, chilling out in the Leisure Club or taking a stroll in The Ardilaun gardens, their friendly staff will give you a memorable break away in Galway City.



Gardens



Fitness Club



Afternoon Tea



Swimming Pool



Golf Nearby



On-Site Parking



Pet Friendly

## Clifden Station House Hotel

★★★

Clifden, Connemara, Co. Galway

### Golden Years 3 Night Package €249 Per Person Sharing in a Standard Double or Twin Room, €279 Per Person Sharing in a Deluxe Room

Visit us in the Clifden Station House for a 3 night break and enjoy dinner on each evening. Take in some of the stunning attractions and scenery such as Kylemore Abbey and the Wild Atlantic Way Discovery Point at Derrigimlagh.



Spa



Fitness Centre



Cinema Room



Swimming Pool



Golf



On-Site Parking



Pet Friendly



## The G Hotel

★★★★★

Wellpark, Old Dublin Road, Galway, H91 VOHR

### New Leaf Package 2BB1D & comp baileys coffee From €234pp

Turn over a new leaf and welcome the autumnal season in style with a 2-night Getaway at Galway's most extravagant Hotel. Enjoy a warm welcome and toast to your fall staycation. After getting settled in you will experience dining like no other, in our double AA Award-Winning Restaurant Gigi's, with our three-course evening dinner and a delicious Baileys coffee after-dinner drink. Sleep the night away at ease and wake to your freshly cooked breakfast.



Afternoon Tea



Spa



On-Site Parking



Swimming Pool



Fitness Centre



## Connemara Coast Hotel

★★★★

Furbo, Galway, H91KX27

### Golden Years 2 Night Package

A luxury property situated on the Wild Atlantic Way. With 141 bedrooms, a choice of dining, bars, two tennis courts, leisure centre with swimming pool, gymnasium & outdoor hot tub, and uninterrupted views of Galway Bay, the Aran Islands and the Atlantic Ocean. An idyllic location, guests can enjoy the flexibility of day tripping to Connemara, the Aran Islands or the Burren, and Galway only a few minutes away. We look forward to welcoming you to the Connemara Coast Hotel where days are long, and horizons are wide.



Afternoon Tea



Spa



On-Site Parking



Swimming Pool



Fitness Centre



## The Hardiman

★★★★★

Eyre Square, Galway, H91 NFD2

### Over 65's 3 Nights Bed & Breakfast with 3 Dinners €335 pp

Offering excellent value for individuals, friends, couples and retirement groups who are Galway bound and wishing to experience Galway. The Hardiman is ideally located right in the centre of Eyre Square, connected to the Galway's Ceannt Train Station (having originally been built as The Railway Hotel) Active Retirement guests can enjoy breaks ranging from 1-3 nights, from Sunday to Thursday. Arrive to complimentary Tea & Scones to be enjoyed, with evening meal each evening and breakfast each morning.



Afternoon Tea



Gaslight Brasserie



The Oyster Bar



City Centre Location



## Eyre Square Hotel

★★★

6 Forster St, Galway, H91 TCP0

### Over 55s 2 Nights Dinner Bed & Breakfast From €358 Total Stay

We endeavour for each and every one of our guests to have an enjoyable stay in the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way and to that end we are always willing and able to assist with making your stay as enjoyable and as memorable as can be.

Enjoy a 2 night midweek break with dinner at Eyre Square Hotel with 2 nights overnight accommodation, Gourmet 3 course evening meal in Merchant restaurant daily and Full Irish breakfast daily.



## The House Hotel Galway

★★★★★

Spanish Parade, Latin Quarter, Galway

### Young at Heart Three Night Package €191 per person

Relax with refreshing walks on the beautiful Salthill Promenade and beach with breath taking views of Galway's Bay and Clare Islands. The House Hotel is ideally located just a few minutes walk from Galway Train and Bus Stations and is perfect spot for a getaway. Enjoy the delights of Galway City, whether its spending an afternoon on shop street, which is on our doorstep or visit one of the quaint tea shops located nearby



Afternoon Tea



Outdoor Dining



The Yard Kitchen Bar



City Centre Location



# Scenic County Sligo

Trace the footsteps of one of Ireland's literary legends with a trip to Yeats County, escaping to another world entirely. Sligo's scenery is unrivalled, from remote islands to tranquil beaches. Magnificent Benbulbin rules the landscape, make time for a day trip to walk the laneways and trails at its base.

Sample fresh food at farmer's markets, watch soaring waves at Mullaghmore Head and explore the enchanting historical sites dotted across Sligo. For more information, visit [www.sligotourism.ie](http://www.sligotourism.ie)



## Mullaghmore Head

Home to some of the best big-wave surfing on the planet, Mullaghmore Head is a world-renowned destination for surf lovers. Grab a seat and watch daredevils ride giant waves, some as big as 30ft, or take a stroll along the cliffs and beaches with the striking Classiebawn Castle and Benbulbin in the distance.



## Lissadell House

Lissadell. Tel: +353 (0)71 9163150  
[www.lissadellhouse.com](http://www.lissadellhouse.com)

On the shores of Sligo Bay visit the recently restored Lissadell House & Gardens, which has played an integral part in Ireland's recent history. The childhood home of Countess Markievicz, one of the leaders of the 1916 Rising, it was also a favourite place of the great WB Yeats, who drew inspiration for his poetry from Sligo's landscape. Spend a relaxing afternoon touring the house and unique Alpine Garden before stopping by the tea rooms for a homemade treat.



## Benbulbin

The iconic flat-topped Benbulbin mountain has dominated the landscape in the west of Sligo for over 300 million years. Visible throughout the west of the county, you can really get a feel for its sheer size and otherworldly shape by exploring the trails and laneways at its base.



## Eagles Flying

Portinch, Co. Sligo.  
Tel: +353 (0)71 9189310  
[www.eaglesflying.com](http://www.eaglesflying.com)

Add a dash of excitement to your Sligo holiday with a trip to Eagles Flying but check before you visit as there are restricted opening hours. Watch as the handlers show off the laser-focused hunting skills of falcons, eagles and hawks.



## Coney Island

At low tide, you can drive or walk across the 5km long causeway from Rosses Point and escape from it all on Coney Island. Keep an eye out for the rabbits that give the island its name. With sweeping sandy beaches, lush green fields and gentle hills, Coney Island is a proper hidden treasure.



## Sligo Abbey

Abbey Street, Abbey Quarter North, Sligo.  
Tel: +353 (0)71 9146406  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

In the heart of Sligo town, explore Sligo Abbey, a medieval Dominican monastery built in 1252 and destroyed by an accidental candle fire in 1414. Home to Gothic and Renaissance works of art, legend has it that its silver bell was thrown in Lough Gill and only those living sin-free lives can hear it ring.



## Drumcliffe Church

Drumcliffe, Co. Sligo.  
Tel: +353(0)71 9144956

In the foothills of his beloved Benbulbin (Benbulbin) in Drumcliffe Church, lies the final resting place of the poet WB Yeats. This picturesque and quiet place is a must-visit if only to read for yourself the poet's famous epithet: "Cast a cold eye on life, on death Horseman, pass by."



## Carrowkeel

Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo  
[www.megalithicireland.com](http://www.megalithicireland.com)

Step back into Neolithic times on your trip to Sligo with a visit to Carrowkeel. This collection of tombs is one of the largest and most important ancient sites in Ireland, with stone structures standing here for over 5,000 years. Visitors are welcome to explore, but please don't climb on or damage the tombs.



## Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Sligo

★★★★

Ballincar, Rosses Point Road, Sligo, F91 XW7Y

## Rates from €74.50pps

Overlooking the Bay of Sligo, with stunning views of Rosses Point to one side and Knocknarea Mountain on the other, lies The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Sligo. Here, you can enjoy all the 4\* splendour on offer including 132 beautiful bedrooms, an award-winning restaurant, a top-rated Spa, a fully-equipped gym and an 18-metre heated indoor swimming pool. Just 5 minutes from the city centre and even less from a world of stunning walks, championship links golf courses and a host of celebrated surfing spots.

- Elemis Spa
- Afternoon Tea
- Dining
- Beach
- Golf Nearby



## Sligo Park Hotel & Leisure Centre

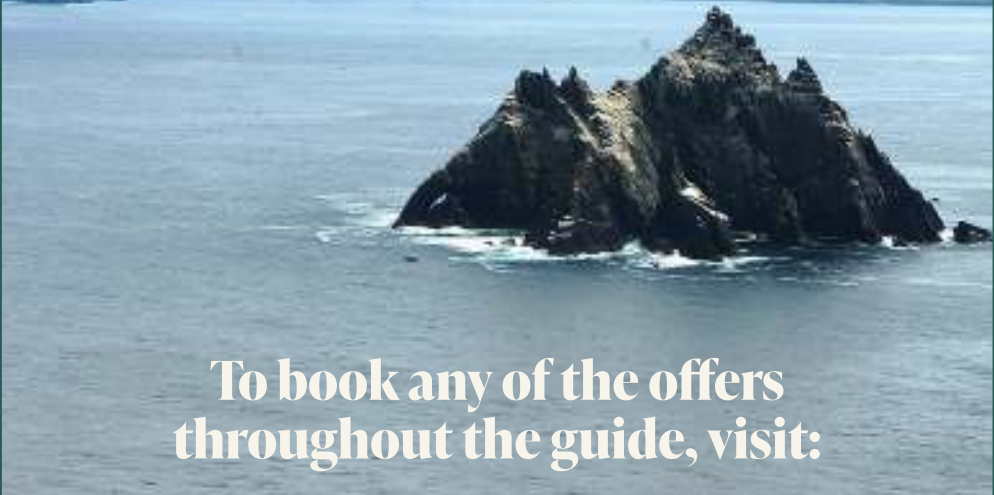

★★★★

Pearse Road, Sligo

## Make up for Lost Time! 3 Nights Dinner Bed and Breakfast from €195 per night

Located on the edge of Sligo town, the Sligo Park Hotel is set in quiet parkland and surrounded by some of Ireland's most iconic scenic spots — from the majestic Benbulbin to the dramatic coastlines and sandy beaches along the Wild Atlantic Way. This superb package has been specially created for the Over 50's and includes Full Irish Breakfast every morning and a fabulous 3 course Evening Meal every night in the Award winning AA Rosette Hazelwood Restaurant.

- Swimming Pool
- On-Site Parking
- Fitness Centre
- Golf Nearby
- Restaurant



To book any of the offers throughout the guide, visit:

[www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)  
E: [info@goldenireland.ie](mailto:info@goldenireland.ie)  
T: 00 353 (0)64 6630267



# Donegal - The County of the Gaels

Untouched and virtually unexplored, this ruggedly beautiful and remote region lies at the far north of the Wild Atlantic Way. It's no wonder Donegal was named the 'Coolest Place on the Planet for 2017' by National Geographic Traveller. Nature is spectacular and bracing here, from the sheer granite walls of some of Europe's highest sea cliffs, at Sliabh Liag (Slieve League), to the Northern Lights dancing in clear winter skies, to the millions of seabirds gathering in great estuaries, en route across the globe. The sea air revives, minds and horizons expand, stories are told, adventures are shared, and spirits lift.

## Fanad Lighthouse

Letterkenny. Tel: +353 (0)83 8091199  
www.fanadlighthouse.com

Daily guided tours allow visitors to experience the life of the light-keeper for themselves, to hear about the history of the lighthouse, some of the tragedies in the surrounding sea, to view the spectacular scenery and to learn about the new technology that watches our coastline today. Climb the 79 granite steps to the top of the tower and take in the panoramic views, you might very well see dolphins or other cetaceans passing by!



## Donegal Castle

Donegal Town. Tel: +353 (0)74 972240  
www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/donegal-castle

In the very heart of the county town, towering over the River Eske, stands Donegal Castle. Red Hugh O'Donnell himself built it as his personal fortress in the fifteenth century. Discover the remains of prehistoric tombs. Imagine the thrill of defending a castle. Wander through medieval halls. Soak up the serenity of old-world gardens and the splendour of great estates.

## Glenveagh National Park

Letterkenny. Tel: +353 (0)76 1002537  
www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie

A remote and hauntingly beautiful wilderness of rugged mountains, pristine lakes, tumbling waterfalls and enchanted native oak woodland in the heart of the Derryveagh Mountains in the north west of County Donegal. At the centre of the Park on the edge of Lough Veagh is Glenveagh Castle. A late 19th century castellated mansion, built as a hunting lodge. At the same time Scots pine woodlands were planted and red deer re-introduced.



## Glebe House and Gallery

Churchill, Letterkenny. Tel: +353 (0)74 9137071  
www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/glebe-house-and-gallery

Art enthusiasts will love a visit to Glebe House and Gallery. Located 18km from Letterkenny, County Donegal, visitors can view the Derek Hill collection which includes more than 300 works by Picasso and Kokoshka, as well as Irish and Italian artists.

## Slieve League (Sliabh Liag)

Teelin, Carrick. Tel: +353 (0)74 9739620  
www.sliabhliag.com

Blow away the cobwebs with a visit to some of the highest sea cliffs in Europe at Slieve League (Sliabh Liag). This holy mountain was a Christian pilgrimage site for over 1000 years and it's easy to see why it was regarded as a sacred place. Rising 600m above the waves, enjoy unrivalled views of the Donegal and Sligo coastlines.



## Glencolumbkille Folk Village

Dooley, Glencolumbkille. Tel: +353 (0)74 9730017  
www.glenfolkvillage.com

A thatched cottage coastal village in South West Donegal, established in 1967 it tells the story of Glencolumbkille through the ages. Original artifacts are on display in the cottages which were constructed from stone taken from period cottages throughout the parish. The tours are guided or are self guided and are available in over eight languages. There are three audiovisuals telling the story of Father Mc Dyer, our local fishing tradition and cine film from the 1950s.



## Clanree Hotel

★★★★

Derry Road, Letterkenny, Co Donegal

### Young at Heart €150 pps

Young at Heart - Three Nights' luxury accommodation for 2 adults at the Clanree Hotel with Full Irish Breakfast each morning, relax over a 3-course dinner on an evening of your choice and catch up with Afternoon Tea on an afternoon of your choice.



On-Site  
Parking



Fitness  
Centre



Afternoon  
Tea



Swimming  
Pool



## Inishowen Gateway Hotel

★★★

Buncrana, Inishowen, Co Donegal

### Over 55's 3 night break away From €405 per Couple

Includes Dinner each evening and breakfast each morning.

Full use of hotel facilities including swimming pool, sauna and steam room plus gym.

Beautiful walking trails around Buncrana town and Inishowen.

Local activities and attractions nearby including Malin Head, Wild Alpaca Way, Wild Ireland and Doagh Famine Village.



On-Site  
Parking



Fitness  
Centre



Swimming  
Pool

*The heart of the Kingdom*  
**OVER 50'S  
MIDWEEK BREAKS**

Enjoy a midweek break in Tralee, our Over 50's breaks include Bed/Breakfast & Dinner each evening and complimentary Tea/Coffee & Scones on arrival.

2021 PACKAGES	September	October	November & December
2 Dinner, B&B	€155 pps	€135 pps	€130 pps
3 Dinner, B&B	€210 pps	€190 pps	€185 pps
Single Room Supplement	€28 per night		

To book call **066 7199100** or visit **www.therosehototel.com**

The Rose Hotel, Dan Spring Road, Tralee, Co. Kerry. V92 HKA4. Email: [reservations@therosehotel.com](mailto:reservations@therosehotel.com)



## McGettigans Hotel

★★★

100 Main Street, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

### Golden Years 'Staycation' Packages €150 pps

Golden Years 'Staycation' Packages - Why not treat yourself to a lovely break in Donegal. Our beautiful county has so much to offer so take your time and soak in the spectacular scenery. We have great three & four night breaks available.

Our 3 Night Package includes 3 nights' bed & full Irish breakfast with a 2 course evening meal each night and Complimentary parking (limited spaces).



On-Site  
Parking



Central  
Location



## Mulroy Woods Hotel

★★★★

Loughnakey, Milford, Co. Donegal

### From only €149 per night

A warm & truly charming welcome awaits your arrival at the Award winning 4\* Mulroy Woods Hotel, with everything you require in comfort & style coupled with a special charm & cosy mood to make you feel right at home when you choose to visit with us.

Mulroy Woods Hotel is the perfect place for an over 55's break - whether travelling alone, with your partner or with friends. Stay as long as you want from only €149 per night to include B&B, two course dinner and tea, coffee and scones in our 'Wee Bar'.



Free Wifi



Flat Screen  
TV



Tea & Coffee  
Facilities



## Station House Hotel Letterkenny

★★★

Lower Main Street, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

### Feeling 40...Over 50 Golden Years Break 2 Nights for €208 3 Nights for €268

Package Includes; Breakfast each morning, a Box of luxurious Chocolates on arrival, One sumptuous evening Meal and a Complimentary Bottle of House Wine paired with that Meal. Offer valid for stays Sun to Friday only and based on 2 people sharing

Contemporary boutique style Hotel located Letterkenny town centre and in the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way.



Free Wifi



On-Site  
Parking



Conference  
Facilities



Bar



Restaurant



# Magical Mayo

Uncover the charms of Westport as you walk around the historic streets of Mayo's most popular town as music floats through the air, before visiting the village of Knock.

Then venture west to the coast and make your way across the bridge to the majestic Achill Island. From the Blue Flag Beach of Keem Bay, to the incredible cliff walks and amazing local food, you'll never want to go home.

A trip to Mayo will live long in your memory and leave you planning your return visit.

### Achill Island

Co. Mayo

Live like an islander on your next trip to Achill. Embrace the fresh weather on Achill Island and uncover a truly raw landscape on the edge of Ireland. Find peace and calm as you explore award-winning golden beaches and swim in the clear waters.

Taste the seafood plucked from the ocean that morning, mingle with the friendly locals in the traditional, charming pubs.

### Céide Fields Visitor Centre & Site

Glenurla, Ballycastle.

Tel: +353 (0)96 43325 [www.ceidefields.com](http://www.ceidefields.com)

The amazing geology, archaeology, botany and wildlife of this North Mayo region is interpreted at the Céide Fields Visitor Centre, with the aid of an audio-visual presentation and exhibitions. The Centre, at Ballycastle, is an unusual part limestone, part peat-clad, pyramid-shaped building, with a glazed lantern apex, and was opened in 1993 by the Office of Public Works.

### Croagh Patrick

Teevenacroaghy. Tel: +353 (0)98 64114 [www.croagh-patrick.com](http://www.croagh-patrick.com)

Welcome to a place of ancient history, Patrick's sacred mountain, and a rich vein of archaeological heritage. Croagh Patrick is situated five miles from the picturesque town of Westport and the mountain's conical shape soars majestically above the surrounding countryside. Magnificent views of Clew Bay and the surrounding south Mayo countryside are to be had from all stages of the ascent of the mountain.

### Knock Shrine

Shrine Office, Knock. Tel: +353 (0)94 9388100 [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)

Knock Shrine in Knock, County Mayo, captures the compelling story of the Knock Apparition of 1879 and tells of the fifteen people who witnessed the event. A full range of facilities are available to visiting pilgrims.

### Michael Davitt Museum

Knockagarraun, Strade. Tel: +353 (0)94 9031942 [www.michaeldavittmuseum.ie](http://www.michaeldavittmuseum.ie)

The Michael Davitt Museum, dedicated to the patriot, MP and Land League founder, is located in Straide County Mayo. The Michael Davitt Museum contains an extensive collection of documents, photos, land acts, letters, postcards, posters and other items connected with Michael Davitt's life.

### The Great Western Greenway

Attireesh, Co. Mayo. [www.greenway.ie](http://www.greenway.ie)

From the rugged Nephin Beg Mountains to majestic Clew Bay, soak in the beauty of the Wild Atlantic Way along the Great Western Greenway. The views are genuinely breathtaking. Visit Mulranny Beach with its glorious, golden sand dunes, watch out for the striking cliffs of Clare Island and stop off at the village of Achill Sound, a sanctuary of serenity.

### Museum of Country Living

Turlough Park, Castlebar. Tel: +353 (0)94 9031755 [www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

Set in modern exhibitions Galleries in the spectacular grounds of Turlough Park House and surrounded by magnificent gardens and artificial lake (known as a Turlough in Irish), visitors are invited to experience traditions of rural life throughout Ireland from 1850-1950 in the award-winning Museum of Country Life.

### Westport House & Gardens

Quay Rd, Westport Demesne. Tel: +353 (0)98 27766 [www.westporthouse.ie](http://www.westporthouse.ie)

Explore historic Westport House & Grounds, one of County Mayo's best-loved attractions with beautiful parklands, lakes and the family favourite Pirate Adventure Park. The fascinating history of Westport House goes back to the 1500s when the famous Pirate Queen of Connaught, Grace O'Malley, built one of her castles here.



### Great National Hotel Ballina

★★★★★

Ballina, Co Mayo

#### Group Activity Break €55ppspn

Enjoy 4 Nights BB & 4 Evening Meals + 2 nights entertainment from €55 per person sharing per night at the 4 star Great National Hotel Ballina with luxurious treatments in Eidin Spa or a dip in the pool. On the edge of the Wild Atlantic Way we work alongside all main attractions in the area and will help plan day excursions to make for an unforgettable trip.

Eidin Spa

Swimming Pool

Fitness Centre

Bistro

Afternoon Tea

On-Site Parking



### The Lodge at Ashford Castle

★★★★★

Cong, Co Mayo

#### Young at heart 2 night package - From €275.00 pps

The Lodge enjoys the feel of a relaxed rural country house hotel while being an intrinsic part of the remarkable Ashford Castle estate. Once home to the Guinness family, the historic estate has won countless awards and covers 350 acres of formal, manicured gardens and wild, rambling woodland rich in wildlife Warm Irish hospitality awaits. With our picturesque lakeside setting, elegant interiors, imaginative cuisine and attentive personal service, The Lodge is a chic and elegant sanctuary, just outside the charming village of Cong, in the heart of Mayo.


On-Site Parking

Golf

Pet Friendly

Bicycles Available

Bookings via [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)



## IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST®

### Wander Through Time

Visit Ireland's Ancient East and discover a region of rich green fields and stunning scenic beauty that is defined by a fascinating history spanning 5,000 years, brought to life by some of the best storytellers in the world.


This is a place brimming with great culture, attractions, festivals, food experiences and fun. Here you can embark on a journey of discovery in one of Europe's most unique touring regions that offers an amazing wealth of heritage in a compact area of stunning natural beauty.

Ireland's Ancient East has attracted warring settlers for millennia leaving a legacy of brilliant, engaging stories and historic attractions that make this area a joy to visit. There's a huge sense of its vibrant, intriguing history everywhere you go, whether its local people sharing stories of colourful historical characters, or artisanal food producers and craftsmen telling you about their living traditions. Discover castles battered by brutal sieges and battles or wander the gracious manor houses and gardens of the aristocracy. Stand inside tombs older than the pyramids, explore the land of saints and scholars, where monks lived in fear of Vikings and hermits sought peace in some of the country's most picturesque locations. Or explore a coastline where you can climb to the top of the world's oldest operating light house or board a replica Famine ship.

This region is crammed with wonderful quirky things to do for the whole family. Whether it's exploring the eerie dungeons of Wicklow Gaol or zip-lining through the forest in Meath. There are new experiences too, such as scenery on the Waterford Greenway, the longest off-road walking and cycling experience in Ireland, which opened recently.

Ireland's Ancient East covers the area outside of Dublin and east of the River Shannon, extending from Carlingford to Cavan and south to Cork City, including East County Cork and East County Limerick.

**For more Ireland's Ancient East ideas and itineraries visit [www.IrelandsAncientEast.com](http://www.IrelandsAncientEast.com)**



## Keep Discovering

Discover **Ireland**.ie



# Historical Waterford

Explore the oldest city in Ireland with history around every nook and cranny. Visit the Viking District and learn of epic battles from days gone by. After sunset, discover a contemporary Waterford with lively restaurants and bars.

Take a day trip to Tramore, the golden sand and clear

waters make it a holiday haven. Check out the Waterford Greenway, Ireland's longest off-road walking and cycling route.

Breathtaking landscapes, amazing history, and cultural experiences. Plan your visit now.

## Ardmore Cliff Walk and Monastery

Ardmore, Co. Waterford.

A visit to the pretty seaside village of Ardmore is a must, on your visit to the Copper Coast. St Declan founded a monastery there in the 5th century and today, a number of sites remain including the Round Tower and Cathedral. Explore the old church and monastic buildings on a self-guided tour, before embarking on a cliff walk to enjoy some of Ireland's finest bird watching vantage points.



## Curraghmore House and Gardens

Curraghmore estate, Portlaoise.

Tel: +353 (0)51 387101

[www.curraghmorehouse.ie](http://www.curraghmorehouse.ie)

The ancestral home of the 9th Marquess of Waterford, Curraghmore House and Gardens near Portlaoise is Ireland's largest private demesne, with over 1,000 hectares of formal gardens, woodland and grazing fields. The Marquess' ancestors, the de la Poers, came to Ireland from Normandy around 1170 and tours of Curraghmore House take in some of the finest neo-classical rooms in Ireland.



## Lismore Castle Gardens and Heritage Centre

West St, Lismore.

Tel: +353 (0)76 110 2157

[www.lismorecastlegardens.com](http://www.lismorecastlegardens.com)

Visit The Lismore Experience at The Lismore Heritage Centre for an award winning presentation narrated by Niall Toibin and hear all about monastic Lismore, Vikings, Normans, Sir Walter Raleigh and the many famous people who have visited this corner of County Waterford, including John F Kennedy and even Fred Astaire.



## Walk or cycle the Waterford Greenway

Co. Waterford.

The longest off-road walking and cycling route in Ireland, the Waterford Greenway runs from the city, along the scenic route of an old railway line, to the pretty quay-side town of Dungarvan. Bike or walk a section, or the full 46km if you're feeling energetic and you'll be rewarded with scenic picnic spots, hidden history, towering viaducts and even a vast tunnel. Soak up the views, stopping off for refreshments along the way, until you reach the impressive panorama of historic Dungarvan Bay.



## Lafcadio Hearn Japanese Gardens

Tramore House, Pond Rd, Tramore.

Tel: +353 (0)87 096 0013

[www.lafcadiohearnjapanesegardens.com](http://www.lafcadiohearnjapanesegardens.com)

Just five minutes from the beach in Tramore is Lafcadio Hearn Japanese Gardens an homage to the life of local Irish writer, Patrick Lafcadio Hearn. Each garden contains elements of the style and planting traditions of the countries that played a part in Hearn's life, including an American Garden, a Greek Garden and a Victorian Garden, representing his childhood summers in Tramore.



## Mount Congreve Estate

Mount Congreve, Kilmeaden.

Tel: +353 (0)51 384 115

[www.mountcongreve.com](http://www.mountcongreve.com)

Plant lovers adore Waterford's Mount Congreve Estate, known as one of the 'Great Gardens of the World'. Explore 30 hectares of colourful, planted gardens and the equally impressive walled garden, just outside Waterford City in Kilmeaden, where you'll find more than 3,000 species of trees and shrubs and thousands of rhododendrons, camellias, conifers and climbers.



## Waterford Treasures

Waterford City.

Tel: +353 (0)76 1102501

[www.waterfordtreasures.com](http://www.waterfordtreasures.com)

Waterford Treasures comprises three Museums each set in historic buildings all of which are located within minutes walk of each other in Waterford's historic city centre in an area known as the Viking Triangle. The three Museums tell the story of Waterford Ireland's oldest city founded by the Vikings in 914. The story of the city starts at Reginald's Tower a 12th century mural tower where the Viking museum is located.



## Dooley's Hotel

★★★

30 Merchant's Quay, Waterford City

### Golden Years 2 Night Midweek Package 2 nights B&B & 1 dinner From €109 pps (Sunday to Thursday)

Dooley's Hotel is situated in the heart of Ireland's oldest city, Waterford. This charming family run hotel offers guests modern and contemporary conveniences and comforts with a warm welcome and traditional Irish hospitality. Overlooking the River Suir, the Darrer family have been welcoming guests for three generations. The hotel has 112 newly refurbished ensuite guest roomsspacious, and beautifully appointed, along with a wonderful locally sourced food offering, paying particular attention to fresh and seasonal produce.



Central Location



## Fitzwilton Hotel

★★★★

Bridge Street, Waterford City, X91 RC9A

### 3 Nights Midweek Bed & Breakfast and Dinner on two evenings from €169.50 per person sharing

Enjoy 3 midweek nights (Sunday to Thursday) of relaxation in the Heart of Waterford City including full Irish breakfast each morning of your stay and a 2 Course Meal with Tea/Coffee on two evenings. The Fitzwilton Hotel is perfectly located a mere two minute stroll from the City's main train and bus station, 5 minutes cycle from the start of the Waterford Greenway and a short walk from Waterford's main shopping area, Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre and the Viking Triangle – Waterford's Cultural and Heritage Quarter.



Central Location



On-Site Parking



Bar



## The Tower Hotel Waterford

★★★★

37 The Mall, Waterford X91 VXEO

### Older & Wiser 3 Night Stay €180 per person sharing

Enjoy 3 nights' accommodation in a deluxe room with full Irish breakfast each morning and dinner each evening. The newly refurbished, 4-star Tower Hotel & Leisure Centre enjoys a superb location in Waterford city overlooking the Marina. Enjoy stylish deluxe accommodation with air-conditioning, free WIFI, safe, iron and ironing board, and welcome tea/coffee tray. Dine at Pier 37 Bar & Grill offering a relaxed all day menu and Hobson's Restaurant for daily breakfast and dinner overlooking the Marina.



Bicycles Available



Fitness Centre



On-Site Parking



Swimming Pool

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To enter simply, send your name and phone number to [competition@goldenireland.ie](mailto:competition@goldenireland.ie)

Please put Golden Ireland Gift Voucher Comp in the Subject Line

Closing date for entries: 31/01/2022

For a full list of participating hotels, see: [vouchers.goldenireland.ie](http://vouchers.goldenireland.ie)



# Laois

## The O'Moore County

Visit Laois and uncover its many treasures. Explore magical woodland trails and enchanting gardens in the O'Moore County. Make time for a trip to the stunning Slieve Bloom Mountains. Discover the Glenbarrow Eco Walk and the panoramic views from the Ridge of Capard. Soak up the serenity and marvel at the stunning views.

### Emo Court and Gardens

Portarlinton, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)57 8626573  
www.emocourt.ie

With a long, colourful history, this large neo-classical mansion designed for the Earls of Portarlinton has been restored to its former glory. The gardens and parklands of Emo Court House were first laid out in the 18th century and are a wonderful example of Irish formal gardens at their best. The estate features over 35 hectares of naturalistic landscaped grounds, with formal areas, woodland walks and a 20-acre lake. Access to the house is by guided tour only.



### Heywood Gardens

Ballinakill, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)57 8733563  
www.heritageireland.ie

With over 50 acres of stunning gardens, lakes and woodland, Heywood Gardens is a fascinating place to get out exploring. The romantic park was created by Frederick Trench in the late 1700s inspired by a tour of Europe, and the formal gardens followed in the 1900s by architect Sir Edwin Lutyens. Seek out the lime tree-lined walkway, the formal terrace with views of the surrounding countryside, the sunken garden with an elliptical pool at the centre.



### Rock of Dunamase

Portlaoise, Co. Laois www.laois.ie

You might recognise the Rock of Dunamase from the film, Leap Year, but the crumbling, Celtic fortress, not far from Portlaoise is even more impressive in real life. Stunning views of the surrounding countryside make the towering Rock of Dunamase a strategic place to build a fortress. Roam the ruins and imagine its former grandiosity, before it was destroyed in the Cromwellian invasion in 1650. It stands atop a steep rock, so head to the highest point and soak in the spectacular views of the surrounding countryside.



### Take a Narrowboat on the Grand Canal

Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)57 8626060  
www.barrowline.ie

Hop on a narrowboat from Barrowline Cruisers in the Grand Canal to explore the waterways and unspoilt beauty of the Barrow Valley. You don't need to be a seasoned captain to give it a go. All cruisers come equipped with a full kitchen set up, bed linen, toilets, showers and central heating as well as navigation charts. Game anglers will find trout and salmon fishing.



### Donaghmore Famine Workhouse Museum

Donaghmore, Co. Loais.  
www.donaghmoremusuem.ie

Step back in time at the evocative Donaghmore Famine Workhouse Museum, built during the 1850s to hear the story of the families who lived and died within its walls in famine times. Discover the harrowing history of Irish workhouses in the authentically restored, original dormitories, kitchen and waiting hall.



## Tipperary - The premier County

Enjoy a slower pace of life surrounded by mature woodland on the banks of Lough Derg. Bring a picnic and watch fishermen cast their rods and boats sail across the lake as the sun sets on the lush Tipperary landscape. Stroll the streets of Clonmel and Nenagh, with decorative shop fronts and welcoming locals, before seeing the historic towns of Cashel and Cahir. For more information, visit [www.tipperary.com](http://www.tipperary.com)



### Rock of Cashel

Cashel, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: +353 (0)62 61437  
www.heritageireland.ie

The much-loved Rock of Cashel is one of Ireland's most treasured locations. Explore the 12th century round tower, the ruins of a Romanesque chapel and High Cross. Also known as St. Patrick's Rock, it is the 13th century Gothic Cathedral which captivates people the most.



### Brú Ború Cultural Centre

Cashel, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: +353 (0)62 61122  
www.bruboru.ie

Right at the foot of the Rock of Cashel you'll find Brú Ború Cultural Centre an affiliate of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. This impressive theatre plays host to summer shows of traditional music, and trad classes in winter.



### Cahir Castle

Cahir, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: +353 (0)52 7441011  
www.heritageireland.ie

You will be in total awe of Cahir Castle, which seems to grow out from the rock on which it stands. This imposing structure was designed to be a prime defensive castle and has been the scene of sieges and bombardments for centuries. In 1961, the last Lord of Cahir died and the castle was handed over to the State.



### Swiss Cottage

Cahir, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: +353(0)52 7441144  
www.heritageireland.ie

Take a guided tour of the charming Swiss Cottage. Just south of Cahir is Swiss Cottage, a delightful ornamental cottage that was built in the early 1800s by Richard Butler, first Earl of Glengall. This enchanting cottage with a distinctive thatched roof was inspired by nature and its external woodwork resembles branched trees.

### Explore The Suir Blueway

[www.tipperary.com/suir-blueway-tipperary/](http://www.tipperary.com/suir-blueway-tipperary/)

Feel the wind in your hair as you cycle along the riverbanks, head out on the Tipperary's flowing waters or enjoy a sedate stroll through bustling medieval towns as you explore the Suir Blueway. The trails span 53km of water from Cahir to Carrick-on-Suir and a 21km walking and cycling trail from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir.

### Discover The Glen of Aherlow

Aherlow, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: +353 (0)62 56331  
www.aherlow.com

The Glen of Aherlow is a picturesque valley in County Tipperary, find it between the Galtee Mountains and the wooded ridge of Slievenamuck. Take a guided horseback tour and enjoy picture perfect views of the countryside, or hike into the majestic mountains on the challenging North Horseshoe Walk.



### Midlands Park Hotel

★★★★

Town Centre, Portlaoise, Co Laois

### Young at Heart - Fab Special Offer!! From €186pps

Relax and enjoy a 2 night breakaway with mouth-watering dinner on one evening!

Package includes:

- Two nights accommodation in a double / twin room.
- Full Irish Breakfast each morning served in Seasons Restaurant.
- Dinner is a two course with Tea / Coffee on one evening :served Sunday – Thursday in Ed's Bistro, Friday & Saturday in Seasons Restaurant.
- Complimentary access to the Award Winning Leisure Centre with 18m Swimming Pool, Sauna, Jacuzzi & Gym. Pre booking of pool & gym time essential.
- No deposit required.



Swimming Pool



Fitness Centre



Restaurant



### Anner Hotel

★★★★

Thurles, Co. Tipperary

### Young at Heart 2 Nights Bed & Breakfast with Dinner on one evening from €117 per adult sharing

Full Irish Breakfast every morning and a Two Course Dinner with Tea/Coffee each evening. Full use of our 18m Swimming Pool, Sauna, Steam Room, Jacuzzi and Fully Equipped Gym.

The hotel is located a few minutes drive from a host of local Tipperary attractions including Holycross Abbey, Cahir Castle, Swiss Cottage and The Rock of Cashel.



Swimming Pool



Gym



On-Site Parking



### Clonmel Park Hotel

★★★★

Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

### Golden Moments 2 Nights Dinner Bed & Breakfast from €135 per adult sharing.

Full Irish Breakfast every morning and a Four Course Dinner each evening. Complimentary Tea/Coffee and Homemade Cookies on arrival. Full use of our 20m Swimming Pool, Sauna, Steam Room, Jacuzzi and Fully Equipped Gym.

The hotel is located a few minutes drive from a host of local Tipperary attractions including Cahir Castle, Swiss Cottage and The Rock of Cashel.



Swimming Pool



Gym



On-Site Parking



### Abbey Court Hotel

★★★★

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

### 2 Nights Accommodation and Evening Meal From €120 per person sharing

Enjoy 2 nights accommodation in a beautifully appointed room with evening meal on an evening of your choice. Cream tea on arrival at the hotel served in the beautiful Garden Room. Complimentary access to the hotel leisure club.



Dining



Leisure Club



# Ancient County Meath

Meath is a wonderful mix of ancient history and busy towns. The prehistoric Newgrange in the Boyne Valley, the historical town of Kells and an array of castles and monasteries dotted across the county make it an ideal destination for any history buff.

Follow the River Boyne to visit the charming town of Slane and go on a tour of a distillery before driving through the rolling landscapes and lush green fields surrounding Navan and Trim. The Royal County is perfect for a short getaway.

### Trim Castle

Trim. Co. Meath. Tel: +353 (0)46 9438619  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

Start your visit at Trim Castle, Ireland's oldest Norman castle which will look familiar to movie buffs as the backdrop to the famous battle scene in Mel Gibson's 'Braveheart'. Thankfully things are much more peaceful now and you can wander around the grounds on a self-guided tour or visit the impressive keep on a guided tour.



### Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre

Oldbridge, Co. Meath. Tel: +353 (0)41 9809950  
[www.battleoftheboyne.ie](http://www.battleoftheboyne.ie)

In 1690, one of the most well-known battles in Irish history, The Battle of the Boyne, took place in Oldbridge on the river's edge. The Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre brings this historic event to life with reenactments and displays of uniforms and weapons of the time. But the star of the show is the large-scale model of the conflict.



### Tayto Park

Ashbourne, Co. Meath. Tel: +353 (0)1 8351999  
[www.taytopark.ie](http://www.taytopark.ie)

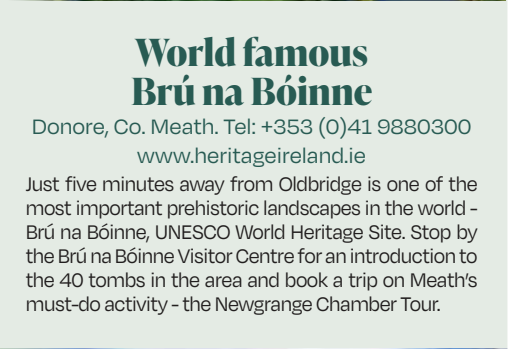
You can't say more Irish than a theme park dedicated to potatoes. Thrill-seekers flock to Tayto Park in Ashbourne for its rides and attractions, including the extreme climbing wall, the Rotator, and Cú Chulainn Coaster – Europe's largest wooden rollercoaster with an inversion. The Zoo features Amur tigers, meerkats and buffalo to name just a few; the playgrounds will keep the smallies entertained, and you can't miss the tour of the Tayto Factory, and meeting Mr Tayto himself.



### Slane Distillery

Slane, Co. Meath Tel: +353 (0)46 9030600  
[www.slaneirishwhiskey.com](http://www.slaneirishwhiskey.com)

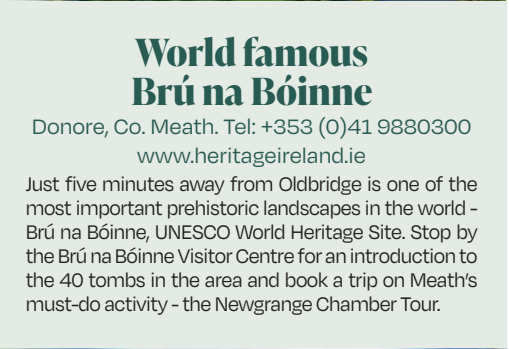
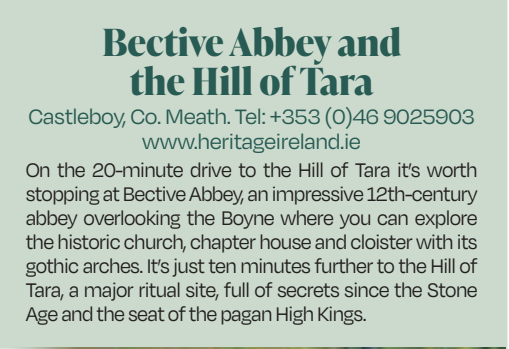
Driving inland alongside the River Boyne for 15 minutes brings you to the town of Slane. Most of us know this it from the U2 and Guns N' Roses concerts at Slane Castle, but the food and drink here is equally world-class. Near the castle explore Slane Distillery (and their triple-casked whiskey). Opt for a combination tour of the castle to hear stories of a mad king and a hayfork, before learning how the Irish whiskey is crafted at the distillery.



### Newgrange

The site of many school tours from our younger years, Newgrange is one of the most iconic places in Ireland. Sitting on top of a small hill the white stone walls of the ancient passage tomb starkly contrasts the landscape and as you get closer, carved symbols and art become visible.






# Louth - The Wee County

The narrow and hilly streets of Drogheda are packed with history with the remnants of Cromwell seen throughout the town. Visit the towering St. Laurence's Gate and St. Oliver's severed head in St. Peter's Church. Along the coast of Louth, explore the pretty fishing villages of Termonfeckin and Clogherhead before visiting the High Cross at Monasterboice.

### Beaulieu House and Gardens

Drogheda, Co. Louth.  
Tel: +353 (0)41 9838557  
[www.beaulieuhouse.ie](http://www.beaulieuhouse.ie)

Just ten minutes from Drogheda on the banks of the Boyne, Beaulieu House and Gardens is one of the earliest examples in Ireland of an unfortified house. Constructed between 1660 and 1666, the house is a rare example of late 17th-century Irish domestic architecture and has survived with minimal alterations.



### Mellifont Abbey

Drogheda, Co. Louth.  
Tel: +353 (0)41 9826103  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

Just ten minutes from Drogheda, at Old Mellifont Abbey, you'll learn about the work of masons from the Middle Ages. Explore a fascinating monk's chapter house and marvel at the ancient craft and church relics on show at the monastic site's visitor centre.



### County Museum Dundalk

Dundalk, Co. Louth.  
Tel: +353 (0)42 9327056  
[www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie)


Visit the County Museum Dundalk to get an unparalleled insight into Louth's history, with exhibitions covering as far back as the Stone Age. This award winning museum also regularly hosts local productions, film screenings and art exhibitions.



### Drogheda Museum Millmount

Drogheda, Co. Louth.  
Tel: +353(0)41 9833097

Towering over Drogheda, Millmount is in an old Norman fort and is home to Drogheda Museum Millmount, as well as craft shops, art galleries and an artisan food centre. Enjoy beautiful views over the Boyne Valley before taking the tour of the museum, which includes an authentic 18th century Irish folk kitchen, dairy and laundry.



### Great Eastern Greenway

Omeath to Carlingford.  
Tel: +353 (0)42 9373033  
[www.visitlouth.ie](http://www.visitlouth.ie)

Built along an old railway line on Carlingford Lough's southern shore, The Great Eastern Greenway connects Omeath and Carlingford and is ideal for walkers and cyclists of all levels, even kids. With great views across the lough to the mountains of Mourne, Slieve Foy towers over the trail on the Louth side.





**Fairways Hotel Dundalk** ★★★★★  
Dublin Road, Haggardstown, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 E6

**Best Bed & Breakfast Rate from €50pps**

Are you in search of a hideaway in Ireland's Ancient East? Perhaps a midpoint between two of our island's most thriving cities of Dublin and Belfast. Then discover The Fairways Hotel in Dundalk with an overnight break, and we will take care of the rest. Nestled away in the heart of County Louth, Dundalk is the real hidden gem of Ireland's Ancient East with it's beautiful scenery, history and heritage sites.

 Dining  Bar  Golf Nearby



**The Johnstown Estate** ★★★★★

Enfield, Co. Meath

**Golden Couples Staycation From €595 based on two sharing in a deluxe bedroom**

- Three nights accommodation in a Deluxe Room
- Full Irish Breakfast each morning
- Four-course meal on one evening
- Two-course meal on one evening
- Full access to our Leisure Club facilities with 20 metre pool

 Afternoon Tea  Fitness Centre  On-Site Parking  Swimming Pool

Bookings via [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)

Bookings via [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)



# Cultural County Kilkenny

An energetic county with rich historical roots, Kilkenny is truly fascinating. Wander the cobbled streets of the Marble City where Irish folklore is embedded in every step. Learn about its Norman heritage and delight in the amazing arts and crafts scene.

## Kilkenny Castle, Park and Gardens

Kilkenny City. Tel: +353 (0)56 7704100  
www.kilkennycastle.ie

Although you'll find Kilkenny Castle right in the heart of the city, once you're inside its walls you'll feel like you've travelled back in time. Originally built by the Normans in 1195, Kilkenny Castle with its magnificent gardens and woodland paths is the perfect place to forget about the real world.



## St. Canice's Cathedral and Round Tower

Kilkenny City. Tel: +353 (0)56 7764971

www.stcanicescathedral.ie

The round tower of St. Canice's Cathedral is the oldest standing structure in Kilkenny and, weather permitting, you can climb to the top of its 30 metres for incredible views of the city and nearby countryside.

## The Medieval Mile and Medieval Mile Museum

Kilkenny City. Tel: +353 (0)56 7817022

www.medievalmilmuseum.ie

Linking the Anglo-Norman majesty of Kilkenny Castle to the historic St. Canice's Cathedral, the Medieval Mile is where you can explore the history of one of Ireland's favourite cities (and find out why it's definitely not a town).



## Shenanigans Walking Tour

Tel: +353 (0)87 2743885  
www.shenaniganswalks.com

Immerse yourself in our unique blend of history, fun facts, magic effects and some Shenanigans for an engaging and entertaining adventure along "Ireland's" Medieval Mile". Weaving through the narrow city streets we discover the hidden history and stories of the Normans, Merchants and trace the footsteps of Kilkenny's famous characters.

## Kilkenny Design Centre

Castle Yard, Kilkenny City.  
Tel: +353 (0)56 7722118  
www.kilkennydesign.com

The Kilkenny Design Centre is renowned for showcasing emerging Irish craftspeople and their exceptional work. Come, browse and bring home your choice of Irish-designed jewellery, knitwear, fine china, pottery or glass. Don't leave without dining in the award-winning Anocht restaurant, with delicious homemade food.



## Get the Smithwick's Experience

Kilkenny City. Tel: +353 (0)56 7786377  
www.smithwicksexperience.com

Ireland's most popular ale is synonymous with Kilkenny. Ramble into The Smithwick's Experience, stir your own hops, immerse yourself in the multi-sensory, interactive tour and enjoy a pint at the end of all your hard work.



## Jerpoint Glass Studio

Stoneyford, Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: +353 (0)56 7724350

www.jerpointglass.com

Jerpoint Glass has been home to beautiful handmade glassware for more than four decades. Run by the four children of Keith and Kathleen Leadbetter, who opened the internationally renowned operation in 1979, every piece is made by hand. You'll be able to watch the skilled glassblowers work the red-hot molten glass right in front of your eyes.



## Jerpoint Abbey & Jerpoint Park

Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: +353 (0)56 7724623

www.heritageireland.ie

Nearby Jerpoint Abbey is wonderfully preserved from its 1158 origins and you can get a fascinating glimpse into the life of the Cistercian monks who once lived there. Afterwards, take a walk, or a drive to Jerpoint Park where you can see the remains of a deserted medieval town.



## Dunmore Caves

Castlecomer Road, Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: +353 (0)56 7767726

www.heritageireland.ie

Fancy visiting one of the darkest places in Ireland? A place where Viking history and myths come to life before your eyes? At Dunmore Caves, voyage deep into chilly chambers formed over millions of years, discovering stories of archaeological finds from 928 AD.



## Castlecomer Discovery Park & Visitor Centre

Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: +353 (0)56 4440707

A 20-minute drive from Kilkenny city, Castlecomer Discovery Park has something for people of all ages. There are coal mining and craft exhibitions, while the younger kids enjoy tackling the Tree-Top Adventure Walk to the Elf and Fairy Village.



## Hotel Kilkenny

★★★★

College Road, Kilkenny

## 2 Night City Break Kilkenny (Midweek) from €184pps

- 2 Nights Bed & Breakfast
- Dinner each evening
- Full Use of the Active Health & Leisure Club
- Complimentary Car Park and WiFi



Dining



Leisure Centre



On-Site Parking



WiFi



## Springhill Court Hotel

★★★

Waterford Road, Kilkenny R95 NX32

## Young At Heart Mini Midweek Break From €89 pps

FREE CANCELLATION UP TO 48 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL Enjoy two nights bed & full Irish breakfast & Four course evening meal on one evening of your choice\* Pre Booking is required. Take a break and relax with us at The Springhill Court Hotel. The hotel's 85 ensuite bedrooms have all the facilities and comfort needed for an enjoyable getaway. We have a variety of dining options to suit all tastes. Come and join us in the Medieval City.



Hair Salon



Fitness Centre



Afternoon Tea



Swimming Pool



On-Site Parking



## Kilkenny River Court Hotel

★★★★

The Bridge, John Street, Kilkenny City

## Older & Wiser 3 Night Stay from €345 for 2 adults sharing

Enjoy 3 nights' accommodation in a deluxe room with full Irish breakfast each morning and dinner each evening in The Riverside Restaurant. Kilkenny River Court Hotel enjoys a unique location on the banks of the River Nore, just moments from the city's leading visitor attractions, shopping and entertainment areas. Explore Kilkenny Castle, Butler Gallery and Medieval Mile Museum and much more. Dine at The Terrace, perfect for outdoor dining, with a varied menu available throughout the day. Watch the world float by over Afternoon Tea, drinks or relaxed dinner.



Afternoon Tea



On-Site Parking



## Newpark Hotel with Escape Club & Spa

★★★★

Old Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny

## Enjoy Two Nights Bed & Full Irish Breakfast at Newpark Hotel and avail of 10% discount with this offer. From €198 for 2 people

Newpark Hotel is a 4 star establishment, with centuries of heritage steeped in the walls. Situated on the edge of the city, this family run hotel in Kilkenny is the perfect base from which to explore its surrounds. We proudly maintain 40 acres of park land, which feature magnificent gardens, a go karting track, animal petting farm, playground and fairy trail.



Swimming Pool



Fitness Centre



Spa



On-Site Parking



Afternoon Tea



## Kilkenny Hibernian Hotel

★★★★

1 Ormonde Street, Kilkenny, R95 WT K3

## Mid-week breaks from €60pps

A world of quirky contradictions. A medieval city, with a modern vibe. A beautiful Georgian bank, that now houses a boutique 4-star hotel. 18th century corridors, that lead to luxurious 21st century bedrooms. International dishes, made with the finest local produce. Extravagant cocktails, served alongside traditional Afternoon Tea. A city-centre location, that provides an escape from the entire world. Ancient cobbled streets, that lead to the newest award-winning eateries. An international team, providing that unique Irish welcome. This is The Kilkenny Hibernian Hotel.



Dining



Bar



Afternoon Tea



City Centre Location



On-Site Parking



## To book any of the offers throughout the guide, visit:

www.goldenireland.ie

E: info@goldenireland.ie

T: 00 353 (0)64 6630267



# Wexford - The Sunny Southeast

Spend a day rambling around the historic streets of Wexford Town, oozing with character and you'll soon fall in love with this Viking town and all its quirks and charms. Escape to the coast and you'll discover Curracloe and its spectacular golden beach. Or head south to the harbour village of Kilmore Quay and use it as a launchpad to explore the Saltee Islands - one of the best places in Ireland to see puffins in the wild.

Plan your trip now and see why Wexford people love living here so much.

## Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience & Restaurant

South Quay, New Ross.  
Tel: +353 (0)51 425 239  
www.dunbrody.com

The Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience is a must stop on any tour of Ireland's Ancient East. This award winning family attraction, moored on the quayside in New Ross, takes visitors back in time to Ireland in the 1840s. Explore our replica emigrant vessel both above and below deck and hear real life stories as costumed performers set the scene for the arduous journeys.



## Hook Lighthouse

Hook Head, Churchtown.  
Tel: +353 (0)51 397055  
www.greatlighthouses.com/  
lighthouses/hook-head/

Hook Lighthouse is truly one of a kind. Built 800 years ago, the lighthouse continues to serve its original function and now boasts the accolade of the world's oldest operational lighthouse. Step back in time with a guided tour of this astonishing still-intact medieval lighthouse.



## Johnstown Castle

Wexford Town.  
Tel: +353 (0)53 918 4671  
www.johnstowncastle.ie

There's so much to explore throughout the estate at Johnstown Castle that it's worth putting aside at least half a day to enjoy it all. Wander through the impressive ornamental gardens, have a picnic by the lake if the weather's fine, or book a tour of the castle - the old servants' tunnel is a highlight.



## The Kennedy Homestead

Dunganstown, New Ross.  
Tel: +353 (0)51 388264  
www.kennedyhomestead.ie

Follow the journey from Famine Emigrant to President! The Kennedy Homestead, birthplace of President John F. Kennedy's great-grandfather, celebrates the story of five generations of the Kennedy dynasty. Relive President Kennedy's iconic return visit in 1963. Experience a state of the art interpretive museum; housing an interactive exhibition, guiding visitors through the footsteps of the most famous Irish emigrant family.



## The National Heritage Park

Ferrycarrig. Tel: +353 (0)53 912 0733  
www.irishheritage.ie

The open-air museum at The National Heritage Park brings Ireland's ancient past to life with accurate reconstructions of the crannógs, forts and portal dolmens we learned about in our school days. Explore life-sized buildings and settlements, forage like a pre-historic farmer, or even spend the night in their medieval ring fort, where you'll party like it's 2,000 BC.



## The Saltee Islands

Off Kilmore Quay.  
www.salteeislands.info

Departing from beautiful Kilmore Quay, an exhilarating 20-minute boat ride brings you to Great Saltee. On the tiny private island, you'll meet seals, puffins and thousands of noisy gannets gathered on rocks to greet you. Pack a picnic or, better still, continue the theme back on the shore, with salty chips from the famous Little Saltee takeaway at Kilmore Quay.



## Wells House and Gardens

Ballyedmond, Gorey.  
Tel: +353 (0)53 918 6737

Just 20-minutes outside Gorey, Wells House is a beautifully restored, private home set on 450 acres of pretty gardens, farmland and woods. Grownups will love the house tours and woodland walks, while little ones will have a ball exploring the fairy finding trail, at the adventure playground and visiting the farm animals. Keep an eye out for their frequent, year-round events like the Open Air Theatre, Fairy Tale Days and BBQs.



## Wexford Lavender Farm

Coolnagloose, Inch, Gorey.  
Tel: +353 (0)87 068 6774  
www.wexfordlavenderfarm.com

You're sure to smell Wexford Lavender Farm before you see it. It's a photographers dream, with two sprawling fields of fragrant lavender that look every bit as good as they smell. We have four acres of lavender, a beautiful café located in converted stables, gift shop, childrens' play area, quad barrel train ride, visitor information centre with distillery equipment, woodland walks, plant sales and plenty more.



## Ferrycarrig Hotel

★★★★

Ferrycarrig, Co Wexford

### 3 Night Ferrycarrig Escape (Midweek) from €240pps

- 3 Nights Bed & Breakfast
- Sumptuous 4 Course Evening Meal in the award-winning Reeds Restaurant each evening
- Full Use of the Active Health & Leisure Club
- Complimentary Car Park and WiFi

WiFi  
On-Site Parking

Leisure Club Restaurant



## Riverside Park Hotel & Leisure Club

★★★★

The Promenade, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford

### Golden Years Breaks

Nestled along the banks of the River Slaney in Enniscorthy Co Wexford, the 4 star Riverside Park Hotel and Leisure Club is an ideal base for touring the treasures of the sunny South East of Ireland. The hotel is located only 70 minutes from Dublin. Enniscorthy is serviced by both Train and Bus Services. Enjoy luxurious accommodation a choice of restaurants and complimentary leisure club facilities and only 5 minute walk to town centre.

On-Site Parking  
Restaurant  
Bar

WiFi  
Leisure Club  
Swimming Pool

Beauty Rooms  
Town Centre



## Wexford Opera House

Wexford Opera House.  
High Street, Wexford.  
T: 053 9122400  
W: www.nationaloperahouse.ie

Just 1.5 hours from Dublin, the award-winning National Opera House is Ireland's first custom-built, multi-purpose opera house built in the ancient Viking town of Wexford. The building was opened in 2008 on the footprint of the old Theatre Royal which had been the home to the Wexford Festival Opera for over 50 years.

The National Opera House is a world-class venue presenting Irish and international events, opera, music, family events, comedy, theatre and dance. The stunning landmark building also offers two diverse performance spaces, the O'Reilly Theatre and the Jerome Hynes Theatre, as well as numerous meeting and hospitality facilities including a number of bars and dining spaces that are available for private functions.

CONNEMARA COAST  
— HOTEL —

T: +353 (0)91 592 108 | E: info@connemaracoasthotel.ie | A: Furbo, Galway, H91 KX27

*Golden Years Breaks at the  
Connemara Coast Hotel*





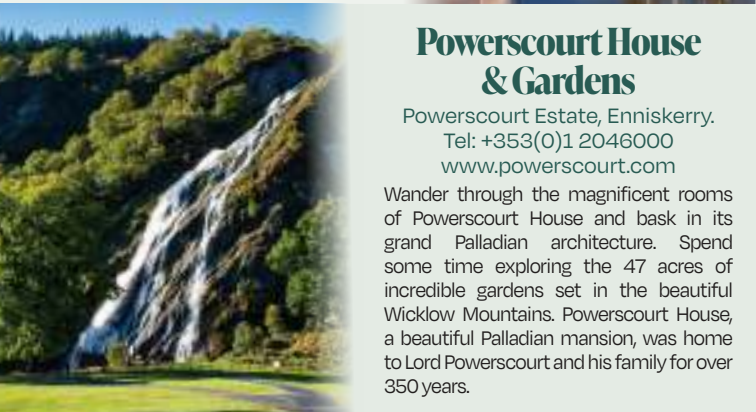
# Wicklow

## The Garden of Ireland



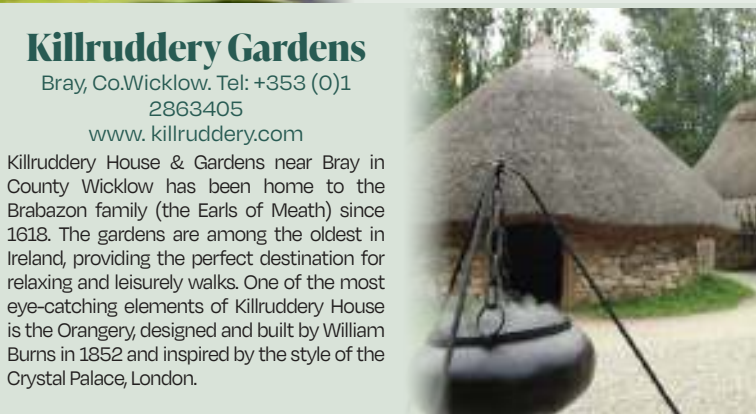
**Avoca Mill**  
Avoca. Tel: +353 (0)40 235105  
[www.avoca.com](http://www.avoca.com)

Avoca weaving mill is set in the picturesque village of Avoca in County Wicklow. When touring the weaving mill, visitors get a real sense of the skill and expertise of the weaving team. Having seen first-hand the care and attention which goes into each piece, visitors can continue to the shop to browse woven throws, homewares, gifts and more, or enjoy some of the delicious homemade sweet and savoury treats on offer in the café.



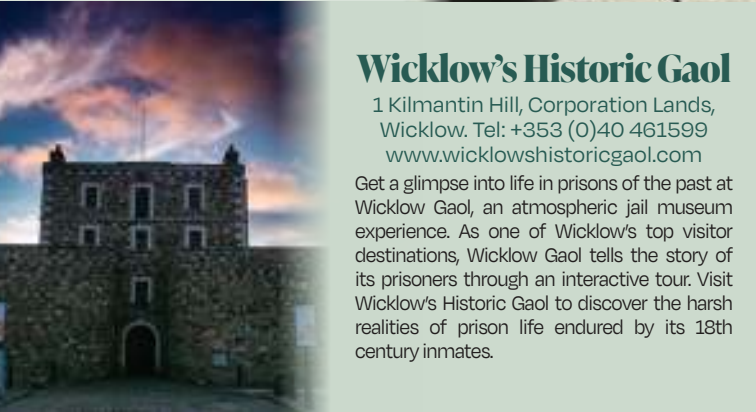
**Powerscourt House & Gardens**  
Powerscourt Estate, Enniskerry.  
Tel: +353(0)1 2046000  
[www.powerscourt.com](http://www.powerscourt.com)

Wander through the magnificent rooms of Powerscourt House and bask in its grand Palladian architecture. Spend some time exploring the 47 acres of incredible gardens set in the beautiful Wicklow Mountains. Powerscourt House, a beautiful Palladian mansion, was home to Lord Powerscourt and his family for over 350 years.



**Killruddery Gardens**  
Bray, Co.Wicklow. Tel: +353 (0)1 2863405  
[www.killruddery.com](http://www.killruddery.com)

Killruddery House & Gardens near Bray in County Wicklow has been home to the Brabazon family (the Earls of Meath) since 1618. The gardens are among the oldest in Ireland, providing the perfect destination for relaxing and leisurely walks. One of the most eye-catching elements of Killruddery House is the Orangery, designed and built by William Burns in 1852 and inspired by the style of the Crystal Palace, London.



**Wicklow's Historic Gaol**  
1 Kilmantin Hill, Corporation Lands, Wicklow. Tel: +353 (0)40 461599  
[www.wicklowshistoricgaol.com](http://www.wicklowshistoricgaol.com)

Get a glimpse into life in prisons of the past at Wicklow Gaol, an atmospheric jail museum experience. As one of Wicklow's top visitor destinations, Wicklow Gaol tells the story of its prisoners through an interactive tour. Visit Wicklow's Historic Gaol to discover the harsh realities of prison life endured by its 18th century inmates.

Visit Wicklow, a county with endless natural beauty and captivating history. See one of our most important monastic sites in Glendalough and learn about St Kevin who lived and worked here. Follow in his footsteps as you walk the trails and see panoramic views of Glendalough's Lakes.

Powerscourt Waterfall is one of the most unique places in Ireland. At any time of year, you can watch water cascade down the rocky outcrop of Ireland's biggest waterfall. It's a must-see when in Wicklow.



**Wicklow Mountains National Park**  
Tel: +353 (0)76 1002667  
[www.wicklowmountainsnationalpark.ie](http://www.wicklowmountainsnationalpark.ie)

Explore the wilds of Wicklow Mountains National Park in County Wicklow. Wander along trails through the park, spanning an area of nearly 20,000 hectares, and see beautiful wildlife in a spectacular setting.



**Glendalough Monastic Site and Visitor Centre**  
Glendalough, Co. Wicklow.  
Tel: +353 (0)404 45352  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

Experience Glendalough, one of the most popular tourist attractions in Ireland. Positioned in a glaciated valley with two lakes, marvel at the fascinating early Christian settlement founded by St. Kevin in the 6th Century. Stop by the informative visitor centre and experience a sense of peace and quiet from walking the 3km long valley.



**Russborough House and Parklands**  
Blessington. Tel: +353(0)45 865239  
[www.russborough.ie](http://www.russborough.ie)

Discover Russborough House and Parklands in County Wicklow. Take a guided tour of the stunning Palladian mansion and make time for a relaxing stroll around the glorious grounds. Stop by the interactive exhibition and discover the story of the three families who have inhabited Russborough since 1751. Admire the splendid rooms and view the ornate plasterwork on the ceilings, designed by the famous Lafranchini brothers.



**Arklow Bay Hotel** ★★★★★  
Sea Road, Arklow, Co Wicklow, Y14 DX02

**Golden Years 2 Night Package**

The 4\* Arklow Bay Conference & Leisure Hotel is nestled in the seaside town of Arklow, Co. Wicklow, approximately one hour from Dublin. Conveniently located near many of the beautiful scenic locations in the Garden County, from Glendalough to Wicklow Gaol, to Mount Usher Gardens and Avoca. The Hotel is easily accessible via a choice of public transport, including excellent train and bus services to major cities around Ireland. An ideal destination for those with a Free Travel Pass.

Beauty Rooms

Swimming Pool

Fitness Centres

On-Site Parking

Afternoon Tea

Golf Nearby



**Glenview Hotel & Leisure Club** ★★★★★  
Glen O' The Downs, Delgany, Co Wicklow

**Goldent Years Breaks**

The Glenview Hotel & Leisure Club, located in the 'Garden of Ireland' and on the doorstep of the Capital, is a place of unhurried peace. Surrounded by 30 acres of Woodlands and magnificent Gardens, the perfect escape from a busy life where you become enveloped with ease and tranquillity.


Leisure Club

Mountain Views

Afternoon Tea

On-Site Parking

24hr Room Service



**Royal Hotel** ★★★  
Main Street, Bray, Co.Wicklow.

**Golden Years Offer From €169pps**

Two Nights' accommodation for 2 adults, Complimentary tickets to Powerscourt Estate & Gardens for 2 adults, Complimentary bottle of Prosecco on arrival, Full Irish Breakfast each morning, Irish Coffee on arrival and 3-course dinner on an evening of your choice.

Fitness Centre

On-Site Parking

Afternoon Tea

Swimming Pool



**Burrow Holiday Park**

**ROSSLARE STRAND, CO WEXFORD - LUXURY SELF-CATERING APARTMENTS**

*Our luxury holiday apartments are themed on stunning sea shores from across the globe and just a stone's throw from our own spectacular beach at Rosslare Strand, Co Wexford.*

*Superbly spacious living/dining areas with plush corner sofas ensure that you, your family & friends have ample space to reconnect, dine, rest & relax.*

*Suites come with complimentary WIFI, smart TV in both living room and master bedroom & fully-fitted kitchen. Each apartment has three spacious bedrooms with boutique-style master bedroom en-suite. Furnished with bespoke walnut beds, exquisite & luxurious 5\* hotel standard pillows, duvets, linens & fluffy cotton towels, the sleeping accommodation is of an exceptionally high standard.*

*Ground floor suites have outdoor private patios & first floor suites benefit from outdoor terraces and stunning sea views. Outdoor spaces are furnished with dining table and seating.*

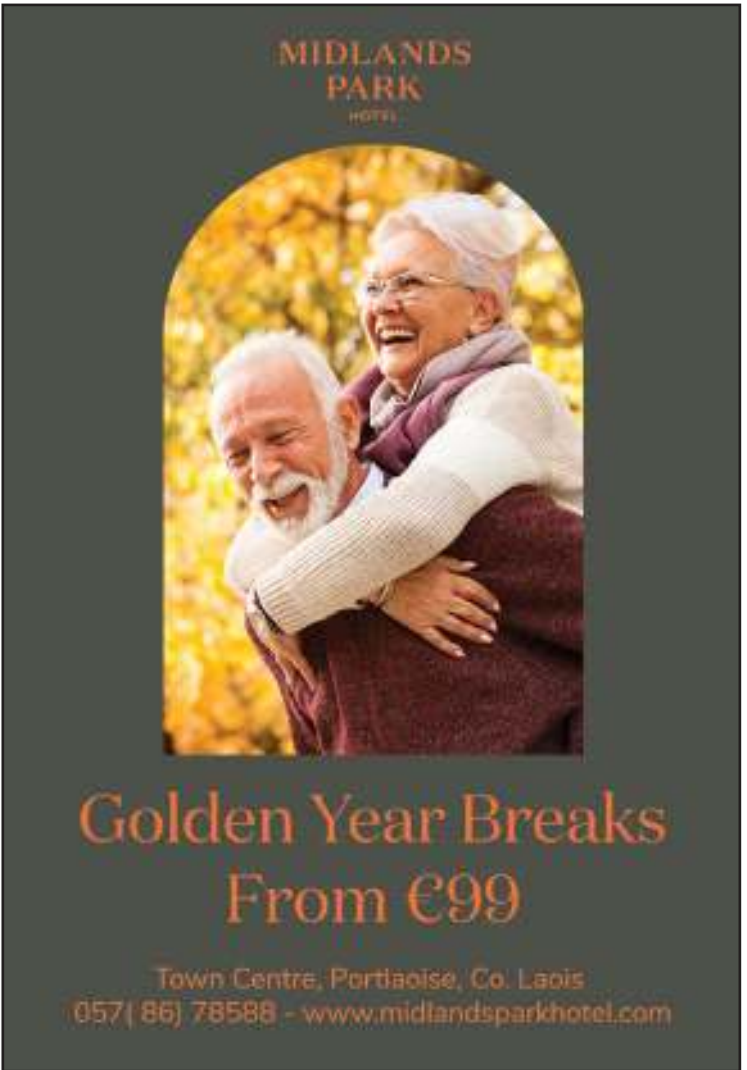
Bedroom

Beach

Living Room

**TAKE A LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW THE STUNNING DECOR OF EACH AND BOOK YOUR NEXT LUXURIOUS COASTAL BREAK!**

**WWW.BURROWPARK.COM**



**MIDLANDS PARK HOTEL**

**Golden Year Breaks From €99**

Town Centre, Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
(057) (86) 785888 - [www.midlandsparkhotel.com](http://www.midlandsparkhotel.com)



# Cork - The People's Republic

Cork is the biggest county in Ireland and is part of both the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East. With over 1000km of coastline there's a mesmerising amount of experiences to be had. Here we take a look at Cork experiences as part of Ireland's Ancient East. For info on West Cork, check out page 18.

With so many great things to do in Cork, it's no wonder why it's loved so much.

**For more information on Cork, visit [www.purecork.ie](http://www.purecork.ie)**

### Cork City Gaol and Radio Museum Experience

Tel: +353(0)21 4305022  
[www.corkcitygaol.com](http://www.corkcitygaol.com)

See what 19th and early 20th century life was like in Cork, both inside and outside of historic prison walls when you visit the Cork City Gaol & Radio Museum Experience. The Radio Museum Experience in the same building has a restored GCK Radio Broadcasting Studio inside complemented by an audio-visual presentation.

### Shandon Bells

St Anne's Church, Shandon.  
Tel: +353 (0)21 450 5906  
[www.shandonbells.ie](http://www.shandonbells.ie)

Climb the bell tower at St Anne's Church for a birds-eye view of the city while listening to the famous Shandon Bells. Built in 1722, it features a barrelled, vaulted ceiling, colourful stained glass windows and a stone baptismal font. The bell tower offers spectacular views of the city and surrounding areas spread below.

### Fota Wildlife Park

Carrigtwohill. Tel: +353 (0)21 481 2678  
[www.fotawildlife.ie](http://www.fotawildlife.ie)

Fota Wildlife Park is part of the Zoological Society of Ireland, and is set on 100 acres on the scenic Fota Island in the heart of Cork Harbour and is only 10KM from Cork City by rail or car.

Fota Wildlife Park is a unique place where you can come face to face with free roaming animals and birds from different parts of the world.



### The English Market

Cork City. Tel: +353 (0)21 4274407  
[www.corkcity.ie/en/english-market/](http://www.corkcity.ie/en/english-market/)


For the food lovers, a visit to this fascinating market with origins that trace back to the times of King James I in 1610. A mix of a traditional Cork fare and exciting new foods from afar feature in this wonderful market with long-standing family-run stalls contributing to its unique atmosphere.



### Jameson Distillery

Midleton. Tel: +353 (0)21 461359  
[www.jamesonwhiskey.com](http://www.jamesonwhiskey.com)

Visit the Jameson Distillery Midleton, the place of whiskey-making dreams. Take a guided tour around the distillery's heritage grounds and discover exactly what makes this world-famous whiskey so special. Come face to face with the largest pot still in the world.



### Crawford Gallery

Cork City. Tel: +353 (0)21 4805042  
[www.crawfordartgallery.ie](http://www.crawfordartgallery.ie)

Visit The Crawford Gallery, Munster's regional art museum and much loved cultural institution. Dedicated to the visual arts, both historic and contemporary, it has 2,000 works, ranging from 18th century Irish and European paintings and sculptures, through to contemporary video installations.



### Blarney Castle & Gardens

Blarney. Tel: +353 (0)21 4385252  
[www.blarneycastle.ie](http://www.blarneycastle.ie)

Visit medieval Blarney Castle in County Cork, one of Ireland's most impressive castles. Kiss the famous Blarney Stone to get the gift of the gab, wander around unique rock formations and see the rare plants in the enchanting gardens.



### Spike Island

Cobh. Tel: +353 (0)21 2373455  
[www.spikeislandcork.ie](http://www.spikeislandcork.ie)

Spike Island stands tall in Cork's natural harbour just 15 minutes ferry ride from the beautiful heritage town of Cobh. The island has a dark and fascinating past. Used as an island prison, fortress, monastery and home, today visitors can meet captains and convicts and sinners and saints as you uncover 1300 years of Irish history.



### Fota House & Gardens

Carrigtwohill. Tel: +353 (0)21 4815543  
[www.fotahouse.com](http://www.fotahouse.com)

Fota House is Ireland's finest example of Regency period architecture with superb neoclassical interiors designed by 19th century architects Richard and William Morrison. Fota House gives visitors an intimate look at how life was lived in the past, whether as a servant or as a member of the gentry.







### Fota Island Resort & Spa

Fota Island, Co. Cork

#### Escape to Fota Island Resort From: €262

Enjoy the perfect escape for two to Fota Island Resort for two nights. Savour a delicious slice of life with Afternoon Tea served in the elegant surrounds of the Amber Lounge. Take a culinary journey like no other and enjoy a 3-course meal full of local produce and influenced by seasonal tastes in the Amber Lounge on an evening of your choice. In the morning enjoy our sumptuous range of breakfast offerings Enjoy your private island.

 Spa

 Swimming Pool

 Fitness Centres

 On-Site Parking

 Afternoon Tea



### Oriel House Hotel

Main Street, Ballincollig, Co Cork

#### Talbot Double Delight Bed Breakfast & 1 evening meal

The Oriel House Hotel is a luxury business and leisure hotel located on the west side of Cork city. Our unique property offers a mix of old and new, making it the leading four star hotel in Cork. The Oriel is luxury and relaxation, pure and simple and you will depart with nothing more than a desire to return

 Swimming Pool

 On-Site Parking

 Fitness Centres

 Afternoon Tea



### The Address Cork

Military Hill Saint Lukes Cork, T23 T292


#### Over 50's Break €139 pps

Golden Years Break @ The Address Cork . An address like no other. Relax with two nights luxury accommodation with Full Irish Breakfast each morning, enjoy an Irish Coffee on arrival. Savour a two course evening in McGettigans on an evening of your choice. Check out Cork City Gaol with Passes. Exclusive "Return to Address" €20.00 voucher on checkout for your next visit to any of The Address Collective Hotels.

 Afternoon Tea

 Fitness Centre

 On-Site Parking





### The Metropole Hotel


MacCurtain Street, Cork City


#### Stay and enjoy all the things the Metropole has to offer with a 3 nights residential package - €275 pps


Located in the heart of the Victorian Quarter in Cork's City Centre, The Metropole Hotel Cork is Cork's most iconic hotel, world-renowned for over 123 years of hospitality and warm service. Famous for having welcomed stars of screen, stage, art and literature, we have a long history from sweetshop and 'dry' hotel to reclaimed glory. Our beautifully renovated hotel is opulent and rich in character.


 Afternoon Tea

 City Centre Location

 Fitness Centres

 Elevator

 Guide Dog Friendly

 Wifi



### Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Cork

Ditchley House, Little Island, Cork.

#### Rates FROM €59.50pps

In all of Ireland, there's nowhere quite like Cork and no prouder resident than The Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Cork. During your stay, relax with a dip in our swimming pool, take some time-out with an indulgent treatment in The Spa or simply unwind to your heart's desire in your room. With an award-winning restaurant, a range of 126 rooms, a leisure centre and a rejuvenating spa, We're the perfect place to set yourself up for an unforgettable stay this Autumn.

 Elemis Spa

 On-Site Parking

 Fitness Centres

 Swimming Pool

 Afternoon Tea



### The Kingsley

Victoria Cross, Cork City

#### Elegance in the City From: €218pp

An oasis in the heart of Cork, The Kingsley offers guests a truly tranquil haven. Enjoy Afternoon Tea overlooking the magnificent River Lee in the relaxed surroundings of The K Lounge. Savour a sumptuous three course dining experience in Fairbanks Restaurant on an evening of your choice. Retreat to one of our well-appointed guest rooms. In the morning savour our vast range of breakfast offerings.


 Spa

 Swimming Pool

 Fitness Centres

 On-Site Parking

 Afternoon Tea





### Imperial Hotel Cork


76 South Mall, Cork City, T12A2YT


#### 3x B&B, 1 Dinner on a night of your choice, Afternoon Tea on a day of your choice, From €270 per person sharing


The Imperial Hotel is a timeless landmark in the heart of Cork City. This luxury boutique property enjoys an unrivalled setting, with the world famous English Market and the bustling main shopping districts of St. Patrick and Oliver Plunket Street right on the doorstep. Steeped in over 200 years of history and tradition and Cork's very first hotel, The Imperial is regarded by many as the 'Grande Dame' of Cork.

 Escape Spa

 Laundry Service

 Wifi

 24hr Room Service

 Afternoon Tea





# Ireland's Hidden HEARTLANDS

## Cavan - The Lake County

Cavan is a county with a lake for every day of the year, or so the saying goes. Experience the unspoiled beauty of west Cavan with its clear water and rolling hills.

Explore the ancient sites of the Breffni County and discover its complex history. Turn back time with a visit to Cavan Burren Park, where you'll find unique megalithic tombs and dramatic, stony landscapes.

### Cavan Burren Park

Blacklion, Co. Cavan. Tel: +353 (0)49 9526121

[www.cavanburrenpark.ie](http://www.cavanburrenpark.ie)

Spend the entire day here exploring this prehistoric landscape dotted with megalithic tombs, glacial erratics (boulders) and dolmens. Trek to see stunning views over Lough MacNean, explore the Visitor Centre and follow one of the five walking trails as you unravel layers of archaeology in tranquil surroundings.



### Cavan County Museum and World War I Trench Experience

Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan.

Tel: +353 (0)49 8544070

[www.cavanmuseum.ie](http://www.cavanmuseum.ie)

Visit several exciting attractions at the Cavan County Museum in Ballyjamesduff - home of the largest outdoor replica trench in Ireland. Educating visitors on life in the trenches during World War I, it was built to exact specifications.



### Dún na Rí Forest Park

Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.

Tel: +353 (0)49 4331942

[www.coillte.ie](http://www.coillte.ie)

The beautiful 565-acre Dún Na Rí Forest Park is on the banks of the River Cabra near the town of Kingscourt and features a dramatic gorge that's part of the Cabra Estate. Steeped in history and legend, it's said that here at Dún Na Rí Forest Park the mighty Cú Chulainn single-handedly defended Ulster against the armies of Queen Maeve.



### MacNean House & Restaurant

Blacklion, Co. Cavan.

Tel: +353 (0)71 985 3022

[www.nevenmaguire.com](http://www.nevenmaguire.com)

In nearby Blacklion village, try an unforgettable meal at the famous MacNean House led by top chef Neven Maguire. Indulge in mouthwatering food at the award-winning restaurant or for a more hands-on experience, visitors can book into a cookery class and learn about everything from mastering meat to cooking for friends.



## Roscommon - The Rossies

Roscommon County is dotted with beautiful lakes, historic towns and ancient tombs.

Visit the county capital, Roscommon Town and the lively and friendly Boyle, before relaxing on the banks of Lough Key and watching the world go by.

Learn about Roscommon's past at the Famine museum in Strokestown House and fantastic exhibitions at Derryglad Folk and Heritage Museum.

### Lough Key Forest and Activity Park

Boyle, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)71 9673122

[www.loughkey.ie](http://www.loughkey.ie)

Discover one of Ireland's most extensive and picturesque forest parks. Fun for all ages. Enjoy the scenic nature walks, beautiful bog garden, enchanting wishing chair, magical underground tunnels, ice house and epic views from the observation tower.

### Derryglad Folk and Heritage Museum

Curraghboy, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)90 6488192

[www.derrygladfolkandheritagemuseum.com](http://www.derrygladfolkandheritagemuseum.com)

Take a deep dive into the past at the award-winning Derryglad Folk and Heritage Museum in Curraghboy, which houses a unique 35-year collection of over 6,000 items. It features everything from farming tools to early electrical equipment to household items that would have been in every home in days gone by.

### Rathcroghan Visitor Centre

Tulsk, Co. Roscommon

Tel: +353 (0)71 9639268

[www.rathcroghan.ie](http://www.rathcroghan.ie)

The home of the legendary Queen Medb, Rathcroghan is a special place that has an incredible 240 archaeological sites and 60 protected national monuments in its surroundings. Known as the Sacred Capital of Connacht, its surviving structures include the mysterious Oweynagat (Cave of the Cats), known as Ireland's 'Gate to Hell'.

### Roscommon Castle

Cloonbrackna, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)90 6626342

[www.visitroscommon.ie](http://www.visitroscommon.ie)

This imposing 13th century Roscommon Castle was once one of the most important royal castles in Ireland and it's still an impressive sight. It changed hands multiple times between warring Irish and English forces before Cromwellian troops destroyed its fortifications in 1652 and a fire in 1690 saw it fall into ruin.

### Arigna Mining Experience

Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)71 9646466

[www.arignaminingexperience.ie](http://www.arignaminingexperience.ie)

Chart the history of coal mining in Roscommon's northern hills at the Arigna Mining Experience. Covering 400 years of mining history, until the last mine closed in 1990, immerse yourself in the difficult and dangerous life underground.

### Strokestown House Park and Gardens

Strokestown, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)71 9633013

[www.strokestownpark.ie](http://www.strokestownpark.ie)

Visitors to Strokestown House can take a guided tour, stay overnight, enjoy a delicious meal at its restaurant or walk through its incredible gardens. The home of the first landlord to be assassinated during the Great Famine, it also has a National Famine Museum on its grounds.

### Boyle Abbey

Boyle, Co. Roscommon.

Tel: +353 (0)71 9662604

[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

Dating back to the 12th century, the imposing Boyle Abbey has endured many sieges and occupations over the years but its ruins remain a well-preserved example of Cistercian architecture. Look up so you don't miss the original stone carvings that survived its time as an English garrison base.



Experience Ireland's Hidden Heartlands, a beautifully unspoiled part of Ireland where life moves at its own pace. Listen to the ebb and flow of trickling streams, kayak across wonderful waterways and explore magical forest treks and trails.

Meander across expansive boglands, majestic mountains and open valleys. Visit the riverside towns and villages dotted throughout this enchanting region. Make sure to stop and soak up the peaceful atmosphere, there's nowhere quite like it.

[www.discoverireland.ie/irelands-hidden-heartlands](http://www.discoverireland.ie/irelands-hidden-heartlands)



Keep  
Discovering  
**DiscoverIreland.ie**



# Faithful Offaly

Find tranquillity and calm on a short break to Offaly. Relax by the edge of the River Shannon and watch fishermen in action and boats sail by. Visit the welcoming and friendly town of Birr and the majestic Birr Castle to get a real feel for life in the Midlands.

Stroll through the open expanse of Clara Bog for a striking and memorable walk, before making your way to Clonmacnoise and exploring the ruins of the great monastery. For a peaceful short break, head to Offaly. Start planning now.

### Birr Castle Gardens

Townparks, Birr. Tel: +353 (0)57 912 0336  
[www.birrcastle.com](http://www.birrcastle.com)

Birr Castle is a 16th Century medieval fortress in an impressive, sprawling estate. Take a stroll past the lakes and waterfall in the award-winning Birr Castle Gardens, which really come to life in spring. Guided tours of the interior of The Castle run from May to August. Birr Castle Demesne is also home to The Historic Science Centre where you can see the Great Telescope – the largest telescope in the world when it was completed in 1845.



### Clonmacnoise

Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly  
[www.heritageireland.ie/places-to-visit/clonmacnoise/](http://www.heritageireland.ie/places-to-visit/clonmacnoise/)


Visit one of Ireland's most famous and ancient monastic settlements at Clonmacnoise. Nestled on the banks of the River Shannon, the site was founded in the 544 and is rich with ruins of round towers, a cathedral, churches and high crosses. Seek out the Whispering Door of the ruined cathedral which, according to legend, is the place where lovers came to whisper their true feelings to one another.



### Cruise the River Shannon

Banagher, Co. Offaly.  
Tel: +353 (0)1 2781666  
[www.cruise-ireland.com](http://www.cruise-ireland.com)


Setting off from the town of Banagher, voyage through the serene waterways of the River Shannon and Lough Derg with Waveline Cruisers. From angling and water-skiing to horse riding and golf, there are plenty of activities to try and restaurants to stop off at along the shore, as you travel through places like Killaloe, Carrick-on-Shannon and Athlone and the legendary Clonmacnoise.



### Lough Boora Discovery Park

Boora, Leabeg, Tullamore,  
T: +353 (0)57 934 0010  
[www.loughboora.com](http://www.loughboora.com)

On your way to Tullamore, it's well worth a stop at Lough Boora Discovery Park; home to a huge exhibition of outdoor sculptures created by Irish artists set out along the 3km Lough Boora Sculpture Loop Walk.



### Tullamore D.E.W. Distillery

Tullamore, Co. Offaly.  
Tel: +353 (0)57 932 5015  
[www.tullamoredew.com](http://www.tullamoredew.com)

Visit the home of Tullamore D.E.W. in 2021 and join is on the immersive sensory journey which brings the stories of Irish Whiskey, the distilling process and Tullamore Dew to life. Currently closed for renovations. Expected to reopen in the summer of 2021.



# Monaghan - the Drumlin County

See the rolling landscapes of County Monaghan as you make your way through the hills to the charismatic towns of Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Monaghan Town to visit Carrickmacross Lace and the home of Patrick Kavanagh.

Loved for its bountiful lakes, County Monaghan is a wonderful place for a tranquil break on the water's edge. Cast your rod to catch dinner for the evening or take a dip to cool off on a hot summer's day.

### Castle Leslie Estate

Glaslough, Co. Monaghan.  
Tel: +353 (0)47 88100  
[www.castleleslie.com](http://www.castleleslie.com)


In the midst of 1000 acres of mature, rolling parkland with ancient trees and glittering lakes teeming with wildlife, Castle Leslie Estate is one of the most intact castle estates in Ireland. It is also one of the last great Irish castle estates still in the hands of its founding family, the Leslies can trace their fascinating ancestry back to Atilla the Hun.



### Monaghan County Museum

Monaghan Town.  
Tel: +353 (0)47 82928  
[www.monaghan.ie/museum/](http://www.monaghan.ie/museum/)

Discover the rich culture and heritage of The Oriel County at Monaghan County Museum in Monaghan Town. A treasure trove of local history, it features fascinating exhibits like the Cross of Clogher, a bronze-encased oak cross with richly decorated panels showing Christian iconography,



### Patrick Kavanagh Centre

Inniskeen, Co. Monaghan.  
Tel: +353 (0)42 9378560  
[www.patrickkavanaghcentre.com](http://www.patrickkavanaghcentre.com)

Dedicated to the life and work of the Irish poet and novelist, the Patrick Kavanagh Centre has a 60-seat audiovisual theatre and research library. Twelve specially commissioned paintings are on permanent exhibition illustrating Kavanagh's epic poem The Great Hunger, along with a miniature model depicting Kavanagh's classic, A Christmas Childhood.



### Carrickmacross Lace

Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan  
Tel: +353 (0)42 9664176  
[www.carrickmacrosslace.ie](http://www.carrickmacrosslace.ie)

Made famous by its inclusion in the wedding dresses of Princess Diana and the Duchess of Cambridge, Carrickmacross Lace was introduced to Ireland in 1820. At the Carrickmacross Lace Gallery explore the craft inspired by Italian lace that originated in the 19th century, eventually becoming an important part of rural Irish family life.




### Tullamore Court Hotel


O'Moore Street, Tullamore, Co. Offaly


★★★★


#### Best Bed & Breakfast Rate from €50pps

Whatever you're looking for, you'll find it right here, right in the heart of Ireland at the spectacular Tullamore Court Hotel. Beautiful rooms for wonderful stays. Incredible food for memorable meals. World-class meeting rooms for all kinds of business. A 20-metre pool for endless family fun. Stunning surroundings for magical weddings and award-winning service for your every single need.

 On-Site Parking

 Fitness Centre

 Bicycles Available

 Swimming Pool




### Hillgrove Hotel & Spa


Old Armagh Road, Co. Monaghan, H18 RK15


★★★★


#### Best Bed & Breakfast Rate from €55pps

Whatever you're looking for this Autumn in Monaghan, you'll find it right here, at the Hillgrove Hotel & Spa. Set amongst private grounds on the outskirts of Monaghan town, our award-winning hotel is just over an hour's drive from Dublin. A mere 5-minute walk will bring you to the beautiful town centre. Warm and welcoming tones await you in our big and bright selection of bedrooms so sit back, relax and get ready for a great night's sleep.

 Spa

 Fitness Centre

 Afternoon Tea

 Swimming Pool

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E: [info@goldenireland.ie](mailto:info@goldenireland.ie)  
T: 00 353 (0)64 6630267





# Westmeath - The Lake County

On a short break to Westmeath, visit the exciting towns of Mullingar and Athlone and learn about the intriguing histories and famous residents. Music is a way of life here with concerts and festivals taking place across the whole county. Take some time to explore the

waterways of Westmeath and find moments of pure bliss and tranquillity along the River Shannon and by the lakes throughout the county. See why Westmeath is one of Ireland's hidden gems on your next short break to The Lake County.



## Athlone Castle

Athlone, Co. Westmeath.  
Tel: +353 (0)90 6442130  
www.athlonecastle.ie

Journey back to life in the 1200s at Athlone Castle, which began as a timber fort and evolved into the dramatic, defensive castle that dominates the town today. Relive the great Siege of Athlone in a 360° cinematic experience of the 1691 battle, enjoy multi-sensory displays and interactive games that guide you through the castle's halls and history as you uncover the eight exhibition spaces that bring the castle's stories to life.

## Old Rail Trail Greenway

Athlone to Mullingar.  
Tel: +353 (0)44 93 32000  
www.visitwestmeath.ie

Hop on your bike, or rent one locally from Buckley's Cycles, and head out along the Old Rail Trail Greenway from Athlone to Mullingar; a mostly flat and entirely off-road trail that's suitable for even beginner or young cyclists. Whether you choose to tackle the full 42km route in one go, or choose one of three trail sections, you'll encounter gorgeous scenery, traditional stone arched bridges, old time preserved station houses and beautiful bog lands on the way.



## Kilbeggan Distillery

Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath.  
Tel: +353 (0)57 9332134  
www.kilbegganwhiskey.com

Jump back in time at Ireland's oldest distillery on the Kilbeggan Distillery Experience, where you'll learn how Irish whiskey has been made over the decades. See the traditional oak mash tuns, Oregon pine vats for fermenting, and the new Kilbeggan malt spirit flowing from their ancient pot stills. Leave time to browse the full range of Kilbeggan whiskeys at the Whiskey Bar before you go.



## Belvedere House and Gardens

Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.  
Tel: +353 (0)44 9338960  
www.belvedere-houde.ie

Over 60 acres of parkland and 6km of magnificent woodland and lakeshore walks are waiting to be explored at Belvedere House and Gardens. Discover the curious story of the Rochfort family and the Jealous Wall folly which stands witness to past feelings of hatred and malice of the neighbouring brothers who once lived here. Uncover several more follies across the landscape and explore the walled garden featuring one of Ireland's finest collections of rare and special plants.



## Viking Tours Ireland

Athlone, Co. Westmeath.  
Tel: +353 (0)86 2621136  
www.vikingtoursireland.ie

Join Viking Mike on the River Shannon for a cruise through 300 years of Irish Viking history on a replica boat with Viking Tours Ireland. Voyage into Lough Ree or downriver to the monastic settlement and round tower of Clonmacnoise. Learn all about Viking escapades, with live commentary on the battles that took place on these very waters.



## Royal Canal Greenway

Tel: +353 (0)44 93 32000  
www.visitwestmeath.ie

Make the most of the restored grassy towpaths once used for canal transport on the Royal Canal Greenway, which has transformed the canal-side roads running from Ashtown in Dublin to Abbeyshrule in Longford. Jump onto the trail at Mullingar and enjoy the unspoiled countryside and late 18th century industrial archaeology along the way.



## Dún na Sí Amenity & Heritage Park

Moate, Co. Westmeath. Tel: +353 (0)90 6481183  
www.dunnasi.ie

A beautiful parkland amenity and community tourism initiative which celebrates Ireland's millennia old rural heritage while preserving natural biodiversity for the future. In the Heritage Park, embark on an immersive journey through the history of farming in Ireland, learn about the folklore and mythology of the farming communities, celebrate Irish culture, and encounter traditional farm animals. Experience the great outdoors in the Amenity Park with picnic and playground facilities, biodiverse trails, a turlough (disappearing lake), and the local wildlife of the nature reserve.

## Uisneach Hill

Loughnavalley, Co. Westmeath, N91R6C9.  
Tel: +353 (0)87 7189550 www.uisneach.ie

Formerly the seat of the High Kings and also said to be the burial place of the earth goddess Ériu and the sun god Lugh, Uisneach Hill has had a central role in many huge Irish events, from the mythical to the political. Get in touch with Irish legend at the summit of the hill, 596ft above sea level, where you'll be rewarded with incredible panoramic views over the central plain – on a clear day, you can spot up to 20 Irish counties on the horizon around you.



## Tullyally Castle

Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.  
Tel: +353 (0)44 966184  
www.tullyallycastle.ie

Wander the great halls and drawing rooms of the magnificent Gothic revival Tullyally Castle. Once a fortified house, transformed into a Georgian mansion, and then expanded into the castle it is today, it has a long history to discover and the knowledgeable guides on tour bring you up to speed in an entertaining way. The star of the show is the beautifully restored garden, where the current owners have built pretty summerhouses, each framing a different view.



## Bloomfield House Hotel, Leisure Club

★★★★

Belvedere, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath, NP91HP8E

### Lakeside Staycations from 109pps midweek

Enjoy a delightful Two Night Bed & Breakfast break by the lake with a sumptuous Lunch on an afternoon of your choice. Retreat to The Spa to totally unwind, indulge at the outdoor Coffee Hatch and be sure to take a moment to enjoy a stroll down the lake walk. Package includes a Luxury Treat Bundle with Chocolates & Prosecco, Belvedere Gardens & Park Passes, Spa Voucher and use of Leisure Facilities.



## Shamrock Lodge Hotel

★★★

Clonown Road, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, N37 CK73

### 2 nights B&B PLUS 2 evening meals from €125pps

### 3 nights B&B PLUS 3 evening meals from €180pps

At Shamrock Lodge Hotel, we invite you to 'Let Our Family Look After Yours'. It is now your time to rediscover your hobbies and exciting new interests. Discover Athlone and the surrounding area, ideally located in the heart of Ireland, from castles and monastic sites to boat tours and golf. Then relax in the atmosphere of our hotel where our emphasis is on traditional Irish hospitality.

Offer includes complimentary tea/coffee and scones on arrival for groups over 20 people.



## Hodson Bay Hotel

★★★★

Athlone, Co Westmeath

### 2 night Over 50s packages From €150 pps

Relax and unwind when you book our 2 night Over 50's packages which includes:

- 2 nights luxury accommodation at the centre of Ireland's Hidden Heartland's
- A Full Irish breakfast served in our Octagon Restaurant overlooking the lake
- A delicious 2 course dinner is included each evening with your menu specially curated using the very best of local produce by our talented chefs
- Discounts off a huge range of local activities and attractions
- Complimentary access to our amazing health & leisure centre



## Radisson Blu Hotel Athlone

★★★★

Northgate St, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, N37 A8X9

### RATES FROM €54.50pps

ESCAPE TO IRELANDS HIDDEN HEARTLANDS. As the seasons begin to change this autumn, escape to the heart of Ireland to the waterfront Radisson Blu Hotel, Athlone ideally located along the banks of the River Shannon, and explore the stunning scenery and rich history of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands with a relaxing getaway for two including breakfast. Enjoy the beautiful riverside views with a well-earned refreshment in The Brasserie before venturing out to begin your cultural journey around this historic town.





# Leitrim - A true hidden gem

The friendly and lively towns of Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton are fantastic places to base yourself on a visit to Leitrim. Relax in welcoming pubs and soak up the famous atmosphere.

## Glencar Waterfall

Formoyle, Glencar  
Referenced in the The Stolen Child by W.B. Yeats, a walk through the woods near Glencar Lough brings you to Glencar Waterfall. Pack some lunch to enjoy in the pretty picnic area below, this is a place where you'll happily spend a few hours. "Where the wandering water gushes, from the hills above Glen-Car. In pools among the rushes, that scarce could bathe a star".



## Parke's Castle

Kilmore, Fivemilebourne  
Tel: +353 (0)71 916 4149  
[www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/parkes-castle/](http://www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/parkes-castle/)  
Originally the stronghold of the O'Rourke Clan, Parkes Castle is a plantation era fortified manor house overlooking the beautiful banks of Lough Gill. In the cobbled courtyard, you'll find the foundations of an earlier defensive structure and remnants of a traditional 17th century blacksmith forge.



## Creevelea Abbey

Creevelea, Co. Leitrim  
Just west of the River Boney in Dromahair, the medieval Franciscan friary of Creevelea Abbey was one of the last abbeys founded before Henry VIII set about dissolving all of the monasteries throughout Ireland and Britain. Built in 1508, existing architectural features like the cloisters, bell tower and chapter house give an insight into the abbey's intended life. Today, it's a peaceful spot for a scenic stroll.



## Eagles Rock

Co. Leitrim  
The highest free-standing natural rock tower on the island of Ireland, Eagle's Rock stands at 330m in north Leitrim's stunning Dartry Mountains. The limestone has changed dramatically over the years with the occurrence of acid rain, creating plenty of nooks and crannies that are perfect for exploring. One such cave is known as Poll na mBear, where the bones of brown bears and their cubs, dating back to 2000BC were discovered.

## Cavan Leitrim Railway

Clooncolry, Drumod  
Tel: +353 (0)71 9638599  
[www.cavanandleitrim.wixsite.com](http://www.cavanandleitrim.wixsite.com)  
Hop on board an early 20th century steam train at Cavan Leitrim Railway. You'll find the original station beside the current Dublin to Sligo stop, in the pretty fishing village of Dromod. History buffs and those with a keen interest in transport and engineering love the collection of old aircraft and vehicles.

# Ancient Longford

Walk the bustling streets of Longford and visit the towering St. Mel's Cathedral and its incredible stained glass windows. Use the town as a launchpad to explore some of the best preserved dolmens in the country.

at the local theatre where culture lovers flock to see top class musicians, comedians and dramatic performances.

On a short break to Longford, you'll find a town full of history and a thriving arts scene.

Explore the modern side of Longford

## Corlea Trackway

2 Cartron Rd, Cloonbreany, Keenagh.  
Tel: +353 (0)43 332 2386  
[www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/corlea-trackway-visitor-centre/](http://www.heritageireland.ie/visit/places-to-visit/corlea-trackway-visitor-centre/)  
At Corlea Bog near Keenagh, discover the uncovered Iron Age Corlea Trackway. Mossy, waterlogged land made movement from place to place difficult for people living in areas rich in bog land in days gone by, so wooden toghers, or causeways, were laid as early as 148 B.C.



## Granard Motte and Bailey

Church St, Granard.  
Standing 534ft above sea level, Granard Motte and Bailey is said to be the highest motte in Ireland. Built around 1199, it was erected within a pre-existing ring fort. The motte is a great, flat-topped, circular earthen mound, on top of which would have historically been a timber tower, guarded by a deep trench on the summit, from which defenders fired arms and hurled stone missiles at the approaching enemy.



## Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre

Ardagh Village, Co. Longford.  
Tel: +353 (0)86 302 7602  
[www.creativeardagh.blogspot.com](http://www.creativeardagh.blogspot.com)  
An old schoolhouse in the pretty village of Ardagh is home to Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre. Drop-in for an exhibition about the history of the village, from its roots in Irish mythology to its development as an important early church site.



## Edgeworth Literary Trail

Ballymahon Road, Edgeworthstown.  
Tel: +353 (0)43 6671801  
[www.visitlongford.ie/listings/edgeworth-heritage-literary-trail](http://www.visitlongford.ie/listings/edgeworth-heritage-literary-trail)  
Discover the charm of 18th and 19th century literary Ireland on the Edgeworth Literary Trail, where you'll follow in the footsteps of famous figures like Walter Scott, William Wordsworth, Oliver Goldsmith and Oscar Wilde. Edgeworthstown House is the ancestral home of novelist Maria Edgeworth and her famous father Richard Lovell.

## Center Parcs Longford Forest

Ballymahon, Co. Longford.  
Tel: +353 (0)43 3354290 [www.centerparcs.ie](http://www.centerparcs.ie)  
Center Parcs holiday village is a great place to escape to any time of year. There's a full line-up of outdoor and indoor activities for all ages and the popular dome-covered swimming pool is heated to a balmy 27 degrees.

# Discover the best of Lough Derg

Three counties, one lake. The magnificent Lough Derg's pristinely clean and naturally sparkling blue waters make it an enchanting find. Galway, Clare and Tipperary border this famous lough and its lakeshores are dotted with picturesque villages and memorable places to stop.

## The Lough Derg Way

[www.sportireland.ie/outdoors/walking/trails/lough-derg-way](http://www.sportireland.ie/outdoors/walking/trails/lough-derg-way)

Take in the lush scenery, lakeside vistas and abundance of heritage across counties Limerick, Clare and Tipperary on this magnificent 68km linear trail.

Taking three days to complete, this pleasant linear route starts in Limerick City and ends in Dromineer, County Tipperary.

Best accessed from one of the five trailheads (Limerick City, Clonlara, Killaloe/Ballina, Garrykennedy, Dromineer), this walk follows the River Shannon and its canals northwestwards to the lake port of Dromineer on stunning Lough Derg. Passing quaint villages and heritage towns along the way, you'll enjoy picturesque landscapes at every turn.



## Exploring Lough Derg by Boat

A boat trip is a magical way to see Lough Derg. Delight in the magnificent views and stop in some of the quaint villages along the 120km route.

Rent a lakeboat with Shannon Lakeboat and Mini Cruiser Hire, [www.shannon-boat-hire.com](http://www.shannon-boat-hire.com) and try a spot of angling, all of the boats are fitted with fishfinders. Lough Derg is an ideal fishing location populated with several different species including brown trout, pike, perch, roach, salmon and bream. Or if you would prefer a longer trip to explore the lough, mini cruisers sleep two and can be hired on a weekly or daily basis.

Rental company, Emerald Star, [www.emeraldstar.ie](http://www.emeraldstar.ie) has three stations on the waterway where staff are on hand to advise both boating beginners and visitors with previous experience. Plan your personalised itinerary and soak up the stunning scenery.

For a day trip, book in with Killaloe River Cruises: [www.killaloerivercruises.com](http://www.killaloerivercruises.com)





# Northern Ireland

If you haven't already visited Northern Ireland, then this Autumn/Winter is the perfect opportunity. You've got everything here from World Heritage sites to paradise for walkers and climbers; real-world Game of Thrones® locations to scenery that inspired Narnia; you can stand in the spot where Titanic set out or visit the homeplace of Seamus Heaney – whatever your interest, Northern Ireland has an experience waiting for you!

## Glenarm Castle & Garden

Castle Lane, Glenarm, Glenarm, County Antrim.  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 2884 1203  
www.glenarmcastle.com

Nestled in the natural beauty of the Glens of Antrim, you'll find the ancestral home of the McDonnell family, Earls of Antrim, and one of Northern Ireland's most historic family houses. With over 500 years of history and heritage, the McDonnells are also descended from the ancient Kings of Dalriada, while Glenarm Castle itself was built by Randal McDonnell, 1st Earl of Antrim in 1636.

## The Mourne Mountains

The Mourne Mountains in County Down are Northern Ireland's most dramatic mountain range. Naturally, the view from the top is spectacular. However, wander among the foothills and you'll discover even more to love. Follow gentle trails through stunning forests or pause to drink in the views.

Enthusiastic walkers will find buckets to explore along the tracks that criss-cross the mountains. The highest peak Slieve Donard stands at 853m - with the remaining peaks which form this famous ring of mountains all rising above 600m.

## Titanic Belfast

1 Olympic Way, Queen's Road, Belfast, BT3 9EP  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9076 6386  
www.titanicbelfast.com

Titanic Belfast is a world-leading visitor attraction and 'must see' on any trip to Belfast and Northern Ireland. The iconic, six-floor building is located in the heart of Belfast, at the historic site where Titanic was designed, built and launched in 1912. The glistening Titanic Belfast dominates this developing area of Belfast's old ship-building heritage and was voted the World's Leading Visitor Attraction in 2016.

## Ulster Folk & Transport Museum

153 Bangor Road, Holywood, County Down, BT18 0EU  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9042 8428 www.nmni.com

Stroll back in time and uncover a way of life on the farms of 100 years ago as you explore a number of farmhouses and farm-related buildings. From Donegal to the Mourne Mountains explore their daily tasks, meet the people who lived on the land and looked after the animals. There was always plenty for everyone to do – and it's still the same today!

## The Navan Centre and Fort

Armagh, County Armagh, BT60 4LD  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 3752 9644  
www.visitarmagh.com/places-to-explore/navan-centre-fort/

The Navan Centre & Fort, located just two miles from Armagh City, is a place where myth and reality meet. As the ancient seat of Kings and the earliest capital of Ulster, there is plenty to explore.

## Game of Thrones Tours

21 Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JJ.  
Tel: +44 (0)28 9568 0023  
www.gameofthronestours.com

Did you know that Northern Ireland is the principal film location of the epic TV series Game of Thrones®? Game of Thrones Tours offer full day coach tours to GOT locations throughout Northern Ireland. Stark Cloaks, Iron Island costumes and replica swords are all available on the tours, at no extra charge.

## The Giant's Causeway & Causeway Coast

Tel: +44 (0)28 2073 1855  
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/giants-causeway  
The coastline of County Antrim in Northern Ireland is renowned for its scenic beauty, possibly the world's best driving routes, the Causeway Coast Route, clinging to its edge. The Giant's Causeway, sitting at the northern end, takes centerpiece and is Northern Ireland's only UNESCO World Heritage site.



## Seamus Heaney's Homeplace

Bellaghy, Magherafelt, BT45 8HT  
Tel: +44 (0)28 79387444  
www.seamusheaney.com

Seamus Heaney HomePlace takes you on an inspiring journey through the life and work of one of Ireland's greatest writers. There are two floors peppered with Heaney's books and personal belongings as well as a recreation of the poet's attic study in Dublin.

## OM Dark Sky Park and Observatory

Davagh Forest, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT79 8JH  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 8676 0681 www.omdarksky.com  
Fully guided by an experienced tour guide, the centre will give visitors a unique opportunity to experience the night sky as it is rarely viewed. Near the ancient Beaghmore Stone Circles, at the foot of the Sperrin mountains, the observatory is at the heart of a rich landscape of substantial archaeological and cultural significance and a history which spans millennia.



## Ballygally Castle

Coast Road, Ballygally, Co. Antrim, BT40 2QZ

### Relax, Dine and Stay From £95pps

Perched on the tip of the famous Causeway Coastal Route and set in a stunning 17th Century castle which overlooks the golden sands of Ballygally Bay, relax in luxury accommodation at Ballygally Castle with fine dining and the ultimate scenic views. This culinary treat includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- Three course evening meal
- Full Irish breakfast
- Complimentary car parking
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Afternoon Tea On-Site Parking



## Culloden Estate & Spa

Bangor Road, Holywood, Belfast, BT18 0EX

### Stay a Little Longer, Bed & Breakfast From £140pps

Experience a luxurious break at the Culloden Estate and Spa in Belfast, the most prestigious five-star hotel in Northern Ireland, overlooking Belfast Lough. Make it a staycation, stay 3+ nights and receive £10 off per day. This overnight experience includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- Full Irish Breakfast
- Exclusive ESPA Products
- Use of Health Club & Spa
- Complimentary car parking
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Spa Fitness Centre Afternoon Tea Swimming Pool On-Site Parking



## Grand Central Hotel

9-15 Bedford Street, Belfast, BT2 7FF

### The Grand Escape From £95pps

A Grand Escape awaits at the Grand Central Hotel, located in the heart of Belfast! Have your cake and eat it with a midweek getaway treat. Enjoy luxurious overnight accommodation and a 2 course Dinner in the Grand Café. Offer available Sunday-Thursday only. This city break includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- 2 course dinner in the Grand Café
- Full Irish breakfast
- Exclusive ESPA products
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Afternoon Tea



## Europa Hotel

Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7AP

### Golden Moments From £55pps

Celebrate the Europa's 50th birthday with your own special occasion. We know over the past year you've missed your own celebrations for birthdays, engagements, anniversaries and more, so come join us for a celebratory getaway and toast in style to your own golden moment. This celebratory offer includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- Signature cocktail per person in the Piano Lounge
- Signature Truffles upon arrival
- Full Irish Breakfast
- Exclusive golden Hastings duck

Afternoon Tea



## Slieve Donard Resort & Spa

Downs Road, Newcastle, Co. Down, BT33 0AH

### Percy French Dining Experience From £120pps

Get the best of both worlds and take your stay to the next level - stay in Slieve Donard and eat in the Percy French, where a Game of Thrones door is located! This luxurious experience includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- 3 course dinner plus tea/coffee in the Percy French Restaurant
- Full Irish breakfast
- Exclusive ESPA Products
- Use of Health Club & Spa
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Spa Fitness Centre Afternoon Tea Swimming Pool On-Site Parking



## Everglades Hotel

Prehen Road, Derry, BT47 2NH

### North-West Mini Break From £70pps

Midweek is the new weekend so banish those midweek blues with a mini break at the luxurious Everglades Hotel and enjoy Northern Ireland's North-West. An overnight stay, a bite to eat and sheer comfort - what else could you need? This getaway offer includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- Main course including drink from our À La Carte Menu in The Grill Restaurant
- Continental breakfast
- Complimentary car parking
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Afternoon Tea On-Site Parking



## Stormont Hotel

Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3LP

### Stay a Little Longer, Bed & Breakfast From £45pps

Sometimes the best things are the simplest things. Enjoy a Bed & Breakfast stay at the luxurious Stormont Hotel, located just minutes away from Belfast city centre and adjacent to Stormont Estate where you can stretch your legs for a leisurely stroll. This overnight break includes:

- Luxurious overnight accommodation
- Full Irish breakfast
- Exclusive ESPA products
- Complimentary car parking
- Complimentary Hastings duck

Afternoon Tea On-Site Parking





Great Southern, Killarney

# Golden Ireland’s top picks for a Golfers Break Away this Autumn

*Ireland is referred to as the ‘green of dreams’ and our small island sure knows a thing or two about golf; with world class courses in amazing locations, it is home to over 400 golf clubs and an astonishing one quarter of all the world’s links courses – an island paradise for golfers. Golden Ireland are lucky to have partnered with many fantastic hotels across Ireland which are ideally located for the ultimate golfers break away and here are some of our top picks.*

## Great Southern, Killarney

Great Southern is Killarney’s Premier Historic Hotel since 1854. Located in Killarney town centre, directly adjacent to Killarney Bus & Train stations, with over 6 acres of gardens and beautifully appointed accommodations it is without a doubt a superb and unrivalled location. County Kerry is renowned as a golfers paradise and the Killarney Golf and Fishing Club is but a short drive from Great Southern Killarney, it is a Four-Time host to the Irish Open and one of Ireland’s most prestigious and historic golf clubs and home to two 18-hole championship courses with views overlooking beautiful Loch Lein.

**Active Retirement – 2 Night Breaks from €315 total stay.**



## Roganstown Hotel & Country Club

Roganstown Hotel & Country Club is tucked away on a quiet country road in North County Dublin, their accommodations offer timeless luxury coupled with all the modern conveniences you would expect in a 4-star hotel. Home to a highly acclaimed 18-hole championship golf course Roganstown is a challenging and beautiful course that was designed by Irish Ryder Cup Legend Christy O’Connor Jnr and hosted numerous Irish PGA Southern Championships. A stern test for golfers of all abilities this stimulating experience attracts regular visitors both locally and internationally.

**Active Retired 2 night stay package from €109 per person sharing.**



## Connemara Coast Hotel

A luxury property situated on the Wild Atlantic Way has uninterrupted views of Galway Bay, the Aran Islands and the Atlantic Ocean. With 141 beautiful appointed bedrooms, guests will be welcomed with a smile and genuine service and hospitality. An idyllic location surrounded by many of Galways Golf Courses including Bearna Golf Club built on Connemara moorland, it is a high scenic area with features that you won’t find elsewhere, and Galway Golf Club, located in the famous seaside resort of Salthill, offering the discerning visitor a Championship Standard 18 hole Parkland Course with spectacular views over Galway Bay, the Burren and Aran Islands.

**Golden Years 2 Night Package.**



## The Lodge at Ashford Castle

The Lodge enjoys the feel of a relaxed rural country house hotel while being an intrinsic part of the remarkable Ashford Castle estate and covers 350 acres of formal, manicured gardens and wild, rambling woodland rich in wildlife. The Lodge is a chic and elegant sanctuary, just outside the charming village of Cong, in the heart of Mayo with a picturesque 9-hole, 2996-yard, par 35 parkland course is perfect for golfers of all abilities to hone their skills. Designed by golf architect Eddie Hackett and imaginatively integrates a wide variety of natural features and hazards to create charming par 3s, exciting par 4s and a formidable par 5. Green fees are complimentary to hotel residents and Titleist clubs can be provided.

**Young at Heart 2 Night Package from €275 per person sharing**



## Castleknoch Hotel

Embrace Autumn at Castleknoch Hotel with a ‘Timeless Escape’, enjoy a 2,3-, or 4-night stay, dinner inclusive, lunch on a day of your choice and much more. Castleknoch Hotel is a stunning golf hotel in Dublin, Located just 15 minutes from Dublin City, the 18 hole Castleknoch golf course is on the grounds of the 4-star hotel, measures 6,700 sq. yards from the blue tees, designed by the golf course architect, Jonathan Gaunt and was recently named as one of Ireland’s Top 100 Golf Courses. Luttrellstown also offers an 18-hole championship course less than 2km from the hotel.

**Timeless Escape from €162.50 per person sharing.**

## Falls Hotel & Spa

The Falls Hotel & Spa in Ennistymon, is a family run hotel at the heart of the Wild Atlantic Way. This Clare hotel is well located for the dedicated Golfer, with Championship Links and Parkland courses within easy reach. Lahinch Golf Club is located only 2km from the hotel, has two beautiful courses catering for all golfers. The Lahinch Golf Club Old Course is one of the most superior sites in Ireland and called the Championship Course. The Castle Course, is a flatter links named for the ruins of a nearby castle tower. Other course nearby include, Trump International Doonbeg Links Course, Spanish Point Golf Club, Woodstock Golf Club, Ennis and Ennis Golf Club parkland courses.

**Over 50’s 5-night package including breakfast and a 3-course meal each evening from €400 per person.**

**To book your next Golfers getaway break, contact the team at Golden Ireland today on 064 663 0267 or visit our website: [www.goldenireland.ie](http://www.goldenireland.ie)**

Falls Hotel, Ennistymon







# Recipes from the Gallagher's Kitchen

There are a few things an Irish home would be lost without and in this case, it's a freshly baked loaf of soda bread, warm out of the oven and smothered in real Irish butter. It's a bread that can be overlooked at times, but serve it toasted with some raspberry jam, or to mop up the last of a delicious seafood chowder, and you'll remember why this Irish staple is a must in Gallagher's and JP Clarke's

Here is our recipe from Head Chef Kieran Murphy – he suggests a swig of Guinness in the recipe to give it an Irish flavour, but insists the use of real butter when served, anything else will mask the rich homely flavour of this ancestral bread.

## Ingredients

- **1 lb** (3 1/3 cups) Wholemeal Flour
- **1 level tbsp.** Bread Soda
- **Pinch** of salt
- **2 tbsps.** Brown Sugar
- **330ml (11 oz)** Butter Milk
- **1 tbsp.** of Vegetable Oil
- Optional **80ml (2.7 oz)** of Guinness

## The Process

1. Mix all the dry ingredients and wet ingredients separately
2. Add the wet mixture to the dry mixture, mixing well
3. Grease a 1 lb loaf tin and add the mixture
4. Cook for 50-55 minutes in a pre-heated oven at 190°C/374°F
5. Remove tin and cook for a further 5-10 minutes
6. Remove from oven and let cool slightly
7. Serve warm with lashings of real butter!

## Serving Suggestions

- Smoked salmon, butter and lemon | toasted with butter and raspberry jam
- Fresh crabmeat/prawns with lemon mayo and butter



Gallagher's Seafood Restaurant, Bunratty West, Co. Clare, Ireland  
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WWW.GALLAGHERSOFBUNRATTY.COM

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