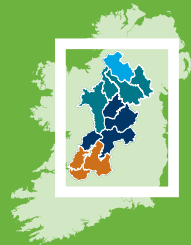
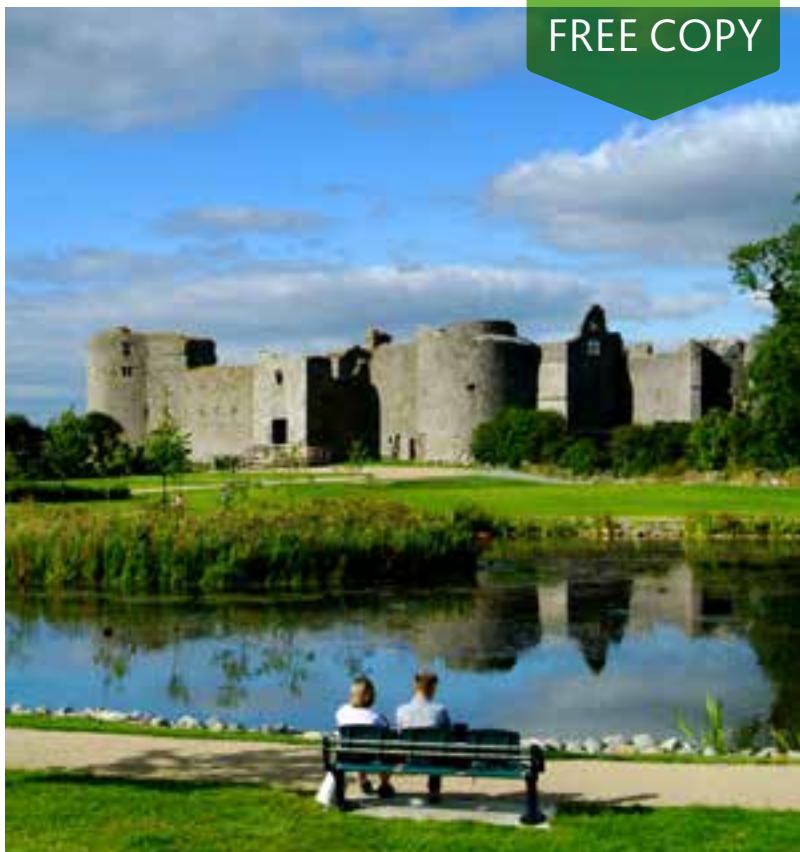


Lakelands & Inland Waterways Pocket Guide



FREE COPY



THINGS TO DO

PLACES TO SEE

FAMILY FUN

EVENTS & MAPS

AND LOTS MORE...



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority



GET IN TOUCH!



Visit one of Fáilte Ireland's official tourist offices, where you will receive free and unbiased advice, information, maps and literature. You can also book accommodation, attractions, events, festivals, tickets and tours.

ZONE 1

Fermanagh Visitor Information Centre

Wellington Road, Enniskillen,
Co. Fermanagh, BT74 7EF
T 028 6632 3110
E fvic@fermanagh.gov.uk
[@fermanaghlakes](https://www.facebook.com/fermanaghlakes)

Mullingar Discover Ireland Centre

Market Square, Mullingar,
Co Westmeath
T 044-9348650
E mullingar@failteireland.ie
[#lovewestmeath](https://www.facebook.com/lovewestmeath)

ZONE 2

Cavan Tourist Office

Johnston Central Library,
Farnham St
Cavan Town
T 049-4331942
E cavan@failteireland.ie

ZONE 4

Limerick Tourist Office

20 O'Connell Street, Limerick City
T 061-317522
E limericktio@failteireland.ie
[#lovelimerick](https://www.facebook.com/lovelimerick)

ZONE 3

Athlone Tourist Office

Athlone Castle, Athlone Town,
Co. Westmeath
T 090 6494630
E athlone@failteireland.ie
[#lovewestmeath](https://www.facebook.com/lovewestmeath)

Nenagh Tourist Office

Banba Square, Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary.
T 067-31610
E nenaghtio@failteireland.ie
[#lovetipperary](https://www.facebook.com/lovetipperary)

For a complete list of all Community Tourist Offices and Visitor Information Points affiliated with Fáilte Ireland, please visit our website below.



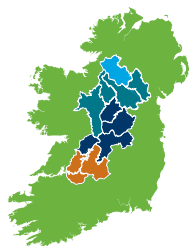
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Family Friendly: This symbol denotes attractions that are suitable for families.



Wheelchair Friendly: This symbol denotes attractions that are wheelchair accessible.



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Fáilte Ireland

National Tourism Development Authority

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

EXPERIENCE THE LAKELANDS



Experience the Lakelands!

Treat yourself to the tranquillity of the Lakelands, where a string of shimmering lakes and meandering rivers sow together a patchwork of rolling hills, fertile plains and still boglands; this rustic frontier stretches from Fermanagh in the north to the Atlantic's jagged edge in Limerick.

The wide variety of natural beauty is complimented by an abundance of historical sites. Experience the spiritual beauty of round towers, Celtic-crosses and early Christian churches in ruin. Take a step back in time while passing by the large fortifications along the River Shannon, built to keep the rebellious local clans at bay.

Witness the contrast between the extravagant stately homes and the horrific conditions of the famine workhouses. Admire the architectural vision of the Victorians who built the canals and railways that criss-cross this region. Feel the hope of modernity that was released from the Ardnacrusha hydroelectric dam in 1929, a mere eight years after Ireland became an independent state, a hope that still lingers in the air today.

The Lakelands are also sprinkled with riverside restaurants, quaint villages, water sports adventures and walking routes. Wander off the beaten track and experience the warm heart of Ireland.

Escape to Lough Erne

Nestling in the North-West of Fermanagh is the market town of Belleek, where locally made fine china has been exported around the world since 1857. From here you can float into the wide open expanse of the lower Lough Erne. Many visitors sail into Enniskillen, where the streets are long and narrow, with gentle bends. The island dotted Upper Lough Erne stretches southwards, where the Marble Arch Caves are situated. This UNESCO Geopark is a bewildering array of visual delights; where stalactites glisten above inky streams and chambers, while fragile mineral seams spread out in all directions, and frozen cascades of creamy calcite flow along the walls. In Fermanagh, you can truly immerse yourself in tranquillity.



Discover Every Nook and Cranny of The Upper Lakelands

Explore the Upper Lakelands counties of Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim and Roscommon. Linking drumlin-strewn landscapes, forest walks and bustling market towns is a string of 400 reed fringed lakes, including Lough Allen and Lough Key, along with a multitude of rivers. Such landscapes inspired the Monaghan poet Patrick Kavanagh. Check out one of the latest additions to the Upper Lakelands by exploring the recently developed Cavan Burren Park in Blacklion, which is a mythical, spiritual landscape of monuments, megalithic tombs, hut sites and pre bog walls from pre-historic times. Stunning views of Cuilcagh Mountain, West Cavan and the greater Global Geopark. Or transport yourself back to the grandeur of the Steam Age at Cavan & Leitrim Railway Museum, or the Sliabh an Iarainn Visitor Centre. Or why not try the Shannon Blueway - an innovative, safe and easy to use series of water and land based trails in Co Leitrim. Descend down Arigna mines, where former miners give a first-hand account of what conditions were like. Strokestown Park is a must see attraction that has it all, six acres of gardens, a Georgian Palladian mansion, and a tactile Famine Museum.



All Paths Lead to the Mid Lakelands & Lough Ree

The Central Lakeland counties of Longford, Westmeath, Offaly and Galway have been the cross-roads of Ireland since ancient times, when the River Shannon and the Esker Riada were the main route ways of Ireland. This area is famous for raised bogs, in which countless artefacts are continuously resurfacing from these damp time capsules, ranging from large pieces of wood to the occasional human sacrifice, dating back as far as 400B.C. Take some time out to appreciate two of Ireland's finest whiskey distilleries nearby; Kilbeggan and Tullamore. Walk among the round towers, ruined churches and Celtic crosses of Clonmacnoise, an Early Christian Monastic site. Portumna has a large marina, where visitors can dock and wander around, becoming enchanted by the town's history and the forest walkways.



Get Active in the Lower Lakelands and Lough Derg

Lovers of the outdoors flock to the Lower Lakeland counties of Clare, Tipperary and Limerick every year. Lough Derg is known as Ireland's Pleasure Lake, which covers 32,000 acres of water.

Lough Derg is perfect for water sports, anglers and boat enthusiasts. Some of Ireland's most productive agricultural land is found in the Lower Lakelands, and is the perfect setting for walking, cycling and horse riding to name but a few. At the foot of the entire Lakelands Region is the thriving City of Limerick. Sport has always been central to life in Limerick, visitors can 'stand up and fight' with two time European champions Munster rugby club, at Thomond Park. Enjoy the thrills and spills of a night at Limerick Greyhound stadium, or immerse yourself in the cultural experience of a hurling or Gaelic football match, at the Gaelic Grounds.



ZONE: 1



Lough Erne Resort, Co Fermanagh



Numbers on the map refer to Visitors Attraction (see following pages for details)

Zone 1: Lough Erne

Fermanagh

The River Erne rises in County Cavan and flows north through County Fermanagh before exiting into the Atlantic Ocean in County Donegal.

On its travels through County Fermanagh, the river widens in two sections: Upper Lough Erne (in South Fermanagh) & Lower Lough Erne (in North Fermanagh). These two Loughs form what is famously known as the 'Lough Erne' system.

Fermanagh is perched in the most northerly part of the Lakelands Region. Its county town is the vibrant and bustling Enniskillen, located in the very centre of the county on a short stretch of the River Erne connecting the Upper and Lower Loughs.

Lough Erne, along its length from Belturbet in Cavan to Belleek in Fermanagh, offers widely different experiences; from the island dotted serenity of the Upper Lough to the wide open expanse of the Lower Lough. Passing islands topped with round towers, castles, wild life refuges and towns and villages along the shores, Lough Erne has a spectacular and untamed beauty.

FERMANAGH



Fermanagh

Fermanagh is the true heartland of Ulster and Enniskillen is the gateway to the rest of Ireland. Once you come over the Fermanagh border you will understand why so many people love our County. Immediately you are struck by the greenness of the countryside, but it's the stillness and silence of this spectacular landscape that you will never forget. No wonder many city dwellers return to the Lakeland paradise year after year 'to get away from it all'.

Forget the demands of modern living as you allow yourself the time to explore the countryside by foot, car, bike or even by boat! And as you travel around the county you will hear locals say 'the man who made time, made plenty of it', so why hurry? Our ancient monuments have withstood the travails of time and are a constant reminder of the rich history and culture embedded within Fermanagh and its People.

The only difficulty you are likely to encounter will be deciding where to start your tour of the County. There's something for everyone - Standing Stones, Castles and Cottages, Stately Homes, Famine Pots, Lakes and Meandering Rivers, Underground Caves, Traditional Crafts, Local Arts and unrivalled viewpoints to capture the stunning scenery on camera or canvas.

But it's not just the buildings and tourist attractions that you will remember long after your visit has ended. Once you talk to locals you will hear the true voice of the Lakeland people coming through as they share their knowledge and memories of this truly unforgettable Lakeland County.





Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh

Fermanagh Towns & Villages

Enniskillen (B4) is the County Town of Fermanagh, located almost exactly in the Centre of the County on the natural island which separates the Upper and Lower sections of Lough Erne.

Garrison (A3) is a small village near Lough Melvin in County Fermanagh. Visitors to Garrison can enjoy a wide range of activities including golfing, fishing, hill-walking, water sports, horse-riding, cycling, camping and caving.

Kesh (A4) is a small, well-developed fishing village in north west Fermanagh. Beautifully located on the Kesh River just a couple of miles from Lower Lough Erne, Kesh has a strongly aquatic atmosphere.

Belleek (A3) is a thriving market town with a variety of pubs, shops, restaurants and a hotel. It is most famous for the fine Parian China produced there at the Belleek Pottery, the oldest pottery in Ireland.

Derrygonnelly (A4) is a small village and townland in Fermanagh, near Lower Lough Erne, the village is home to approx. 600 people. The village has a long history of Irish traditional music.

Irvinestown (A4) is a busy thriving town in County Fermanagh. Home to Necarne Castle and the popular annual Lady of the Lake Festival.



Belcoo Village, Co Fermanagh. Credit: Fermanagh Lakelands Tourism

Belcoo (B4) is a small busy village on the border of Fermanagh, 10 miles from Enniskillen. This picturesque village overlooks Lough MacNea and is on the border with Blacklion.

Lisnaskea (B5) is County Fermanagh's second town. The town is built around the long main street with lots of shops, restaurants, pubs and a hotel. It is a busy thriving market town. Close to Upper Lough Erne.

Derrylin (B5) is the first village that travellers from Cavan Town and Dublin experience as they enter Fermanagh. The whole village is overlooked by the two hundred metre high Knockninny Hill and surrounded by greenery.

Bellanaleck (B4) is a small village on Upper Lough Erne. Home to the Sheelin Antique Lace Museum.

Carrybridge (B5) is a hamlet in County Fermanagh. It is within the townland of Carry between Upper and Lower Lough Erne and serves as a marina. There is also a Hotel and Restaurant in Carrybridge.

Newtownbutler (B5) is a small busy village in County Fermanagh. Close to Crom Estate National Trust and Upper Lough Erne.

For more information on towns & villages in Fermanagh, visit www.fermanaghlakelands.com

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

1 Ardhowen Theatre

Enniskillen,
Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 3233

www.ardhowentheatre.com



A 290 seater auditorium with a wide ranging programme of events.

Open: All Year.



2 Belleek Pottery

Belleek, Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6865 9300

www.belleek.ie



Over two decades Belleek Pottery's Visitor Centre has become one of Ireland's most popular tourist attractions.

Open: All Year.

★ **Offer:** 2 for 1 admission on presentation of this guide.



3 Coles Monument

Enniskillen,

Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 3110



Started in 1845, it is built in memory of Sir G Lowry Cole G.C.B and took 12 years to build. A series of 108 spiral steps leading to panoramic views of Enniskillen.

Open: Apr-Sep.



Ask our Travel Advisors for a comprehensive listing of "Whats On" in the local area!

4 Janus Figure

Boa Island,
Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 3110



In Caldragh Cemetery on Boa Island, Lower Lough Erne, stands two unique stone carvings. The larger of these is a Janus figure.

Open: All Year

**5 Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark**

Florencecourt,
Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6634 8855

www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com



One of the flagship attractions of the wider geopark area offering guided tours of the caves.

Open: Mid-Mar to end of Sep

**6 The Buttermarket**

Enniskillen,
Co. Fermanagh

Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 3117



Comprising 19 craft workshops, studios and galleries alongside a Craft Shop and coffee shop, housed in a 19th century walled Courtyard.

Open: All Year



For a full listing of
Festivals & Events

in the region see pages 172-191
in this guide.



Devenish Island, Co Fermanagh

More to Experience

Inspiring Places - Castles/Houses/Museums

Enniskillen Castle Museums, Enniskillen. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 5000,
www.enniskillencastle.co.uk

Fermanagh County Museum and the Inniskilling Museum. Castle keep, once home of the Gaelic Maguire chieftains and the 17th century Watergate. Open all year.

Castlecoole National Trust, Enniskillen. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 2690,
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

The House is a neo-classical masterpiece, completed in 1798 captures the elegance and opulence of its era. Grounds open all year. House seasonal.

Florence Court House National Trust, Florencecourt.

Tel: +44 (0)28 6634 8249, www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Nestled against the mountain backdrop of Benaughlin and Cuilcagh enjoy a tour of the house to discover the stories of the Cole family and their working Irish estate. Grounds open all year. House seasonal.

Railway Museum @ Headhunters Barber Shop, Enniskillen.

Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 7488, www.headhuntersmuseum.com

Visitors can take a remarkable journey into the past and enjoy the amazing history associated with the bygone age of steam. Open all year.

Inspiring Places - Islands, Boat Trips & Boating

MV Kestrel Erne Tours, Enniskillen. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 2882,
www.ernetours.com

Tour lasts 1¼ hours and includes a visit to Devenish Island Monastic Site. Open Easter to end of Oct.



White Island Christian Heritage Site, Co Fermanagh

Inishcruiser, Share Discovery Village, Lisnaskea. Tel: +44 (0)28 6772 2122, www.sharevillage.org

The Open Air Viewing Deck is a great way to absorb the beauty of Upper Lough Erne. Open Easter to Sep.

Lady of the Lake Cruiser, Killadeas. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 2200, www.ladyofthelaketours.com

Based at the Inishclare Jetty, full on-board bar and catering facilities for 56 people. Contact for sailing times.

Lough Erne Canoe Trail, Co. Fermanagh. Tel: +44 (0)28 9030 3930, www.canoeni.com

50 kilometre route through the magnificent lakes of Upper and Lower Lough Erne. Stretches from Belleek to Limerick. Open all year.

Devenish Island Christian Heritage Site, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 1588.

Founded in the 6th Century by St. Molaise and today visitors can view extensive ruins. Accessible by Ferry from Trory (July & August). Public Sailings 10am, 1pm, 3pm & 5pm and the rest of the year it is available for groups of 24 or more (April – September).

White Island Christian Heritage Site, Castle Archdale, Co. Fermanagh. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 1892

There are the remains of a 12th century church with 8 enigmatic figures carved in stone dating back to the 6th century. Accessible by ferry. Telephone for sailing times.

Inspiring Places - Culture & Creativity

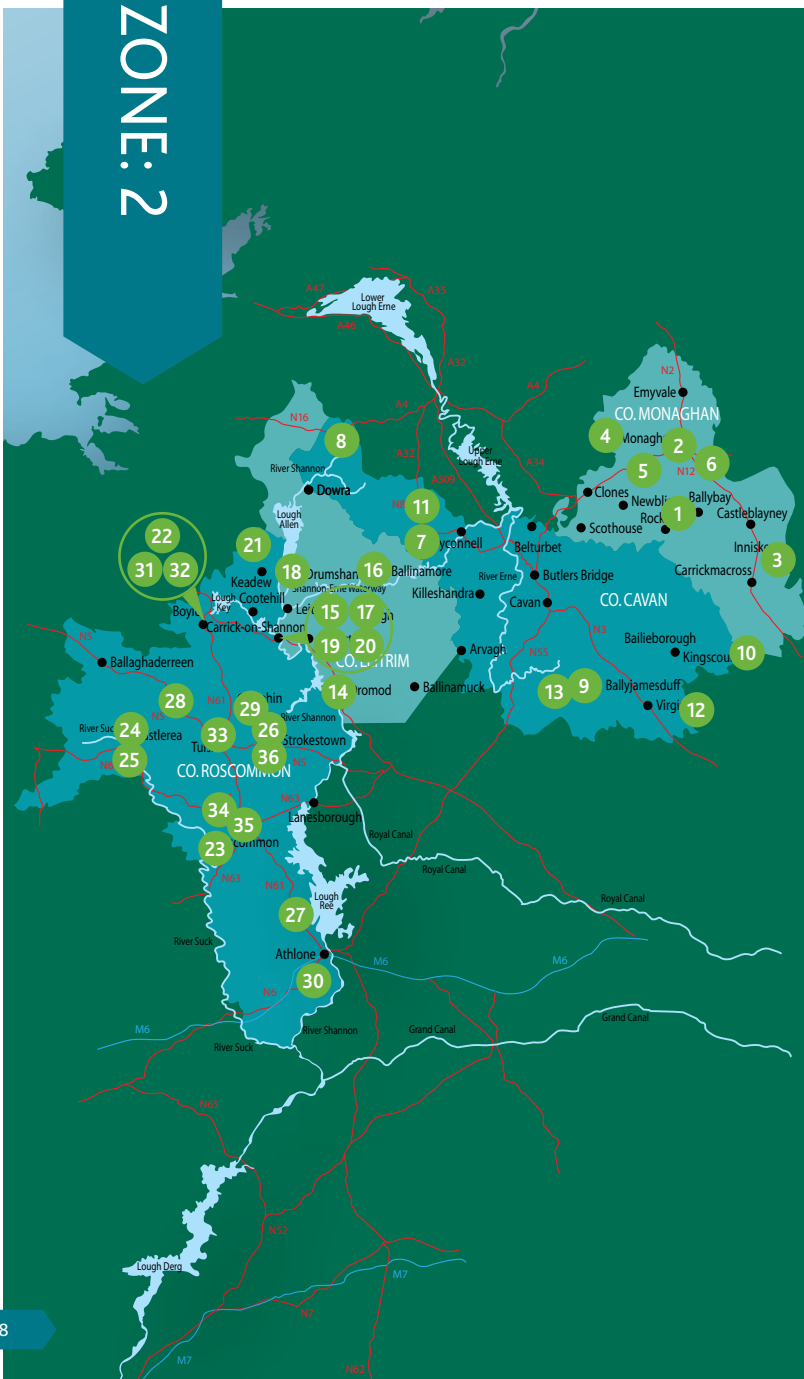
Aughnakillymaude Mummers Centre, Derrylin, Co. Fermanagh. Tel: +44 (0) 7971075955,

The centre boasts a detailed life-sized mumming sculptural exhibition together with an informative photographic mumming display. Open all year, on request.

Orchard Acre Farm, Lisnarick, Co. Fermanagh. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 1066, www.orchardacrefarm.co.uk

Tap into the creative you. Orchard Acre Farm offers classes in cooking, gardening and craft all year round. Open all year.

ZONE: 2



Numbers on the map refer to Visitors Attraction (see following pages for details)

Zone 2: Upper Lakelands

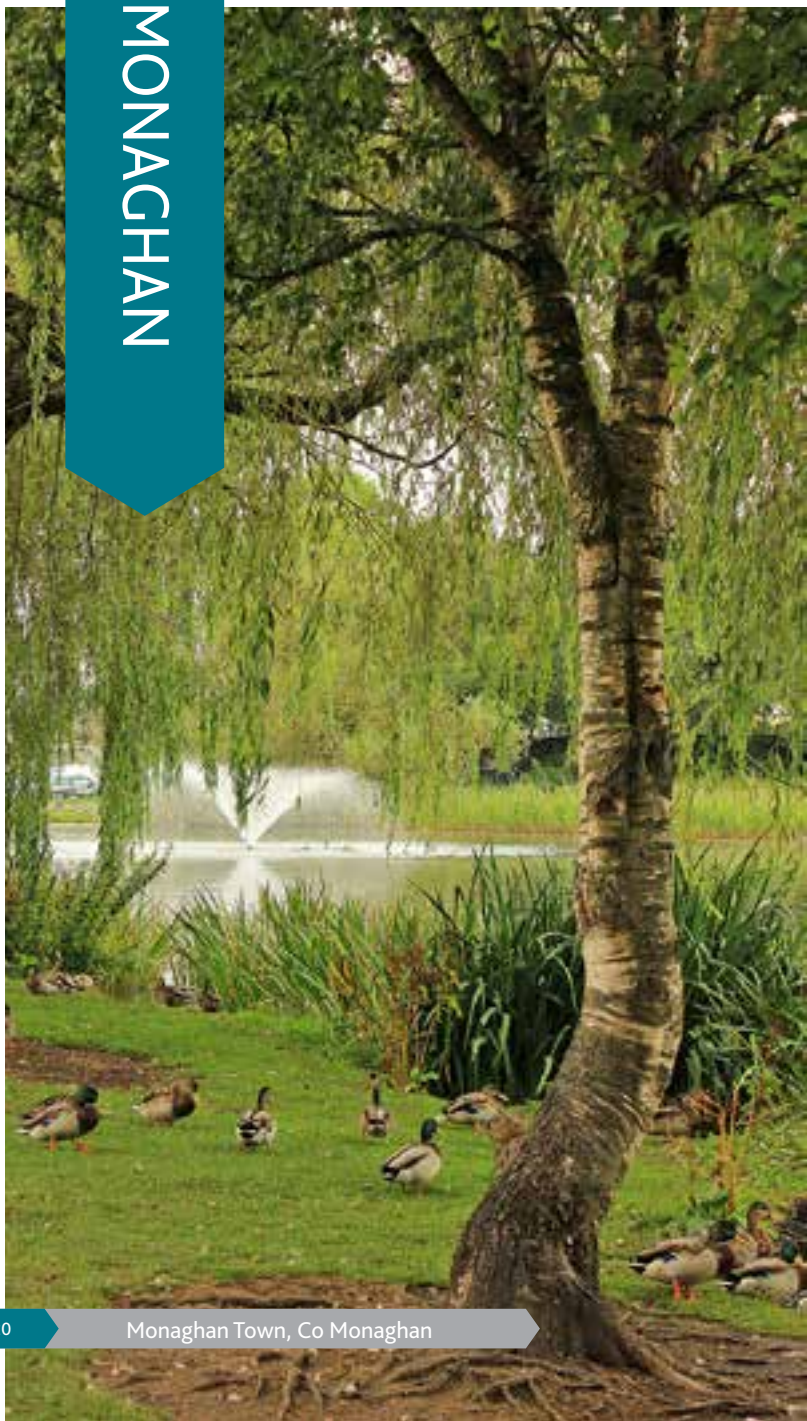
Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim & Roscommon

The Upper Lakelands counties of Monaghan, Cavan, Leitrim and Roscommon contain many spectacular lakes, canals, rivers, rolling hills and quiet escapes, making the area one of Ireland's best kept secrets!

Both Cavan and Monaghan exude a kind of supernatural calm with their glassy lakes, dusky forest walks, and bustling market towns. Whether it's driving through the majestic drumlin strewn landscape or driving from the first tee of its many acclaimed parkland golf courses, fishing in any one of its 400 lakes or experiencing the literary and historic heritage of the area, there is always something to see and do.

The island speckled lakes of Lough Key and Lough Allen in counties Roscommon and Leitrim claim to be the heartland of undiscovered Ireland. This is an unspoilt area of innate beauty, consisting of mountains, valleys, pastures, lakes, undulating hills, rivers and canals. The Upper Lakelands offer a varied range of activities. Whether you cruise, kayak, fish, golf, horse ride, cycle, walk or just take time out to relax and unwind, it's all available here in this tranquil beautiful landscape. There are also countless historical sites, museums, castles, great houses & gardens in the Upper Lakelands that will delight and interest even the most discerning visitor.

MONAGHAN



Monaghan

The magic of Monaghan lies in its beautiful rolling hills, sparkling lakes, meandering rivers, sheer unspoilt beauty, quaint towns and villages, along with its friendly atmosphere.

There is a great range of outdoor pursuits available throughout the county, which embraces the beautiful natural surroundings for the whole family to enjoy. For the golfer, there are courses situated in picturesque settings that are as challenging as they are charming. Equestrian enthusiasts will love the rolling countryside and quiet country roads. Adrenalin junkies are catered for with rallying, quad biking and paintballing. Water sports enthusiasts will find waterskiing, wake boarding and kayaking. And of course, County Monaghan is an angler's paradise!

Walking in County Monaghan is just that...walking, as opposed to mountaineering! The hilly highways and byways of the county are the perfect place for a relaxing holiday. Unique visitor attractions, such as the Patrick Kavanagh Centre in Inniskeen, and the award winning Monaghan Museum are a must see.

The good humour, wit and inquisitive friendliness of Monaghan people makes visitors to the county feel wanted and welcome, while the natural beauty of the area makes them want to linger for longer. Many tourists are inclined to extend their stay and most return year after year to enjoy the magic of Monaghan.



Clones, Co Monaghan

Monaghan Towns & Villages

Ballybay (C6) is located beside Lough Major and was founded on the linen industry but is now a prominent angling centre with several excellent waters.

Carrickmacross (C7) is a pretty market town which developed around a castle built by the Earl of Essex in 1630. The site of the castle is now occupied by the convent of the St. Louis nuns. The sisters revived the famous Carrickmacross Lace and this tradition is kept alive today by the Carrickmacross Lace Co-Op which is based in the Gallery.

Castleblayney (C7) town was built by the Blayney family. The Courthouse, Market House and Church of Ireland Church were later additions. Hope Castle was named after Henry Hope, owner of one of the largest uncut diamonds in the world.

Clones (B6) has many buildings and sites of historical interest. The Diamond in the town is dominated by the Church of Ireland and an early 9/10th century High Cross. Other buildings of note in and around the town include the Presbyterian Church, and the ruins of John Wesley's Methodist Church.

Donaghmoynne (C7) is the location of the Mannan Castle 18-hole Parkland Golf Course. The ruins of Mannan Castle, with its motte and bailey, are still clearly visible.

Emyvale (B6) is the site of a 10th c. Viking Fort, used to launch attacks on Donagh Church. Novelist William Carlton attended Donagh Parish Church hedge school in 1837. Tully Fort was established by the powerful McKenna family and is still in evidence.

Glaslough Village (B6) a former Tidy Town winner, originated from the presence of Castle Leslie. The castle is now a hotel, but visitors can walk around the grounds, exploring the splendid gardens of this 405ha estate. Donagh Graveyard contains the ruins of an early Christian Church and High Cross.



Monaghan Town, Co Monaghan

Inniskeen (C7) is full of images and reminders of the poet Patrick Kavanagh who was born here in 1904. The Patrick Kavanagh Literary and Resource Centre is located in the church where he attended Mass as a boy. Visitors can also access the adjacent graveyard where the poet is buried. A round tower marks the site of the early Christian monastery of St. Daig.

Monaghan Town (B6) the capital of the county and is the focal point of the county's furniture industry, poultry, and mushroom production. It is a lively town with some wonderful architecture, for example The County Museum, St. Macartan's Cathedral, The Market House and The Courthouse to name a few, that can best be appreciated on foot.

Newbliss (C6), the home of the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig, is situated close to Clones. The Tyrone Guthrie Centre is a residential arts centre dedicated to the great theatre director Sir Tyrone Guthrie. It is surrounded by 450 acres of forest and lake which give it a seclusion and tranquillity idyllically suited to its new role as a workplace for artists.

Rockcorry (C6) developed as a result of the linen industry which was founded by the Corr family. An obelisk-style monument, situated between Cootehill and Rockcorry, was erected by local electors in honour of the 18th c. MP Richard Dawson.

Scotshouse (C5) is a village with an historic past. Remnants of an ancient border - the Black Pigs Dyke runs through here and it is the birthplace of Arthur Griffiths. There are two historic graveyards in the village - Drum Swords and Magheratemple.

For more information on towns & villages in Monaghan, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

1 Ballybay Wetlands Centre

Derryvalley Farm, Ballybay,
Co. Monaghan

Tel: 042 9748022

www.ballybaywetlands.ie



An impressive multi-purpose venue set in the heart of Co Monaghan with sweeping views of the surrounding wetlands. Consisting of Education Training opportunities, tourism, outdoor pursuits & cultural events.

Open: Daily, 09.00 – 22.00



2 Monaghan County Museum

1-2 Hill Street, Monaghan Town,
Co. Monaghan

Tel: 047 82928

www.monaghan.ie/museum



An award winning museum that encapsulates the archaeology of the local region under one roof. It boasts a comprehensive collection of artefacts from medieval crannogs, native to Monaghan along with the Cross of Clogher dated to the 14th century.

Open: All year, Mon - Fri (11.00 - 17.00) & Sat (12.00 - 17.00).



3 Patrick Kavanagh Rural & Literary Resource Centre

Inniskeen, Co. Monaghan

Tel: 042 9378560

www.patrickkavanaghcountry.com



The centre houses a permanent exhibition on the life and work of Patrick Kavanagh, one of Ireland's best loved poets. 60-seat audio-visual theatre and reference library.

Open: 17 Mar – 17 Dec, Tue – Fri (11.00 - 16.30)
1 Jun – 30 Sep, Sun (15.00 – 17.00)



4 Rally School Ireland

Gola, Scotstown,
Co. Monaghan

Tel: 047 89098

www.rallyschoolireland.ie



Amazing driving experiences for men, women, teens and kids in a safe environment! New purpose built tarmac rally stage. We cater for individuals, groups, stag / hen parties, team building and road safety days.

Open: All Year



5 Sam More Open Farm

Three Mile House,
Co. Monaghan

Tel: 047 57397

or 086 2322601



Vintage displays and insights into how life used to be. Stationery engines, vintage cars and a working forge. Animals include alpacas, miniature donkeys, pygmy goats, geese and black swans. Picnic area, indoor canteen, nature walk and fairy fort.

Open: Daily (10.00 - 19.00)



6 Wildlife and Heritage Centre

Listinny,

Co. Monaghan

Tel: 047 80632

www.wildlifeandheritage.com



Ireland's largest private collection of mounted specimens of Irish Wildlife including Corncrake, Bittern & Cuckoo. External tour includes live Buzzards and Owls plus a collection of Irish Heritage artefacts.

Open: All year, on request (by phone or via website). Group bookings (minimum 5 people).





Castle Leslie, Co Monaghan

More to Experience

Arts, Crafts & More

Carrickmacross Lace Gallery, Market Square, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan
 Tel: 042 9664176, www.carrickmacrosslace.ie
 Home of traditional Irish Carrickmacross Lace.

Swallow Studios Art & Craft Gallery, Annayalla, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan
 Tel: 042 9746614, www.lizchristy.com
 Workshop of hand weaver Liz Christy and batik artist Louise Loughman.

The Garage Theatre, Education Campus, Armagh Road, Monaghan
 Tel: 047 81597, www.garagetheatre.com

The Iontas Centre, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan. Tel: 042 9753400,
www.iontascastleblayney.ie
 A dynamic multi-disciplined resource centre, theatre and art gallery.

The Market House Venue & Gallery, Market Street, Monaghan Tel: 047 38162.
www.facebook.com/themarkethouse
 An 18th century gallery over two floors.

Ulster Canal Stores, Cara Street, Clones, Co. Monaghan, Tel: 047 52125
 Incorporate Clones lace exhibition and sales, tea-shop and local crafts.

Forest Parks & Amenity Areas

Rossmore Forest Park, 3.5km South West of Monaghan Town.

Forest and lakeside walks; nature trails; viewing points; picnic areas; toilets and car park. €5 charge per car.

Lough Muckno Leisure Park, Castleblayney.

Several small walks, fishing, water sports, parking, play park, picnic area, toilets.

Hollywood Park, 7km from Monaghan, (off Ballinode-Scotstown Road).

Fishing, nature walks, play area, boating, swimming, picnic area, toilets and car park.

Dartry Forest (Bellamont Forest Park) Rockcorry.

Walks in Dartry and Bellamont Forest are available; the forest is bordered by a famine wall which stretches half way along the road from Cootehill to Rockcorry.

Fane River Park, Inniskeen.

Offers peace seekers an opportunity to pause for a rest or a picnic, or to take a walk along the banks of this excellent salmon river.

Billy Fox Memorial Park, Shantonagh.

The Billy Fox Memorial Park is located 5km along the Cootehill to Ballybay route where there are some good forest walks and picnic sites.

Derrygorry/Favour Royal Peoples Millennium Forest, Emyvale.

These two woodlands are essentially part of one forest since they lie beside one another on both sides of the border approximately 15km north of Monaghan town. Walks, picnic areas, etc, are available here.

Emy Lough, located just outside Emyvale, the well maintained lake complete with recreation and picnic area makes Emy Lough a good place for a relaxing break or a stroll.

For the
Personal Touch
 visit our Discover Ireland Centres for
 free Tourist Information & advice!

CAVAN



Cavan

As Ireland's premier angling location, Cavan is often nicknamed 'the Lake Country' because of the abundance of lakes and rivers found within its borders - locals will tell you there are 365 lakes, one for every day of the year!

There is a water here to suit all tastes. The angler seeking large open waters can choose from the wider stretches of the rivers and large lakes such as Gowna, Oughter, Sillan, Upper Lough Erne, Lough McNeen and Lough Ramor. Those in search of somewhere more intimate and secluded will also find many smaller lakes and river stretches.

Dotted between the lakes, you'll also discover spectacular scenery and walking trails right here in Cavan. Connect with your past amongst the magnificent heritage of Cavan Burren Park. Be immersed in history at the World War 1 Trench Experience at the County Museum, go fishing or take a boat trip on splendid Lough Oughter. Relax and experience the finest of hospitality at one of the many award-winning restaurants and hotels.

Cavan is a place away from it all. The people are down-to-earth, friendly and welcoming. Hotels and restaurants rank among the best in the country and music sessions are known to continue into the early hours.

So step into Cavan... see you there!



Cavan County Museum, Ballyjamesduff, Co Cavan

Cavan Towns & Villages

Arva (D5) is famous as the town where the three provinces of Ulster, Leinster and Connacht meet. The area is very popular with fishermen and lakes such as Hollybank, Gulladoo and Rockfield offer excellent coarse angling all year round.

Bailieborough (D6) is a vibrant and busy town in East Cavan. The town boasts a fine public library; the beautifully restored 17th Century Wesleyan Chapel Arts and Cultural Centre. An interesting feature of the town is the 'Stations of the Cross' by George Collie, RHA in the Roman Catholic Church. There are also a number of 19th century churches, a Masonic hall and a market house which can be visited.

Ballyconnell (C5) is a vibrant and picturesque town in West Cavan located on the Shannon-Erne Waterway. This waterway links the Shannon and Erne rivers. This canal was re-opened for cruisers, boats and canoes to explore the waterway. Ballyconnell is located 28km from Cavan town.

Ballyjamesduff (D6) is immortalized in the famous Percy French song, 'Come back Paddy Reilly to Ballyjamesduff'. It is also home to the award-winning Cavan County Museum, which showcases Cavan's diverse culture, heritage and history, as well as the World War 1 Trench Experience.

Belturbet (C5) The River and surrounding lakes ensure Belturbet is popular with anglers. When the Anglo-Normans attempted to conquer Cavan in the early 13th century, they built a defensive fortification; a Motte and Bailey on Turbet Island near the present-day bridge in Belturbet. The Motte and Bailey was probably the first major settlement in the town and many discernible and interesting historic fortifications are still visible today.

Blacklion (B4) is located in scenic West Cavan near the border with Fermanagh in the heart of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, which has an ongoing programme of events. Blacklion is also home to the famous MacNean House Restaurant and Cookery School, as well as the wonderful Cavan Burren Park. The Market House in the town is a good stop-off point for tourist information.

Butlersbridge (C5) is a picturesque village sited on the Annalee River and located just 5km north of Cavan town. The Catholic Church in the village was designed in the early 1860s by the famous Cavan architect William Hague Jnr.



Cavan Burren Park, near Blacklion, Co Cavan

Cavan (C5) is nestled between 2 drumlins which gave rise to the name Cavan or An Cabhan meaning 'the hollow place'. Cavan is rich in history and many buildings have survived for generations. Those interested in following the designated heritage town walk will discover a wealth of historical and architectural wonders.

Cootehill (C6) is a busy and friendly town situated close to the County Monaghan border. Nestled between the rivers Dromore and Annalee, Cootehill is famous as an excellent fishing destination with 26 lakes within 10 miles of the town.

Dowra (B3) village sits on the border of Counties Leitrim and Cavan and overlooks Lough Allen, one of the largest and most beautiful lakes in Ireland. Dowra is the first village on the River Shannon on its journey south to Limerick and the sea. The Shannon Pot, the source of the river, is located just 6 miles from Dowra. The recently renovated Dowra Courthouse in the centre of the town is a good place to stop.

Killeshandra (C5) owing to its location near Lough Oughter is an angling centre of international renown. The town is surrounded by water and is an excellent location for canoeing and boating alike. Also near Killeshandra is the impressive Lough Oughter Castle, which is sited on an island in the middle of Lough Oughter. Built by the Anglo-Normans in the 13th century.

Kingscourt (D7) is a busy market town in the south-east corner of County Cavan. Kingscourt's Catholic Church, sitting on a ridge high above the town, displays excellent stained glass windows by the renowned Irish artist Evie Hone, who also provided designs for Eton College Chapel.

Virginia (D6) is pleasantly sited on the shores of Lough Ramor. Lough Sheelin, the famous brown trout fishery is 15km away. The Virginia Pumpkin Festival is held annually during the October Bank Holiday weekend and has become a massive event.

For more information on towns & villages in Cavan, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this Guide

Visitor Attractions

7 Bear Essentials & Silver Bear Centre

Tirnawannagh, Bawnboy,

Co. Cavan

Tel: 049 9523461 /

087 7610537

www.beaessentials.ie



Visitor Centre and Teddy Bear Shop of famous Teddy Bear brands - Steiff, Charlie Bears, Bukowski Bears, Irish Bears and Baby Bear Gifts. Build Your Bear Workshops and events. Group bookings only. New 2015 Teddy Bear Zip Wire.

Open: All year, Tue - Sat (09.00 - 18.00 by arrangement)

★ Special Offer: 10% off for a Build a Bear Workshop for a family of 5, including afternoon tea.

8 Cavan Burren Park

Blacklion, County Cavan

www.thisiscavan.ie



A mythical, spiritual landscape of monuments, megalithic tombs, hut sites and pre-bog walls from pre-historic times. Stunning views of Cuilcagh Mountain, West Cavan and the greater Global Geopark. New interpretative centre and four new walking trails now open.

Open: All year.



9 Cavan County Museum

Virginia Road, Ballyjamesduff,

Co. Cavan

Tel: 049 8544070

www.cavanmuseum.ie



A 19th century building, the exhibition galleries trace the history and heritage of Co Cavan. Gardens, playground, walkways, Craft & Coffee Shop on site.

Open: Tue - Sat (10.00 - 17.00),
Sun (14.00 - 18.00, summer months).
Closed on Mondays



10 Dun a Ri Forest Park

Kingscourt, Co. Cavan

Tel: 049 4378543

www.thisiscavan.ie

Beautiful, historic forest park with four marked walks. Home to a great diversity of wildlife and historical features, including the ruins of Flemings Castle. Families will enjoy the sculpture trail.

**11 ODD (Out-Doors & Dirty)**

The Gamespark, Brackley Lake, Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan

Tel: 049 9523877

www.odd.ie

Extreme outdoor adventure park for ages 10+ including off-road Buggies, clay pigeon and hover crafting.

**Open:** All Year (subject to pre-booking)**12 St. Kilian's Heritage Centre**

Mullagh, Co. Cavan

Tel: 046 9242433



A unique heritage centre detailing the life and influence of St. Killian - the seventh century Apostle of Franconia in Germany.

**Open:** Oct - Easter, Mon - Fri (10.00 - 17.30).

Easter-Oct, Tue - Fri (10.00 - 18.00)

Sat, Sun & Bank Holiday Mon (14.00 - 18.00)

13 World War 1 Trench Experience

Cavan County Museum, Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan

Tel: 049 8544070

www.cavanmuseum.ie

The largest outdoor replica trench in Ireland and the UK, which includes visual and sound effects.

**Open:** Tue - Sat (10.00 - 17.00), Sun (14.00 - 18.00, summer months).

Closed on Mondays



Clough Oughter, Co Cavan

More to Experience

Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark

Recognised by UNESCO, the Geopark boasts some of the finest natural landscapes in Ireland. Ranging from rugged uplands, lakes and forests through to gently rolling drumlins, the landscapes of the Geopark represent a complex history dating back as far as 895 million years ago. Waterfalls, old abbeys, megalithic tombs, walks, trails and stunning show caves are just some of the attractions. Visitors will also enjoy a year round programme of events. www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com

Great Houses, Castles And Cathedrals

Ballyhaise College, one of the finest examples of Georgian architecture in Ireland built in the 18th century for the Canning family. It is now an agricultural college.

Corravahan House, a listed Georgian style house and gardens which retains most of its original period features. Located between Cavan and Cootehill. Tours available by calling 087 977 2224

Clough Oughter Castle, an impressive 13th century Norman Castle in the middle of Lough Oughter. Guided boat tours available. Tel: 049 436 1094

Cabra Castle, near Kingscourt. A 19th century castellated mansion, former home of the Pratt family.

Farnham House, 2.6 miles north west of Cavan town on 1000 acre estate.

Drumlane Monastic Site, Milltown. Between Drumlane and Derrybrick Loughs. Remains of a 6th century monastery founded by St. Mogue, which boasts fine stonework and the only 10 metre high round tower in the diocese. Tel: 049 952 6121

Killinagh Church, located on the southern shores of Lough McNeen, three miles from Blacklion. Beyond its cemetery is a remarkable collection of sixteen bullaun stones (stones with man-made hollows).

Kilmore Cathedral, Six miles west of Cavan Town. The Romanesque doorway dates to the late 12th / early 13th century. Tours available by calling 049 433 7168.

Moneygashel Cashel, Glangevlin - located off the R206 Glangevlin - Blacklion Road is an early Christian fort with circular thick stone wall and two small staircases. Beautiful views. Tel: 049 952 56121



Tullydermot Falls, Swanlinbar, Co Cavan

Art Galleries, Libraries & Theatre

Johnston Central Library, Farnham Street Tel: 049 4378500 has an extensive reference section with information on the history and heritage of the county. The building also houses the genealogy centre and tourist information office.

Ramor Theatre, Main St. Virginia Tel: 049 854 7074. www.ramorthatre.com
The theatre is a fully equipped performance venue which operates a full programme of music, drama and dance events.

Cavan Arts office operates a year round programme of arts events. Visit www.cavanarts.ie

Museums & Cultural Centres

Ballyhugh Arts and Cultural Centre, Ballyhugh, Ballyconnell. Tel: 049 952 6044.
A unique collection of artefacts and local photographs. Old-time dancing Monday and Wednesday nights. Exhibitions, live shows, ceilís, concerts and lectures all year round with courses in Irish music and dance also.

Cavan Genealogy, Farnham Building, Farnham St, Cavan. Tel: 049 436 1094.

Belturbet Railway Station, Belturbet, Tel: 086 0699 749

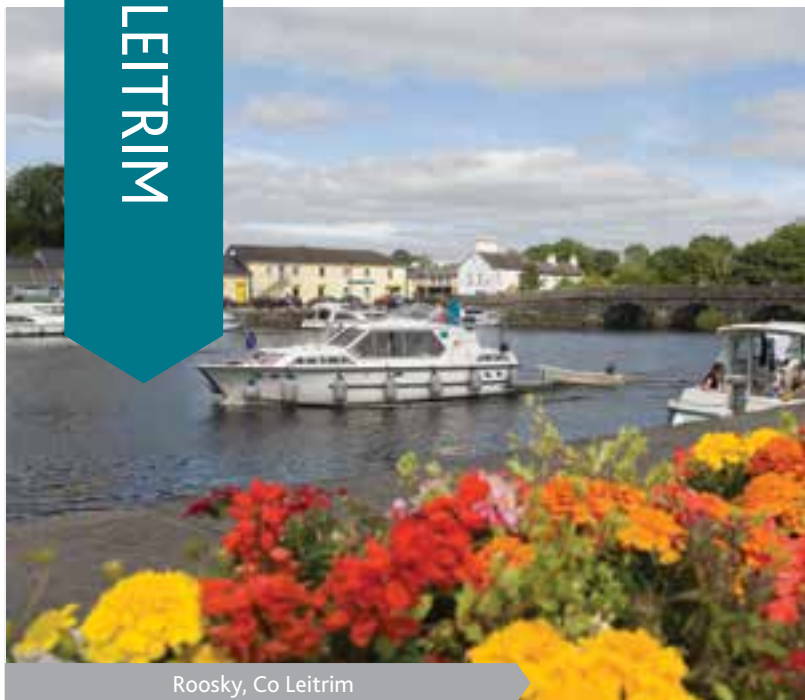
Historic cut-stone railway museum and station masters house on the famed narrow gauge railway line. Tours available by appointment only.

Museum of The Master Saddler – Corlough, Tel: 086 394 6467

Unique collection dedicated to the craft of the master saddler and harness maker. www.museumofthemastersaddler.com Open: By appointment only

The Wesleyan Chapel, Arts, Cultural & Tourism Centre, Adelaide Row, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan. Tel: 042 966 6666.

The beautifully restored 1800's Wesleyan Chapel is a dedicated centre of learning and education for all disciplines of the arts, including performance, visual and literacy.



Roosky, Co Leitrim

Leitrim

Leitrim is a county bursting with stunning scenery – lakes, rivers and rugged mountains in abundance. The best way to see many of these stunning landscapes is to hop on board a cruiser and let the scenery drift by.

Carrick-on-Shannon, the county town and cruising capital of the River Shannon provides plenty of choices with its modern marina and lively nightlife. There are also many picturesque riverside villages throughout Leitrim, where anglers will find a little bit of paradise!

As the Shannon makes its way south through the county it passes through the lovely villages of Drumsna, Dromod and Rooskey which also have wonderful riverside bars and restaurants.

Launched in 2014, the Shannon Blueway is an innovative, safe and easy to use series of water and land based trails. The first of its kind in Ireland, the Blueway allows guided and unguided paddling and walking along the Lough Allen Canal and Shannon River from Carrick-on-Shannon via Leitrim Village and Battlebridge to Drumshanbo.

For further information on County Leitrim, pick up a copy of our North West Pocket Guide.



Leitrim Village, Co Leitrim

Leitrim Towns & Villages

Ballinamore (C4) is situated on the Shannon-Erne waterway and is internationally renowned for its abundance of coarse angling waters with a total of 40 lakes in a 10 mile radius. The Old Courthouse is a prominent cut-stone building which was built in the 1830s.

Carrick-on-Shannon (D3) is both the county town of Leitrim and the cruising capital of the River Shannon, boasting a beautiful modern marina. The town itself is steeped in history, in particular the Costello chapel which is believed to be the smallest chapel in Europe.

Dowra (B4) is just six miles from the source of the River Shannon (the Shannon Pot) in the Cuilcagh Mountains, making it the first village on the Shannon. It is on the border of Cavan and Leitrim where the provinces of Ulster and Connaught meet.

Dromod (D4) is a former Tidy Towns winner with its lovely harbour area which is very popular with cruiser traffic. "The Weeping Tree", a water feature in the centre of the village was created by a local craftsman from a piece of bog oak which was found nearby.

Drumshanbo (C3), this pretty village is beautifully situated in the shadow of Sliabh-an-Iarainn towering to the north and the Arigna Mountains in the west. It is a renowned angling resort and is also famous for its musical tradition.

Jamestown (D3) named after King James I of England was originally built as a walled plantation town for 17th century English settlers. One of the gates of the former fortified town is still standing. Today, Jamestown is a pleasant mooring spot and is also popular with anglers.

Leitrim Village (C3) is a picturesque village uniquely located on both the River Shannon and the Shannon-Erne Waterway. It boasts a beautiful marina with excellent facilities for the cruising traffic. The village gave its name to the County as it was a place of strategic importance in medieval times.

For more information on towns & villages in Leitrim, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

14 Cavan & Leitrim Railway

Station Road, Dromod,
Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9638599

www.cavanandleitrim.com



Narrow Gauge Railway with Museum of trains, buses, aeroplanes, fire engines and artillery. Original station from 1887 with Engine Shed and Water tower.

Open: Sat & Mon (10.00 - 17.00), Sun (13.00 - 17.00)



15 Leitrim Design House

The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon,
Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9650550

www.leitrimdesignhouse.ie



Over 250 makers and artists works are represented here highlighting the wealth of innovation and talent.

A truly unique shopping experience for those who appreciate the best, who want something different and authentic. A real gem!

Open: All Year, Mon – Fri (10.00 - 18.00) Sat (10.00 - 17.00)



16 Leitrim Genealogy Centre

Main Street, Ballinamore,
Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9644012

www.leitrimroots.com



Leitrim Genealogy Centre is the official genealogy service provider for Co. Leitrim.

Open: Mon – Fri (09.00 - 13.00 & 14.00 - 17.00) Closed on public holidays.



17 Moon River Pleasure Cruiser

Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9621777

www.moonriver.ie

Come for a relaxing trip with us on the Moon River pleasure cruiser. All trips depart quay side, Carrick on Shannon, Moon River is the ideal choice for Shannon River sightseeing and entertainment.

Open: Feb - Dec, schedule varies.

18 Sliabh an Iarainn Visitor Centre

Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9641522



This centre informs the visitor about life, transport and industry between the Arigna and Sliabh an Iarainn mountain - the railway, canal, lakes, iron and coal mining.

Open: Apr - Oct, Mon - Sat (10.00-18.00) & Sun (14.00-18.00)

19 The Dock

St. George's Terrace, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9650828

www.thedock.ie

The Dock is Leitrim's foremost centre for the arts with a year round programme of contemporary art exhibitions, performances, workshops for all ages and a café bar.

Open: Tue - Fri (10.00-17.30), Sat (10.00-17.00)

20 St. Georges Heritage & Visitor Centre

St. Mary's Close, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Tel: 071 9621757

www.carrickheritage.com

The Centre shows a film on the History of Co Leitrim "enduring & enchanting". Tour also includes St. Georges Church, Costello Chapel, The Attic Workshop, Famine Workhouse Garden of Remembrance and Sensory Garden.

Open: Apr - Oct, Mon - Sat (10.00-17.00). Nov - Mar, Mon - Fri (10.00-17.00)



Solas Art Gallery, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim

More to Experience

Solas Art Gallery, Main Street, Ballinamore. Tel: 071 9644210 www.solasart.ie

It is an artist led exhibition space. The main aim of the Gallery is to promote the arts in the wider local community by bringing an awareness of art to the public and making exhibition space accessible to artists, both full time and part time.

Open: 10.00 - 18.00, Mon- Sat & Tues-Sat (Nov-March)

The Corn Mill Theatre, Carrigallen. Tel: 049 4339612 www.cornmilltheatre.com

The tradition of Drama in Carrigallen goes back to the second last century. The present group was founded in 1963 as 'The Community Players' and there has been no break in activity since that time.

Leitrim Crystal, Bridge Street, Carrick-on-Shannon. Tel: 071 9622255

www.leitrimcrystal.ie

The proprietor of Leitrim Crystal is a master glass cutter and welcomes visitors to view crystal being designed, cut and engraved. A family run business with over 30 years' experience which prides itself on giving an old style personal and friendly service.

St. Georges Heritage & Visitor Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon. Tel: 071 9621757.

The story of Leitrim, its landscape, its history and its people is introduced in a lyrical audiovisual. A central theme is "Twin Traditions", the mingling of Gaelic and Planter cultures. St. George's has been a place of Church of Ireland worship for nearly 200 years. Fully restored for church services its airy interior is lit by the glowing colours of stained glass. It provides a superb venue for concerts and other cultural events.



Jamestown, Co. Leitrim

Costello Chapel, Bridge Street, Carrick-on-Shannon.

The Costello Memorial Chapel is the smallest chapel in Europe and the 2nd smallest chapel in the world. It was built in the 19th century by Edward Costello, a rich merchant, as a memorial and burial vault for his wife, Josephine who died two years previously. It is sixteen feet long, 12 feet wide and 30 feet high. Each side of the aisle holds a coffin lined with lead and covered with slabs of thick reinforced glass.

Old Town Gate & Medieval Friary, Jamestown.

This gate is all that is left of the fortified town walls which were erected when the town was founded by Sir Charles Coote in 1625. It was significant enough to receive a Royal Charter from James I. A stone cross over a small gate, leads to the ruin of a Franciscan friary of the convent of the Friars' Minor. A synod held here in 1650 repudiated the Marquis of Dromod, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and excommunicated his followers.

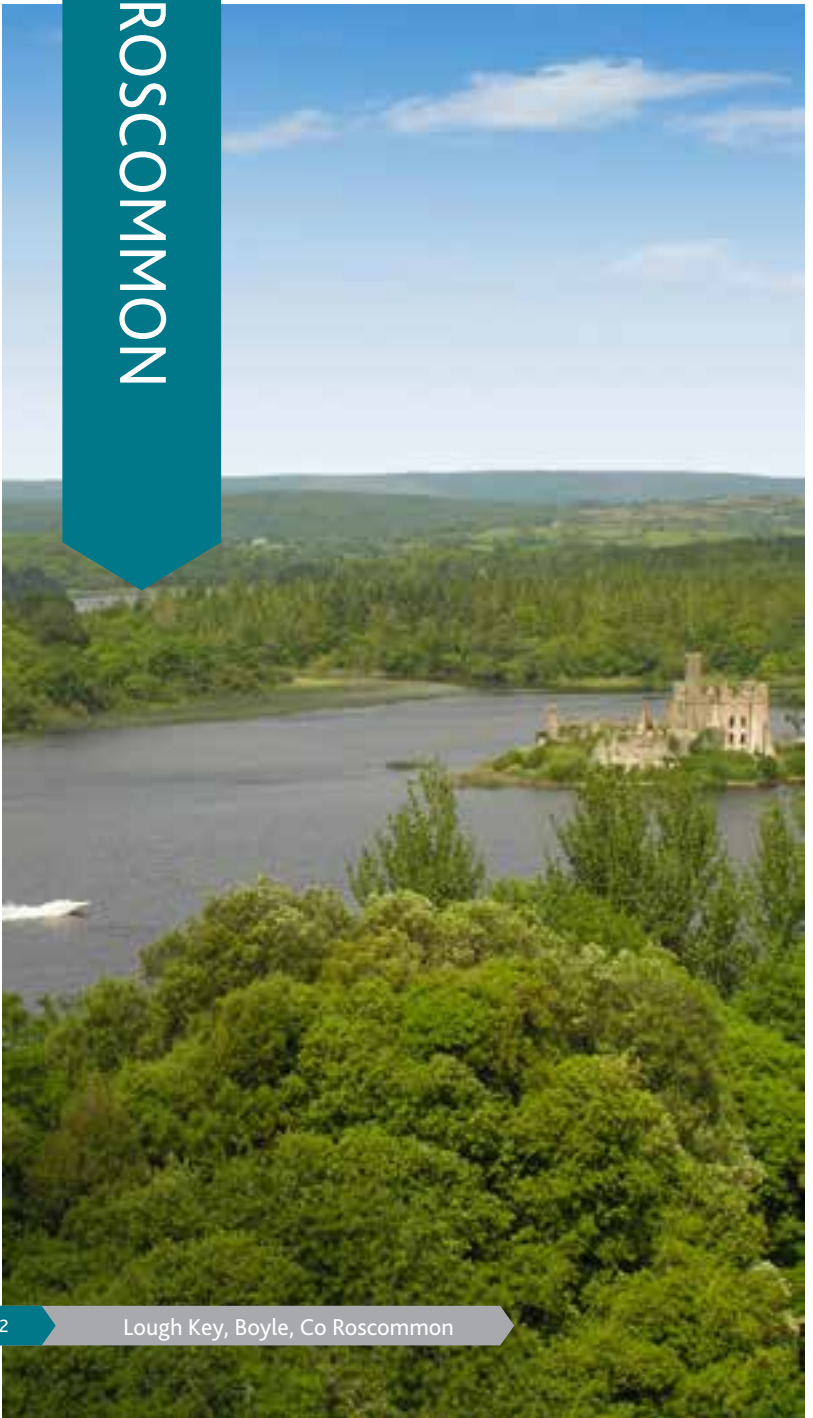
Fenagh Abbey, Fenagh.

About 3km from Ballinamore lies a ruined medieval church built on the site of an early Christian monastery. The Abbey was used for a time as a place of Church of Ireland worship until the present church was built nearby circa 1798. Nearby is another ruin which was likely residential accommodation for the priests of Fenagh. According to the Book of Fenagh, the founder of the original monastery was St. Caillin who was supposed to have arrived in Fenagh from Dunmore in Co. Galway in the 5th century. The Abbey had a famous monastic school. A writer of the 'Annals of the Four Masters' wrote that the monastery at Fenagh was "celebrated for its divinity school, which was resorted to by students from every part of Europe".

Book of Fenagh, Fenagh.

The book of Fenagh was completed at the monastery in 1516 and a copy is now held at the Royal Irish Academy. The main ruins of the Gothic Church have, among other interesting features, an east window of unusual design and a relief carved 17th century penal cross. Access: Fenagh is on the R202 between Ballinamore and Mohill. The site is on the northern shore of the little Fenagh Lough.

ROSCOMMON



Roscommon

'An undiscovered experience'... County Roscommon now offers more to see and do than ever before, often described as 'the Heart of Undiscovered Ireland'. The low level of traffic in this unspoilt rural environment offers a pleasant and peaceful holiday experience, far removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

County Roscommon, the ancient capital of Connaught, that gave ancient Ireland its last High King and modern Ireland its first President. Within easy reach of most of the large centres of population of the Country, with three main primary roads and three main rail lines passing through the County. Roscommon has a wide variety of visitor attractions for families and the specialist visitor.

While offering many and varied visitor holiday experiences it is considered very much the undiscovered heart of Ireland where traditional hospitality is at its best. The natural beauty of Roscommon is studded with captivating historic sites and buildings with a wealth of places to see and things to do. The County is a scenic paradise serviced by a network of quiet country roads and an unspoilt countryside. Angling, especially coarse angling, is available on the many rivers and lakes.

Unwind on boat trips down the Shannon or explore the unique landscape, islands and wildlife including Lough Key Forest and Activity Park. With the lordly River Shannon running down the full length of the eastern side of the County with its tributaries and islands, from Lough Allen and Lough Key in the north of the County to Lough Ree in the south.

Very much an undiscovered experience!



Elphin Windmill, Co Roscommon

Roscommon Towns & Villages

Ballaghaderreen (D2) is a busy cathedral town on the Mayo/Roscommon border and on the banks of the River Lung. The Cathedral of the Annunciation and St. Nathy is the seat of the Catholic Bishop of Achonry, which comprises parts of counties Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo. The surrounding countryside is famed for the richness of its archaeology and heritage. Dillon House, on the town Square, is the ancestral home of John Blake and John and James Dillon, major figures in Irish political life. As you approach Ballaghaderreen from the east you pass the Dr. Douglas Hyde Interpretative Centre dedicated to the First President of Ireland, Dr. Douglas Hyde, whose remains repose in the adjoining graveyard.

Boyle Town (C3) on the N61 lies on the main pass linking the plains of Connaught with the north of Ireland. Located between the lakes of Lough Gara and Lough Key, Boyle is a well-known angling centre. Attractions include King House, Boyle Abbey and Lough Key Forest and Activity Park. Boyle is also the birthplace of Maureen O'Sullivan (1911-1998), actress best remembered for her role as Jayne in Tarzan. Furthermore, Boyle is the home place of actor Chris O'Dowd whose brainchild 'Moone Boy' TV Series was partly filmed around Boyle town.

Carrick-on-Shannon (D3) on the N4 is built on the site of an old ford across the Shannon River. Now an arched stone bridge spans the river and links the Roscommon part of the town to the county town of Leitrim. Carrick has a large marina housing an ever increasing cruiser fleet and a flourishing rowing club.

Castlerea (D2) is a flourishing market town on the junction of the N60 and R361. The town is wonderfully located in forested countryside on the banks of the River Suck and is the birthplace of Sir William Wilde, the father of Oscar Wilde. Clonalis House, the ancestral home of the O'Connor clan, is situated just west of the town on the N60.

Elphin (D3) village is located at the junction of the R368 and the R369 and takes its name from the Irish 'Ailfinn' meaning white stone, referring to an obelisk which stood by a Well here. Oliver Goldsmith (author of 'She Stoops to Conquer') and William Wilde (father of Oscar Wilde) were educated in the Elphin Diocesan School, which closed in the 1860s. Just outside the town and well worth a visit, is the restored 18th Century Elphin Windmill.



Strokestown Park, Co Roscommon

Keadue Village (C3) on the R284 nestled at the foot of the Arigna Mountains and on the Arigna Mountains scenic drive through a countryside festooned with lakes and hills. The village has won numerous National Tidy Town awards and was twice the National Tidy Town. Keadue plays host to the famous O'Carolan International Harp Festival - a must for anyone interested in traditional Irish music.

Roscommon (E3) the county town and administrative hub is situated at the junction of the N60, N61 and N63 and boasts a broad range of accommodation, shopping, historic sites and leisure facilities. The town contains many impressive structures such as Harrison Hall, the County Museum, Roscommon Abbey, The Sacred Heart Church and the 13th Century Roscommon Castle, now in ruins.

Strokestown (D3) at the intersection of the N5 and the R368 is to a large extent one broad street leading to the gates of Strokestown Park House, Gardens and Famine Museum. In the 18th Century the house and town were designed for the Mahon family by Richard Cassells who wished to create one of the widest streets in Europe. The House is now open to the public and offers a bona fide depiction of a period lifestyle. A famine museum is now located in the stable yard and nearby in St. John's Church is the County Roscommon Heritage and Genealogy Centre.

Tulsk village (D3) at the junction of the N5 and the N61, is home to Rathcroghan Visitor Centre. An incredible range of artefacts dating from the Stone Age are located within a four mile radius of the centre and are respectfully interpreted in the modern exhibition rooms.

For more information on towns & villages in Roscommon, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

21 Arigna Mining Experience

Arigna, Carrick-on-Shannon,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9646466

www.arignaminingexperience.ie



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

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

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



22 Boyle Abbey

Boyle,
Co. Roscommon

www.discoverireland.ie

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



23 Castlecoote House

Castlecoote,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 090 6663794

www.castlecootehouse.com



Castlecoote House, home of The Percy French Festival, elegant Georgian mansion, with landscape gardens running down to the beautiful river Suck. Afternoon teas and tours of the house and grounds Wednesdays - Sundays (2 - 6pm).

Open: 1st May - 30th Sep



24 Castlerea Railway Museum

Main St., Castlerea,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 087 2308152

www.hellskitchenmuseum.com



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

Open: All Year (please phone in advance for admission).

25 Clonalis House

Castlerea,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 094 9620014

www.clonalis.com



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

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

★ **Offer:** 5% discount on presentation of this guide.

26 County Roscommon Genealogy Centre

Church St, Strokestown,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9633380

www.roscommonroots.com



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

Open: All Year, by appointment.

27 Derryglad Folk & Heritage Museum

Derryglad, Curraghboy, Athlone,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 090 6488192

www.derrygladfolkmuseum.com



Over 6,000 items that focuses on farm and folk life in Ireland from the 18th Century. Wheelchair accessible. Open Bank Holidays.

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

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

Visitor Attractions

28 Dr. Douglas Hyde Interpretative Centre

Portahard, Frenchpark,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 087 7823751



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

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



29 Elphin Windmill

Windmill Road, Elphin,
Co. Roscommon

www.elphinwindmill.blogspot.ie



Built in the 1700's to grind oats and wheat into meal for the local population.

Open: All Year.



30 Glendeer Pet Farm

Drum, Athlone,
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 090 6437147

www.glendeerpethfarm.ie



Come and see all the baby animals at Glendeer Pet Farm, you'll get to feed and pet the animals and even hold some of the smaller ones...it's animal interaction at its best!

Open: Daily, Apr - end of Sep

★ **Offer:** 10% discount on presentation of this guide



31 King House - Georgian Town

Mansion & Military Barracks

Main St., Boyle,

Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9663242

www.kinghouse.ie

Magnificent restored Georgian Mansion with a range of interactive exhibitions.

Open: Apr - Sep, Tue – Sat (11.00 – 17.00)

★ **Offer:** 10% discount on presentation of this guide

**32 Lough Key Forest & Activity Park**

Lough Key Forest Park,

Boyle, Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9673122

www.loughkey.ie

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

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

★ **Offer:** €5 discount for 2 adults on the Lough Key Experience.

**33 Rathcroghan Visitor Centre**

Cruachan Aí, Tulsk

Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9639268

www.Rathcroghan.ie

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

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

★ **Offer:** 2 for the price of 1



Visitor Attractions

34 Roscommon Castle

Roscommon Town,
Co. Roscommon

www.discoverireland.ie



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

Open: Year Round (free).



35 Roscommon County Museum

Market Square,
Roscommon Town

Tel: 090 6625613

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

Open: Throughout most of the Year. Please phone directly to confirm.



36 Strokestown Park

Strokestown
Co. Roscommon

Tel: 071 9633013

www.strokestownpark.ie



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

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

★ **Offer:** 10% off admission



Find these attractions in the map on page 16

More to Experience

Cathedrals, Churches & Points Of Interest

Boyle Abbey, Boyle. Tel: 071 9662604.

An impressive and well-preserved Cistercian monastery founded in the 12th Century. A restored 16th/17th Century gatehouse houses an exhibition.

Roscommon Abbey, Roscommon Town.

This abbey was founded just over 750 years ago by Felim O'Connor, King of Connacht, who was buried there in 1265. Roscommon Abbey is located in Roscommon town, and is signposted off the circular road. Access can also be gained from the car park in The Abbey Hotel.

Ballaghaderreen Cathedral, Ballaghaderreen. Tel: 094 9860011.

A gothic church, commissioned in 1855, with a very tall tower and spire (added in 1912) which is visible for miles around. On entering, the impression is that of a lofty interior of the late Middle Ages. The nave, with timbered ceiling, has lower side aisles, also timber-roofed, and a tall arch leading to the chancel.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Roscommon Town. Tel: 090 6626298.

This church stands out, not just due to its 175 ft. high spire, but also because of the blending of mosaic and colourful windows in the interior. Mosaics not only cover the floor, they also create a great golden surprise in ornamenting the entire walls of the sanctuary with angels modelled on Botticelli and evangelists copying the work of Michelangelo.

La T ne Stone, Castlecoote.

Located about 1km off the R362 (Athleague-Castlecoote road) alongside the entrance to Castlestrange House, this is an early Iron Age boulder (c.500 BC). Pinkish coloured granite with curvilinear decoration, it was probably a focus of pre-Christian ritual.

Lough Allen & the Shannon River form County Roscommon's eastern boundary. The Shannon is the longest river in Britain and Ireland with its source just north of Lough Allen. As it exits Lough Allen the river flows south through Carrick-on-Shannon and assumes the character and importance for which it has become renowned.

Rinn D in Peninsula, Rinnagan, St. John's, Lecarrow.

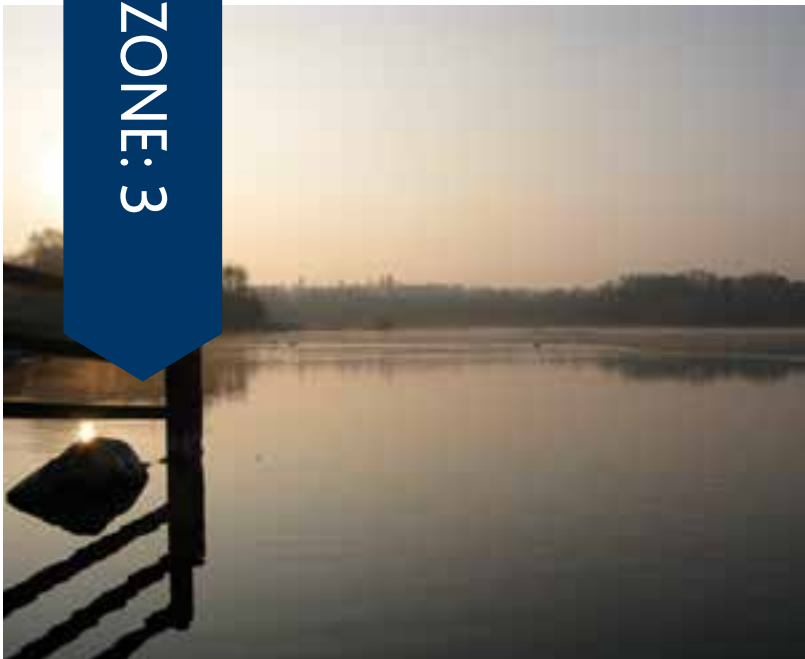
Spectacular 13th Century deserted Anglo Norman Town on the shores of Lough Ree combined with a 4.5km looped walk around the various buildings.

Drum Heritage Visitor Centre, www.drumheritage.ie

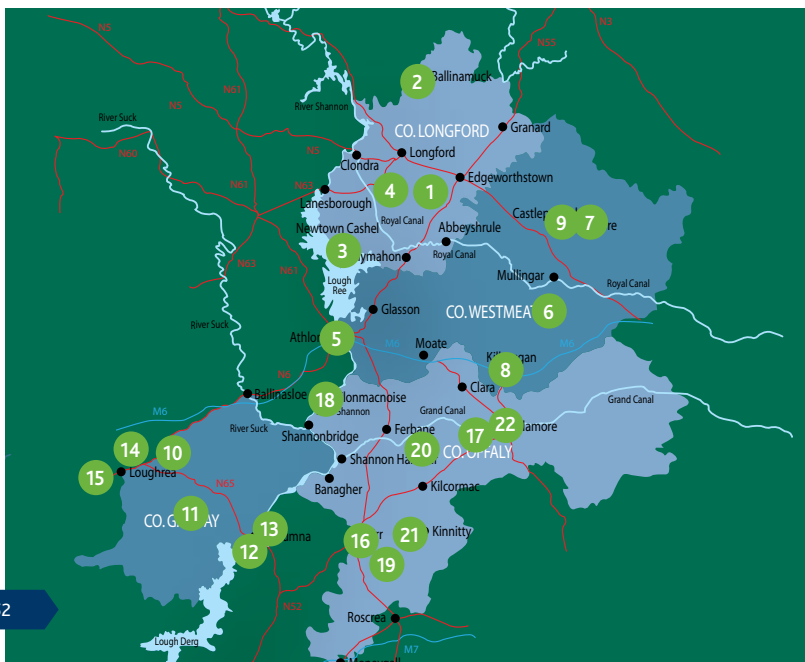
A one thousand square foot Visitor Centre / History Museum containing a display area for public viewing of one of the largest collections in the Midlands of historic documents and memorabilia relating to Drum and its Hinterland.

Grave of Turlough O'Carolan, lies in the McDermottroe family crypt in Kilonan Burial Ground (near Ballyfarnon). O'Carolan was a renowned early Irish Harper, composer and singer in the 17th/18th Century, and was famous for his gift of melodic composition.

ZONE: 3



Lough Ennell, Co Westmeath



Numbers on the map refer to Visitors Attraction (see following pages for details)

Zone 3: Lough Ree & Mid Shannon

Longford, Westmeath, Galway & Offaly

Lough Ree is 32 kilometres long and is one of the Shannon's three main lakes. This much indented lake lays claim to the geographical centre of Ireland.

The Mid Shannon is dominated by the Callows, a nature lover's delight and a wonderful setting for the intrepid explorer. This area also includes the River Suck which is navigable to Ballinasloe and parts of the Royal Canal and Grand Canal.

There are five counties encircling this area of the Lakelands. On the eastern side lies Longford, Westmeath and Offaly and the western side, parts of counties Galway and *Roscommon.

*Editor's Note: Roscommon is fully covered in Zone 2 (see pages 40 - 49).

LONGFORD



Longford

Longford, ancestral home of the Farrell Clan, and the legend 'The Wooing of Étain', is a county of hidden gems. It has many waterways to navigate and explore. Take your pick from the River Shannon, River Camlin, Lough Ree, the River Inny and Lough Gowna to mention a few. This makes it an angler's haven. The "hot water" stretch at Lanesborough is famous, and every canoeist knows the white water stretch at Ballymahon. People can navigate or stroll for miles along the Royal Canal route which joins the Shannon at Clondra with its magnificent cut stone harbour.

Walking enthusiasts are well catered for too. Favourites include the Abbeyshrule Canal Walk, Newcastle Woods, Commons North Woodland Trail, the Ballinamuck Bog Loop or the walks at Derrycasin Woods which hug Lough Gowna's shoreline and Longford's highest point Cairn Hill.

Longford is a county of literary heritage, including Maria Edgeworth, Padraic Colum and Oliver Goldsmith. The county is also proud of its fascinating heritage sites, like Aughnacliffe's 5,000 year old portal dolmen, abbey ruins at both Abbeyshrule and Abbeylara, the heritage village of Ardagh and the recently restored St Mel's Cathedral.

Don't miss the incredible Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre, which uncovers the history of an Iron Age bog road and Ballinamuck Visitor Centre. If you fancy a dose of adrenalin, Longford also offers horse riding, go-karting, paintballing, pitch and putt, greyhound racing, canoeing, kayaking, water polo, water tubing and even flying lessons and pleasure flights!

A proud county of storytellers, the most well-known is Oliver Goldsmith, who was born in Pallas, near Abbeyshrule. The Goldsmith International Literary Festival takes place every year to honour his achievements.



Abbeyshrule, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism

Longford Towns & Villages

Abbeyshrule (E4) is a picturesque village on the banks of the Royal Canal and an overall winner of the National Tidy Towns Award. The ruins of an abbey still stand near the village. It is home to Oliver Goldsmith and the Goldsmith Literary Festival. Abbeyshrule Airfield hosts the longest running spectacular international air show in Ireland during August.

Abbeylara (D5) is the burial place of the O'Farrells, the ruling family of Co. Longford. Sites of interest include the Mesolithic site at Lough Kinale, the crannóg at Derragh Lough and Ballywillan Crannóg, all of which have given up treasures now housed in the National Museum.

Ardagh (E4) is an overall 3 times winner of the National Tidy Towns Award and boasts a heritage centre. It has several literary associations, the most famous of which is with Oliver Goldsmith.

Ballinamuck (D4) is one of the most historic villages in Co. Longford. The last pitched battle fought on Irish soil was at Ballinamuck on 8th September 1798. Ballinamuck Heritage Centre houses an interesting exhibition and provides guidance for the many walks in the area which retrace the steps of those who fought.

Ballymahon (E4) derives its name from Gaelic Baile Mathuna, Town of Mahon, a Chieftain of the UíFhearghail (O'Ferrall), who ruled the area from 1348 to 1353. Today, Ballymahon is a pleasant town and is a popular spot with kayakers who avail of the River Inny and walkers who like to ramble through the forest trails of Newcastle woods.

Clondra (D4), a charming waterside village on the banks of the Royal Canal, was once the point from which many emigrants embarked on their journey from Co. Longford to America and the New World. The Royal Canal provides a wealth of opportunity for people who like to fish, boat or walk along its banks.

Drumlish (D4) is a large, thriving village whose place in Irish history was cemented by the extraordinary participation of its people in the Land War in January 1881. It is the venue for the annual music festival "The Marquee in Drumlish".

Edgeworthstown (E5) has a long association with the Edgeworth family. Richard was a famous inventor and surveyor while Maria stands as one of the most influential novelists of the English language.



Clondra, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism

Granard (D5) is surrounded by beautiful lakes such as Lough Gowna and forests like Derrycassin Woods. The name Granard has many meanings - 'The Hill of the Sun', 'The Hill of the Grain' or 'Ugly Height'. All of these could be attributed to the most memorable feature in Granard - the great Norman earthwork, the largest in Ireland, which rises up at the west end of the main street close to the beautiful church.

Keenagh (E4) is a village dominated by the elegant clock tower erected in memory of Lawrence Harman King of Newcastle House. The most important site near Keenagh is the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre which houses a preserved stretch of an Iron Age bog road built in BC148, as well as an exhibition centre and audio-visual room.

Lanesborough's (E4) claim to fame is that it was the site of Ireland's first turf-fired electricity generator. More importantly, perhaps, is the fact that the warming effect of the plant turned the local Shannon waters into prime bream, tench and roach angling territory.

Legan (E4) is rich in farmland, with wide expanses of bog and the well-stocked River Inny which provides rewarding and restful recreation for the angler. The internationally recognised Shawbrook School of Dance is located on the Rathowen side of Legan.

Longford (D4) is a busy, bright, bustling town dominated by the historical St. Mel's Cathedral. Connolly Barracks, good food, shops, pubs, restaurants and some great sporting grounds welcome the visitor. A delightful walk way has been developed along the River Camlin in the northern part of the town. The surrounding country has a wealth of places to visit and things to do.

Moyne (D4) is the point at which three provinces meet - Ulster, Connaught and Leinster. The area is dotted with lakes and renowned as an excellent angling destination.

Newtowncashel (E4) This National Tidy Towns award-winning village has many special features, including several fine outdoor sculptures by local bog wood sculptor, Michael Casey, and his son Kevin. Two important historical sites on Lough Ree are Inis Clothrann or Quakers Island where St Diarmuid founded an abbey in AD540, and Saints Island where St Ciaran established a monastery in AD544.

For more information on towns and villages in Longford, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

1 Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre

Ardagh, Co. Longford

Tel: 086 3027602

www.creativeardagh.blogspot.ie



Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh Village is located in an old school house built in 1898. It houses an exciting exhibition which outlines the history of this exquisite village.

Open: Please contact directly.



2 Ballinamuck Visitor Centre

Ballinamuck, Co. Longford

Tel: 087 2055462

www.longfordtourism.ie



Formerly the historic Royal Irish Constabulary barracks, the centre houses a fascinating and lively exhibition which details the famous Battle of Ballinamuck which took place in 1798.



3 Casey's Bogwood Sculptures

Barley Harbour, Newtowncashel

Co. Longford

Tel: 043 33 25297

www.bogoak.ie



Father and Son team have spent 60 years producing sculptures in Bog Oak that have seen them become masters of their art.

Known widely the world over, smaller pieces are displayed at their studio gift shop.

Open: All Year, Mon - Sat (09.00 - 18.00). Other times by appointment.



4 Corlea Trackway Visitors Centre

Kenagh, Co. Longford

Tel: 043 3322386

www.heritageireland.ie



The centre displays an Iron Age bog road that was built in 148 B.C. across the boglands.

Open: 2 Apr - 30 Sep, Daily (10.00 - 18.00)



More to Experience

Theatres

Backstage Theatre, Longford Town. Tel: 043 33 47888, www.backstage.ie.

Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. Tel: 090 643 2230

The Little Blue Room, Longford Town. Tel: 086 1097388

ENGAGE, Longford Town. Tel: 087 2272665

The Haggard, Moyne. Tel: 087 1835064

Arts and Crafts

Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh Village. Tel: 086 3027602

The exhibition contained within its walls outlines the various periods of this exquisite village and offers a fascinating insight to its enchanting history.

Trish Kennedy Art & Home Décor, 16/17 Earl Street, Longford Tel: 087 6439765

Bespoke art and decoration pieces.

Historic Buildings and Landmarks

Abbey Ruins - Abbeyshrule Abbey (12th Century) & Inch Mór Monastery (6th Century) on Lough Gowna.

Ballinamuck Visitors Centre, Ballinamuck. www.longfordtourism.ie

Cairn Hill (between Drumlish and Ballinallee), - several written accounts of cairns, dolmens and passage graves on the hill - these structures date back to 2500 B.C.

Crannógs - the Crannóg on Lough Derragh, near Abbeylara is one of many crannógs (manmade islands) in local lakes.

Dolmens - Aughnaccliffe & Cleenrath dolmens.

Forts - Sonnagh Fort - 7 forts circling the church at Aughnaccliffe. Baker's fort (1161 AD) is located just off the main street in Granard. Double ring fort at Clonmore, Killashee.

Mass Rock - at Aghanoran, an iron cross marks the site of the mass rock used during penal times. Lady well and mass rock at Derrydarragh, Newtowncashel.

Motte - Granard motte stands 534 ft. above sea level and is reputed to be the highest in Ireland!

Stone Circles - Cloughernal & Cartronbore, Abbeylara.

WESTMEATH



Westmeath

Westmeath lies in the heart of the Lakelands. Escape to quiet rural surroundings with sparkling lakes, the Royal Canal and the majestic River Shannon. A variety of water sports can be enjoyed in the county and our waterways provide top class angling.

Westmeath has some of the finest golf and equestrian facilities in the country. If it's adventure you are after you won't be disappointed with activities ranging from speed boat safaris to paintballing. Those who wish to take an easier pace can enjoy pleasure cruises on the River Shannon. Cyclists can avail of the three cycling routes on offer including a traffic free option on the Royal Canal which many walkers utilise.

Take a tour of Kilbeggan Distillery Experience and Belvedere House Gardens and Park. Visit Fore Abbey and discover its seven wonders for yourself! Explore the Keep at Athlone Castle or take a stroll through Tullynally Castle Gardens. If you're interested in crafts you will be spoilt for choice with Core Craft, Celtic Roots, and Genesis Gift Gallery.

Westmeath offers visitors a vibrant nightlife. Experience the thrill of Irish horse racing at Kilbeggan racecourse or a night at a greyhound stadium in Mullingar. Experience Irish culture at Dún na Sí Heritage centre where you can also trace your ancestry. Experience traditional Irish music at a Comhaltas session in Mullingar, or why not choose an evening out at one of the various theatres in Athlone, Mullingar or Moate. For those interested in Art you will be spoilt for choice with galleries in Mullingar, Athlone, Delvin and Castlepollard.



Dominick Square, Mullingar, Co Westmeath

Westmeath Towns & Villages

Athlone (F4) is the largest town on the River Shannon, standing on the boundaries of two counties namely Westmeath and Roscommon in the centre of Ireland. It is a designated historic town and is commonly referred to as "the gateway to the West". Walkers can avail of two historic town walking trails, or start the Lough Ree touring route from here. Athlone castle is an imposing feature of the town standing watchfully over the River Shannon.

Crookedwood (E5) is a picturesque village located beside Lough Derravaragh. This lake is associated with the most tragic of all Irish legends - the fate of the "Children of Lir", who were changed into swans by their jealous stepmother and were to spend three hundred of their nine hundred years in exile on the waters of Lough Derravaragh. Close by is Castlepollard village, which has two churches built early in the 19th century and both are dedicated to St. Michael. Castlepollard also has a small museum which is open by appointment. A short distance from Castlepollard is Mullaghmeen Forest, this 1,000-acre forest offers picnickers a shady haven and provides the more energetic with 3 scenic trails, one of which leads to the highest point in Westmeath with spectacular views of Lough Sheelin and the surrounding counties.

Fore Village (E6) is in a valley between two hills. Here you will see the ancient ruins of a Christian monastery with its "7 wonders". It was St. Fechin who founded the ancient Fore Abbey around 630 A.D. An important aspect of Fore are the "Fore Crosses", one of which is in the village. There are 18 crosses spread out over 10km on roadways and in fields. A short distance away overlooking Lough Lene is Slieveboy Hill and "Gallagher's Moteens" which are Bronze Age graves.

Glasson (F4) the 'Village of the Roses', quite apart from being justly famed for its beauty, it is one of those places that seems to have it all: the historic homeland of Oliver Goldsmith, quaint old world buildings and overlooking one of Ireland's most beautiful lakes, Lough Ree.



Kilbeggan (F5) village is home to one of the oldest distilleries in Europe, set up in 1757 by the Locke family. The site they chose was on the River Brosna, which provided water power to drive the machinery. The enormous mill wheel still turns and is an added attraction to those visiting Kilbeggan Distillery Experience. The race course on the edge of Kilbeggan offers great entertainment on a summer's evening.

Moate (F4) is a busy village and a centre for traditional culture and owes its origins to Quakers who settled here in the 17th Century. The main cultural centre is Dún na Sí, translating as the 'fairy fortress' it offers a feast of activities, most of them associated with traditional song and dance and with Irish heritage in general. It includes a genealogical research centre and a heritage park.

Mullingar (E5) is the county town of Westmeath and home of Joe Dolan, Niall Horan from One Direction and Genesis Gift Gallery. Mullingar is encircled by the Royal canal. The town is the starting point for the Belvedere and Fore touring routes and boasts three designated cycle routes and a greyhound stadium. Just outside Mullingar is Belvedere House, Gardens and Park, it is in a spectacular location beside Lough Ennell.

Multyfarnham (E5) is an old world village located close to Lough Derravaragh. It is home to a beautiful Franciscan Friary, founded seven hundred years ago. It features a secluded garden in which there are outdoor life size stations of the cross. The friary has a modern stained glass window with four swans depicting the ancient legend of the "Children of Lir".

For more information on towns and villages in Westmeath, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

For the
Personal Touch
visit our Discover Ireland Centres for
free Tourist Information & advice!

Visitor Attractions

5 Athlone Castle Visitor Centre

Athlone,
Co. Westmeath

Tel: 090 6442130

www.athloneartandheritage.ie



Athlone's 13th century Castle incorporates an impressive Keep and eight interactive exhibition spaces, with breath taking views across the Shannon.

Open: Tue - Sat (11.00 - 17.00), Sun (12.00 - 17.00)

★ **Offer:** Family of 2 adults & 4 children €20. Group rates on request. 25% discount offer with voucher from Luan Gallery reception



6 Belvedere House Gardens & Park

Mullingar,
Co. Westmeath

Tel: 044 9349060

www.belvedere-house.ie



160 acre lakeside estate with Georgian villa, Victorian walled garden and 18th Century naturalistic parkland punctuated with numerous melancholic Follies including The Jealous wall, licensed restaurant & gift shop, Narnia trail, fairy garden, 3 outdoor children's playgrounds and picnic areas.

Open: Year Round, Daily, from 09.30 (check web for details)

★ **Offer:** 2 for 1 admission (not valid for special events).



7 Fore Abbey and its Seven Wonders

Fore, Co. Westmeath

Tel: 044 9348650

www.discoverireland.ie/westmeath



Explore the fascinating Fore Abbey (630A.D.) and discover its seven wonders!

Open: All Year.



8 Kilbeggan Distillery Experience

Main Street,
Kilbeggan
Co. Westmeath

Tel: 057 9332134

www.kilbeggandistillery.com



Visit the old distillery which is now a museum and see the new operational distillery onsite. Enjoy a complimentary taste of Kilbeggan Irish Whiskey.

Open: 10.00 - 16.00 (Nov-Mar), 09.00 - 18.00 (Apr - Oct) 7 days a week.

★ **Offer:** Concessions for Groups & Seniors/Students



9 Tullynally Castle Gardens

Castlepollard,
Co. Westmeath

Tel: 044 9661159 /
087 1301986

www.tullynally.com



Romantic woodland and walled gardens with ornamental lakes and follies, children's playground and adventure trail. Tea rooms on site.

Open: Apr - Sep including Bank Holidays (11.00 - 17.00)



For a full listing of
Festivals & Events
in the region see pages 170-191
in this guide.



Ballinahown Craft Village. Credit: www.celticroots.ie

More to Experience

Craft

Celtic Roots Studio, Ballinahown Craft Village, Ballinahown.

Tel: 09064 30404, www.celticroots.ie

Open Tue - Sat. 09.30 – 17.00

Includes Ballinahown Tea Rooms, Celtic Roots Tour of Economusée

Genesis Gift Gallery, the Downs, Dublin Rd, Mullingar. Tel: 044 93 44948,

www.genesisireland.com

Open Mon - Sat 10.00-17.30

Eco

Rockfield Ecological Estate, Rathowen, Mullingar. Tel: 086 2487447.

Rockfield Ecological Estate house records date back to 1795. It is a classical Georgian house with delicate and ornate plasterwork offering traditional character and charm. The house is secluded among mature trees, nature's wonderland, organic garden and woods, wildlife and farm animals. Open by appointment Wednesday - Sunday (May to September), August (Daily), 2-6pm.

Farm

Ballard Organic Farm, Kilbeggan. Tel: 087 2557679.

Ballard Farm is ideally suited to groups requiring a visit to a technical working farm. Main enterprises are organic beef production, cereals and forestry. The farm has been innovative and to the forefront on many farming developments. Open for groups by appointment.

Heritage Park

Dún na Sí Genealogical & Heritage Park Moate. Tel: 090 6481183.

Genealogy service all year round, Heritage Park opens Apr to Oct. Mon to Thu (10.00 - 16.00), Fri (10.00 - 15.00)



Hill of Uisneach, Co Westmeath

Museums & Galleries

Castlepollard Museum Church St, Castlepollard. Tel: 044 9661168.

Moate Museum Tel: 087 4126969.

Luan Gallery, Grace Road, Athlone. Tel: 090 6442154,
Email: gallery@athloneartandheritage.ie

Mullingar Ecclesiastical Museum Cathedral of Christ the King,
Mullingar. Tel: 087 9472583.

Historic Houses & Buildings

Lough Park House Castlepollard. Tel: 044 9661226.

Lough Park House is an early 18th century Dower House (of the Pollard family); with a pediment Doric door case, containing pilasters and good detail in the small porch. Open Jan-Sept 2-6pm, selected dates.

Kildevin House Streete, Mullingar. Tel: 043 6685289.

Open May-Aug. 9am-1pm on selected dates.

St. John's Church Drumcree, Collinstown, Tel: 044 9666570.

Open 1st Aug - 30th Sep, Daily, 2-6 pm

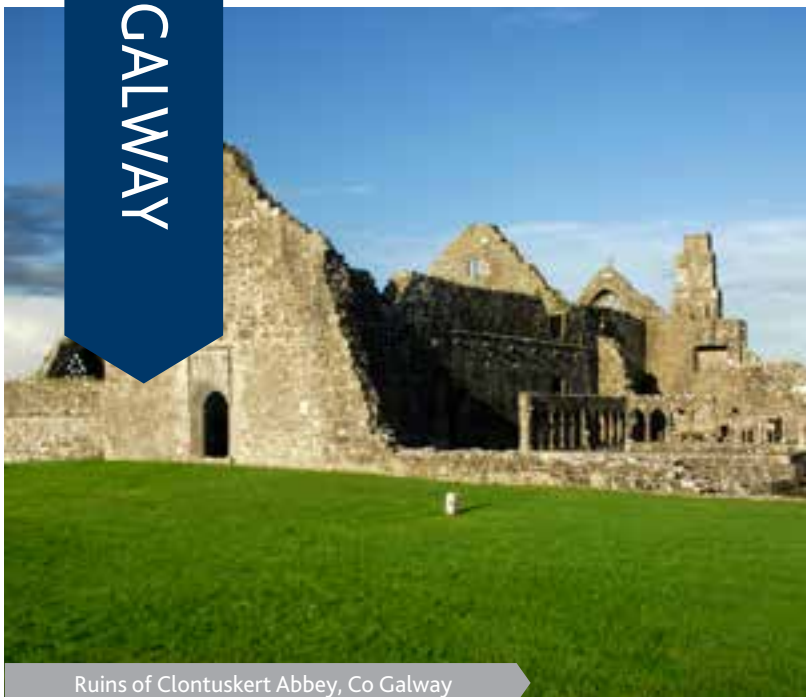
Turbotstown House Coole. Tel: 086 8580478

22nd Jul - 31st Aug, 1st - 20th Dec, Mon - Sat, 9-1pm

Natural

Hill of Uisneach Tel: 087 2576434.

The hill of Uisneach is situated between the villages of Ballymore and Loughnavalley. This hill is the ancient seat of the Kings of Meath; it was linked to the Hill of Tara by a chariot road. The stone of divisions on the hill marks the centre of Ireland and it is said that it is the burial ground of Eiru a Goddess after which Eire is called. Bealtaine (May Day) celebrations were held on the hill and this has been continued in recent years with the "Festival of the Fires" which takes place on the hill. This year to give this sacred hill a rest, Bealtaine events will be held close by at Killare crossroads. The hill is on private land, but groups can visit by appointment.



Ruins of Clontuskert Abbey, Co Galway

Galway

Galway East is one of the most authentically beautiful destinations in Ireland. It is adjacent to the River Shannon and is an ideal location not alone for cruising, but also for the angler, golfer, equestrian enthusiast, the walker and for the cyclist.

Galway East is a quiet, low lying landscape interlaced with stone walls, with attractions such as hidden pearls like the pre-Christian Turoe Stone, Clonfert Cathedral, Dartfield Horse Museum, Woodville Walled Gardens and the iconic Ballinasloe Horse Fair and Festival (one of the most ancient gatherings of people in Ireland!). The town of Portumna has attractions including Portumna Castle, Forest Park and The Irish Workhouse Centre, whilst Pallas Karting in Tynagh provides the more adventurous visitor with a spine-tingling experience.

That's Galway East - where the real Irish Welcome awaits you.

For further information on County Galway, pick up a copy of our West Pocket Guide



Loughrea Lake, Co Galway

Galway Towns & Villages

Galway's towns are the type of places, those special, magical places that everyone wants to visit; that every visitor wants to return to; and that anyone lucky enough to live in, never, ever wants to leave.

Ballinasloe (F3) is a prosperous and expanding market town 65km east of Galway City and is the main commercial/industrial centre for east Galway. The angling centre on the River Suck is renowned for its pike, bream, perch fishing in its more slow running sections and trout in its tributaries. The town is famous for its annual horse fair and festival normally held in early October.

Ballygar Town (E3) on the N63, is situated by the River Suck, a limestone river, rich in fly life and thus is an ideal base for the angler. Ballygar Carnival has been an annual event since the 1940's. Generally beginning the last week in July, it is a festival of entertainment for all ages. The town is also the end point of the great Hymany Way (a 90km walking trail from Portumna to Ballygar).

Loughrea (G2) sits on the shores of Galway's second largest limestone lake, after Lough Corrib and these clear waters provide good trout angling. Loughrea's greatest jewel is its Cathedral, where you can see Irish artisan craftsmanship at its highest level - a treasure house of arts and crafts of Celtic revival.

Portumna (G3) is a well-known tourist destination for boaters, golfers and anglers thanks to its natural amenities. The town is at the junction of the River Shannon and Lough Derg and so has a number of harbours for cruisers. This historic crossing point over the Shannon River between Counties Tipperary and Galway has a long history of bridges and ferry crossings.

For more information on towns and villages in Galway, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

10 Dartfield Horse Museum / Heritage Centre

Kilrickle, Loughrea, Co. Galway

Tel: 091 843968

www.dartfield.com



Activities available: Horse Riding / Clay

Pigeon Shooting / Archery / 4 X 4 Off-Roading / Blacksmith Workshop / Café / Tack & Gift Shop.

Open: Jan – Dec, Mon – Sun (09.00 – 18.00)

★ Offer: 10% discount on presentation of pocket guide.

11 Pallas Karting & Paintball

Pallas, Tynagh, Loughrea

Co. Galway

Tel: 090 9745147

www.pallaskarting.com



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

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

★ Offer: 20% off our Normal Prices – Monday to Friday

12 Portumna Castle and Gardens

Portumna, Co. Galway

Tel: 090 9741658

www.heritageireland.ie



Built before 1618, the castle & gardens include a 17th Century walled kitchen garden.

Open: until late Sep, Daily (09.30-18.00). Weekends thereafter to 26 Oct

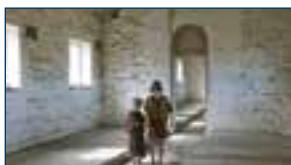
13 The Irish Workhouse Centre

St. Brigid's Road, Portumna,

Co. Galway

Tel: 090 9759200

www.irishworkhousecentre.ie



A Real Story in a Real Workhouse...the last resort of destitute people from the 1840s to the 1920s.

Open: 1 Mar – 30 Nov, Daily from 09.30
Mar, Oct & Nov (last tour 16.00), Apr – Sep (last tour 17.00)

14 Turoe Farm & Leisure Park

Bullaun, Loughrea,
Co. Galway

Tel: 091 841580

www.turoepetfarm.com



Feed and cuddle animals, experience "Jungle Town" and "Inflatable City". Enjoy outdoor playgrounds and a football Pitch.

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

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

15 Woodville Walled Garden & Museum

Kilchreest, Loughrea, Co Galway

Tel: 087 9069191

www.woodvillwalledgarden.com



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

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

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

More to Experience

Clonfert Cathedral, Near Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

In the 6th Century St. Brendan the Navigator founded a monastery in Clonfert. Today, Clonfert Cathedral is world-famous for its finely carved Romanesque style doorway, dating from 1200 A.D.

St. Brendan's Cathedral, Loughrea, Co. Galway. Tel: 091 841212.

St. Brendan's Cathedral is arguably one of the country's greatest contributions to European art of the twentieth century and is an absolute must for anyone interested in modern Irish stained glass. Its only unusual architectural features are its double transepts but it is the decoration of the church interior that makes a visit such an enriching and spiritual experience.

Aughrim, 60km from Galway city.

Explore the signposted battlefield of Aughrim where 45,000 soldiers fought on July 12th, 1691. The story of the bloodiest battle in Irish history is told at the Battle of Aughrim Interpretative Centre (seasonal). Tel: 090 9673939.

OFFALY



Offaly

Offaly is a slice of old Ireland. Travel around the unspoiled countryside with its traditional hay meadows, and you will come across ancient humped bridges, handsome square tower houses, elegant lock-keeper's cottages and curious-looking castles.

The visitor will notice an easy-going feel but its towns and villages are vibrant 21st century places, humming with activity and a warm sense of community. A genuine welcome awaits you wherever you choose to visit, from the county town of Tullamore, noted for the warmth of its hospitality, to the historic delights of Birr, or the famed Slieve Bloom village trinity of Kinnitty, Cadamstown and Clonaslee. If you're after quintessential small-town Ireland, then Offaly can throw up many surprises. Tullamore is home to the Tullamore D.E.W. Heritage Centre, the birthplace of this world famous Irish whiskey.

History-sodden sites dot the landscape. Turn off the main road between Edenderry and Tullamore, and the hill of Croghan, an extinct volcano 796 ft. (234m) high, which was the location of Bronze Age burials, will be visible. Archaeological and historic sites including a standing stone, holy well and the remains of a deserted settlement now cluster around it. The surrounding countryside is pockmarked with farms, villages, country roads and rolling fields filled with cattle and sheep. Magnificent uninterrupted views across farm and bog land sweep for miles stretching to the north as far away as south Ulster and southwards deep into the high mountains of Munster. It is the perfect place to tune into the Offaly landscape providing a snapshot of past and present. Clara Bog Visitor Centre will provide you with all the information you need to know on the bog landscape of Offaly.



Birr Castle Gardens & Science Centre, Co Offaly

Offaly Towns & Villages

Birr (G4) developed around the Birr Castle estate of the Parsons family, the Earls of Rosse. With its handsome ensemble of Georgian architecture, there's a lot to like about Birr. The tree-lined streets of elegant houses dating from the 1800s tell a fascinating story. Heaving with history, Birr is one of Ireland's premier heritage towns and proud of its unique character spanning many centuries.

Banagher (G4) is nestled on the banks of the River Shannon. Banagher boasts a new marina for cruisers, water sports and anglers and is home to the centre of the Shannon Callows (a natural heritage area). It was once a place of great strategic military importance reflected in the 17th century Martello tower fortification, bridgehead and batteries which still command the river crossing.

Clara (F5) is a pleasant riverside village and is close to two particularly important sites: Clara Bog Nature Reserve and St. Manchan's Shrine. Clara Bog Visitor Information Centre has guided tours on a boardwalk over the bog.

Clonmacnoise (F4) is Ireland's foremost monastic site. There are many fables and legends associated with the area, and it was the "Beacon of Light" through the dark ages which allowed Christianity and civilization to prosper again in Europe. As a city of learning it was the most eminent University in Europe and older than both Cambridge and Oxford Universities.

Ferbane (G4) is located close to Gallen monastic site, with grave slabs from the 8th to the 11th centuries and church ruins dating from the 13th century.

Kilcormac (G4) Fragments from the priory are displayed in the local church alongside a 16th century pieta found in a local bog.

Kinnitty (G4) The picturesque village of Kinnitty nestles in the foothill of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. Kinnitty was the site of an early monastery which stood on the site of the present Church of Ireland, where an unusual pyramid shaped mausoleum dominates the graveyard.



Shannon Harbour, Co Offaly

Moneygall (H4) is now firmly on the map. It was home to US President Barack Obama's great, great, great grandfather. It is a small village with one Roman Catholic Church, five shops, a post office, a national school, a Garda Síochána station and two pubs. President Obama visited the town in 2011.

Shannonbridge (F3) is ever popular with fishermen, tourists and cruisers alike. Home to Shannonbridge Pottery, the Esker Riada and not forgetting much loved traditional Irish music and entertainment. Three great waters combine to offer a wide choice of angling.

Shannon Harbour (G4) is a unique purpose built village, a noted angling centre. It is a birdwatchers paradise with many rare birds visiting and thriving in the Shannon Callows. Bullock Island only a short walk from the 36th or lower lock is the last bastion of the endangered corncrake, once one of the most common European birds.

Tullamore (G5) is an excellent base from which to explore The Monastic Way, which takes in many historic sites in the area. In Tullamore you have Charleville Castle which stands in an ancient oak forest site and hosts various events throughout the year. A visit to Tullamore is not complete until you have stopped off at Tullamore D.E.W. Heritage Centre. Located in a 19th century warehouse, visitors can learn about the World famous "Tullamore Dew" whiskey through audio visual and artefacts on display, followed by a whiskey tasting.

For more information on towns and villages in Offaly, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

For a full listing of
Festivals & Events
 in the region see pages 170-191
 in this guide.

Visitor Attractions

16 Birr Castle Gardens and Science Centre

Birr Town, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 9120336

www.birrcastle.com



Experience 100 acres of tranquil gardens including lakes, a waterfall and exotic plant collection. Marvel at the world famous telescope and discover botanical, astronomical and engineering achievements of a remarkable family in the Discovery Galleries. Ireland's largest Treehouse with bouncy pillow, climbing frame, sand pits and hobbit hole.

Open: Mar - Oct (09.00 - 18.00), Nov - Mar (10.00 - 16.00)



17 Charleville Castle

Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 9323240

www.charlevillecastle.com



Designed by Architect Francis Johnston, Charleville is Ireland's finest gothic revival castle-it is currently under conservation. This gem is fun and unique to visit.

Open: 12.00 to 17.00 and by appointment instead

★ **Offer:** €2.00 discount with special coupon.



18 Clonmacnoise Monastic Settlement

Clonmacnoise,

Co. Offaly

Tel: 090 9674195

www.heritageireland.ie



This 6th century monastery located on the River Shannon, boasts seven churches and two round towers.

Open: All year round.



19 Leap Castle

Aghancon, Birr,
Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 9131115

www.discoverireland.ie/offaly



Reputed to be the most haunted castle in Ireland, a former bastion of the powerful O'Carroll dynasty.

Open: Mon - Sat by appointment only.

20 Lough Boora Discovery Park

Boora, near Cloghan,
Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 9340010

www.loughboora.com



A paradise for outdoor enthusiasts, which until now has been an unshared secret.

Open: All Year Round.

21 Slieve Bloom Mountains

Kinnitty, Co. Offaly

Tel: 086 2789147

www.slievebloom.ie



Enjoy day treks, eco walks and looped walks in an area rich in archaeology, history, tradition and culture

Open: All Year Round.

22 Tullamore D.E.W. Heritage Centre

Bury Quay, Tullamore,
Co. Offaly

Tel: 057 93 25015

www.tullamoredewvisitorcentre.com



The original home of Tullamore D.E.W. Irish Whiskey. An inspiring story told in a beautifully restored 19th Century Bonded Warehouse.

Open: Mon – Sat (10.00 - 18.00), Sundays & Bank Holidays (11.00 - 17.00)



Birr Castle, Co Offaly

More to Experience

Art Centre & Gallery

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Oxmantown Hall, Birr. Tel: 057 9122911, www.birrtheatre.com

Tin Jug Studio, Birr. Tel: 0579121818, www.tinjugstudio.com

Castles & Buildings

Castles galore pepper the countryside. The better known ones include Charleville, Birr and Kinnitty and attract thousands of visitors.

Ballybrittan Castle, near Edenderry. Tel: 087 2469802.

Ballybrittan is an extended tower-house which takes its name from the tower castle built in the late 15th century as an O'Connor stronghold. Open specific dates from Jan - Oct from 14.00 - 18.00.

Ballindoolin House and Gardens, Edenderry, Tel: 046 9731430.

Gardens open June - August, Wed - Sun from 12.00 - 18.00

Cloghan Castle, Banagher. Tel: 057 9151650.

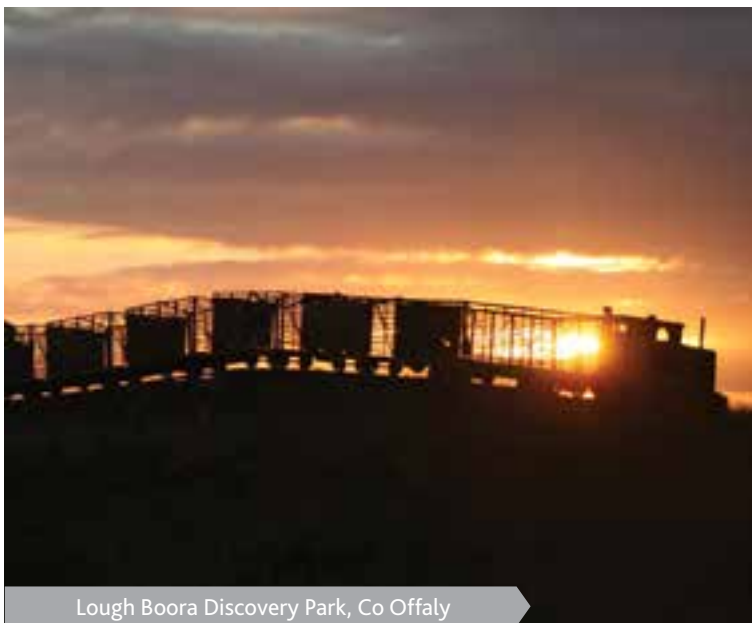
This is one of the few medieval castles which are lived in and offers access to groups by appointment. Bounded by the rivers Shannon and Little Brosna, it was originally a medieval O'Madden Stronghold.

Clonony Castle, Shannon Harbour. Tel: 090 6457896, www.clononycastle.ie

A Tudor castle built by the MacCoughlan clan. Open by appointment only.

Macregol Gospels, Birr Town Library. Tel: 0579124950, www.birrhistsoc.com

A facsimile of the Macregol Gospels is on permanent display free of charge in the magnificently restored Pugin-designed Birr town library.



Lough Boora Discovery Park, Co Offaly

Natural

Croghan Hill, is the remains of an extinct volcano and rises from the Bog of Allen in County Offaly. Though it is only 232 m high it commands extensive views of the surrounding midland counties, across the flat low-lying expanse of the Bog of Allen. Croghan Hill is the location for “The Croghan Hill Challenge”, where people of all fitness levels can compete in a fun challenge several times a year.

Clara & Mongan's Bog. One of the few large raised midlands bogs remaining substantially intact. It has a wide range of vegetation types and habitats with a classic hummock and hollow surface. This bog has a well-developed natural drainage system or “soak”. The bog lies 2km south of Clara town. The bog is under the care and ownership of the wildlife service and the Clara Bog Visitor Centre is open April-Nov.

Temptation For Every Taste

Whatever your activities in Offaly you're certain to work up an appetite and you can choose from the bistros of Birr and Banagher, the cafés of Edenderry and Ferbane or the restaurants of Tullamore. Whether you want a five-course dinner, a filling bar meal in a pub, or a simple cup of coffee with a cupcake, all taste buds are catered for. Offaly Delicious brings together local food producers in the county delivering top quality wholesome food.

Mossfield Organic Farm, located in Clareen, Birr is well worth a special mention. Here the award winning Mossfield organic cheeses are produced. Tel: 057 9131002.

ZONE: 4



Killaloe, Co Clare



Zone 4: Lough Derg

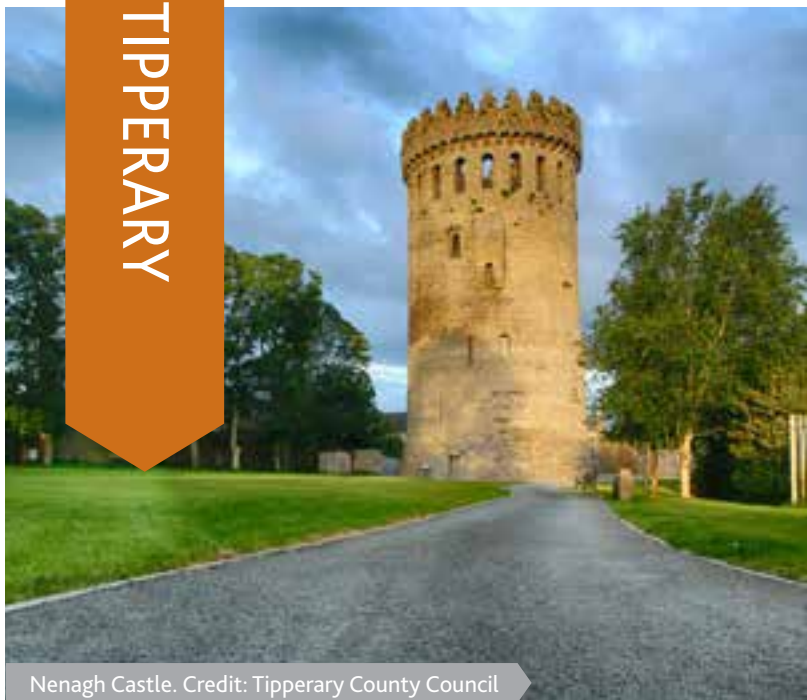
Tipperary, Clare & Limerick

Lough Derg and the lower Shannon is set amongst an attractive blend of mountains, hillsides, woodland and farmland. Ranging from Terryglass in Tipperary through majestic Limerick City with its medieval quarter and its Hunt Museum, King John's Castle, and excellent restaurants and shopping.

32,000 acres (13,000 hectares) of spectacular waterway, Lough Derg is ideal for all kinds of water sports, cruising and angling. Beautiful countryside around the lake shore, perfect for walking, cycling, horse riding and other visitor pursuits.

The lake is big enough to provide total seclusion, yet there's always a bustling spot nearby. There's much more to do and see - leisurely sightseeing, great dining, pamper yourself' breaks, wonderful music and entertainment, along with great history and heritage.

So get up close to nature on 'Ireland's Pleasure Lake' ... The only thing holding you back is your imagination!



Nenagh Castle. Credit: Tipperary County Council

Tipperary

Tipperary is situated in the centre of Ireland and bounded by lakes, mountains and rivers. A haven for heritage, Tipperary boasts some of Ireland's most famous historical monuments and castles.

Tipperary is Ireland's Golden Vale, its rich pastureland offering up a range of local produce from artisan cheeses to black pudding and preserves. Walk through unspoilt hillsides and visit country pubs and cafés. Tipperary is home to some of the world's best known stud farms, Coolmore Stud and Ballydoyle. Ireland's unique sporting heritage began life in Thurles with the founding of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and today, hurling and football are still passionately alive in towns and villages throughout the county.

If you are looking for the real Ireland that locals know and love, you've found it here in Tipperary!

For further information on County Tipperary, pick up a copy of our South East Pocket Guide.



Ballina / Killaloe

Tipperary Towns & Villages

Ballina/Killaloe (I2) These two towns straddling the River Shannon are steeped in history, antiquities and traditions surrounding the last Irish High King, Brian Boru, the O'Brien Clan and the bishops of Killaloe with panoramic views of Lough Derg.

Dromineer (H3) is a place with a proud yachting pedigree and one of Ireland's top sailing centres. Other picturesque villages on the shores of Lough Derg are Puckaun, Coolbaun, Ballinderry, Terryglass and Garrykennedy... some favoured ports of call for refreshment and meals by cabin cruisers.

Holycross (I4) Restored to serve as the Catholic parish church is the glorious Holycross Abbey largely built in the mid-15th century. It is a place of pilgrimage as the repository of a relic of the true cross.

Nenagh (H3) Prides itself on its streetscapes furnished with shops, large and small, together with a notable variety of places to eat and drink, from little family-run takeaways to excellent restaurants and numerous pubs, a magnificent castle and fine town houses form a cluster of good architecture.

Roscrea (H4) Richly endowed heritage town - Take time to see the 18th century Damer House mansion, The Round Tower and the Black Mills at Church Street. And within the town visit the 15th century Franciscan Friary and Monaincha Abbey. Mount St. Joseph's Cistercian Abbey - a haven of peace and tranquillity, is a few kilometres from Roscrea.

Templemore (I4) Stately 18th century town developed around the Carden Demesne where the major thoroughfare is the widest main street in Ireland. Delightful town park and lake home to many a pike, swan and duck - ideal spot for a family picnic. If you wish, you may climb the Devil's Bit Mountain nearby.

Thurles (I4) Sports fans paradise with a greyhound track, horse track and Semple Stadium (GAA's second national stadium) all within the town. Thurles was the birthplace of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) in 1884.

For more information on towns and villages in Tipperary, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

1 Cabragh Wetlands Conservation / Education Centre

Holycross, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0504 43879

www.cabraghwetlands.ie



200 acres of floodplain wetlands. Rare insects, flowers, nesting/overwintering birds. Primary/Secondary courses available.

Open: Walkways always open (unless flooded).



2 Curreeny Heritage Hedge School

Kilcommon,
Co. Tipperary

Tel: 067 25100



Historic memorial site where students and teachers met during the times of the Penal Laws.

Open: All Year round - 7 days.



3 Fairy Fort Farm

Borrisoleigh,
Co. Tipperary

Tel: 086 4021659

www.fairyfortfarm.com



Lots of traditional farm animals, kids play area, swearing Stone, picnic area, tree house, stream and waterfall, fairy fort, famine haggard and walks.

Open: Easter until 1st week in Sep (10.30 - 17.30)



4 Farney Castle

Holycross, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0504 43281



Tour the Historic House and see Cyril Cullen's designer knitwear and porcelain.

Open: All Year, Mon - Sat (10.00 - 18.00)



5 Holy Cross Abbey

Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0504 43124 / 0504 43241

www.holycrossabbey.ie

Gloriously restored ancient Cistercian Abbey.

Holy Cross Abbey is a venerated place of pilgrimage with a relic of the true cross.

Open: All year round. Guided tours on request**6 Nenagh Heritage Centre**

The Governor's House,

Kickham Street,

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 067 33850

www.tipperarynorth.ie/heritagemuseum

Located in two Georgian buildings which were built between 1840-1842 as the Governor's House and Gatehouse of an extensive gaol complex for North Tipperary.

Open: Tue - Fri (10.00 - 16.00)**7 Roscrea Castle and Damer House**

Castle St, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0505 21850

www.heritageireland.ie

The Castle dates from the 1280s. Damer House was built in the early 18th Century in the Queen Anne style. The stone Castle consists of a gate tower, curtain walls and two corner towers and is an example of pre-Palladian architecture.

Open: 2 Apr - 23 Sep (10.00 - 18.00, last tour at 17.00). Last Adm. 45 mins before closing.**8 St. Mary's Famine Museum**

St Mary's Lane, Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 0504 21133 or

086 8785859

www.faminemuseum.com

Holds the largest collection of Famine Memorabilia in Ireland including the only known minutes of a Great Famine Food Committee.

Open: Daily, 1 May - 31 Sep (other times by appointment).



Garrykenny, Co Tipperary

More to Experience

Arts & Culture

Kilcooley Pottery, Grange, Thurles. Tel: 056 8834471.

Our opening hours are flexible and always better to ring ahead.

Lar Na Pairce Museum, Thurles. Tel: 0504 22702, www.larnapairce.ie

Tells the story of Gaelic Games: Hurling, Football, Camogie and Handball.

Nenagh Arts Centre, Nenagh. Tel: 067 34400 www.nenagharts.com

The Source Arts Centre, Thurles. Tel: 0504 90204. www.thesourceartscentre.ie

Castles & Buildings

Mount St. Josephs Cistercian Abbey, Roscrea. Tel: 0505 25600

A living monastery, a haven of peace and tranquillity 4kms from Roscrea.

Monaincha Abbey, Roscrea

The ruined abbey-church stands on a raised site, once an island in a peat bog. The 12C main doorway is finely carved and the chancel is in sandstone.

Redwood Castle, Lorrha. Tel: 087 7479566. www.redwoodcastleireland.com

A visit to this Celtic tower house is a must for the Celt enthusiast.

Saint Ruadhan's Abbey, Lorrha.

Built around 1,000A.D. this was once the most famous of Munster's monasteries.

For the
Personal Touch

visit our Discover Ireland Centres for
free Tourist Information & advice!



Terryglass, Co Tipperary

Family Fun

Bike Park Ireland, Fairymount Farm, Ballingarry, Roscrea.

Tel: 067 21961, www.bikeparkireland.ie

6 downhill trails to choose from, a fast uplift service, a 2km enduro climb and the largest pump track in the country.

Fancroft Mill & Gardens, Fancroft, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary. www.fancroft.ie

After many years the water wheel revolves again driving the newly installed grinding stones. Enjoy the extensive gardens.

Tearaways Pet Farm & Activity Centre, Clonmona, Rathcabbin.

Tel: 057 9139081, www.tearaways.ie

Indoor and outdoor activities to keep all the family happy and active, whatever the weather.

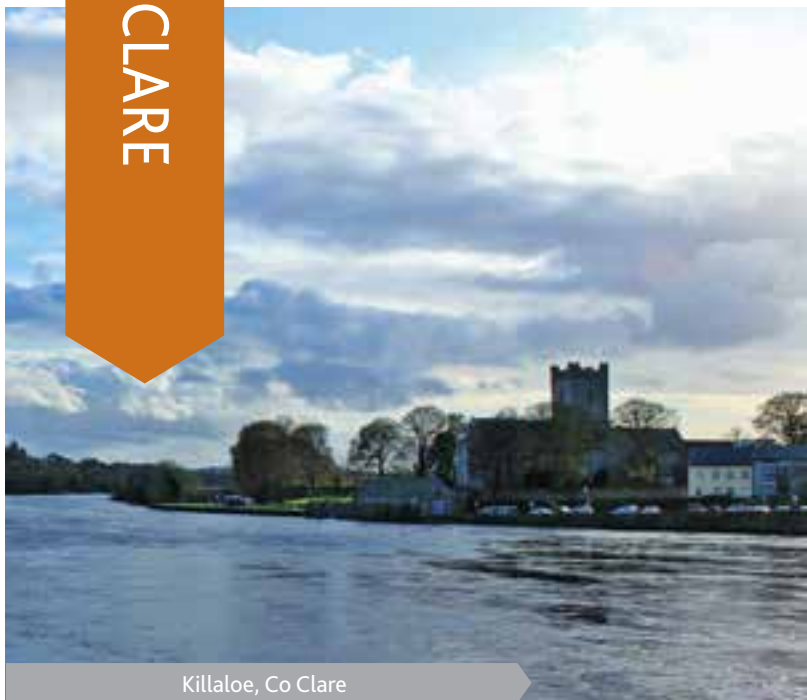
Natural Beauty, Authentic Food, & Friendly Destinations

You can buy Tipperary food produce directly at shops and markets all over the county. These artisan options include such hand crafted foods and beverages as Cashel Blue Cheese, Baylough and Cooleeney cheeses, Crossogue Preserves and Karmine Apple Juice to mention a few.

Take a trip of its walled towns or immerse yourself in the mythology and history of its glens and valleys. The walking trails will leave you breathless and a tour of Lough Derg will get all those interested in water sports and angling really going.

Spend an afternoon at many of the family friendly inlet villages along the shoreline. Dromineer near Nenagh or Castlough near the village of Portroe are family favourites, with other shoreline villages of Garrykennedy and Ballina only minutes away for a scrumptious lunch or evening meal.

Tipperary famed by the World War I song "It's a long way to Tipperary" has never been closer with excellent motorway access minutes away from the historic Holycross Abbey, majestic Rock of Cashel or the breath taking Lough Derg.



Killaloe, Co Clare

Clare

East Clare literally sparkles with rivers and lakes. Lough Derg, the largest and one of the most beautiful of the lakes on the River Shannon, forms the eastern boundary of County Clare.

Angling is one of the most popular outdoor pursuits in East Clare with over 40 rivers and lakes to choose from. Some of the more well know include Lough Derg, Lough Graney, Kilgory Lough and Clondorney Lough.

The picturesque town of Killaloe is a network of charming narrow streets alongside a 13th century Cathedral. It is also the birthplace of Brian Ború (941 AD), one of the most influential and colourful characters in Irish history.

The pretty village of Mounshannon is one of the busiest cruising and yachting centres on Lough Derg. If walking or driving is more your thing, then the scenic beauty of the region will charm you as you travel.

For further information on County Clare, pick up a copy of our West Pocket Guide.



Killaloe, Co Clare

Clare Towns & Villages

Killaloe/Ballina (I2) Straddling the Clare - Tipperary border, these twin towns have a unique setting on Lough Derg. They are steeped in the history, antiquities and traditions surrounding the last Irish High King, Brian Boru, the O'Brien Clan and the bishops of Killaloe. On the Clare side, in Killaloe, you have a network of charming narrow streets, flanked by old shops and houses that climb up the steep hillside and look down over the 13th century cathedral. The buildings of Ballina, in North Tipperary line the roadway that runs parallel to the river.

Mountshannon (H2) With its superb harbour facilities the village of Mountshannon is one of the principal stopping places on the lake for hire cruisers, sailing and other boats. Mountshannon offers an excellent base for tourists interested in boat fishing on the lake for species such as tench, pike, bream and rudd.

Scarriff (H2) Scarriff remains an important market town which offers excellent facilities for the visitor interested in either active pursuits or leisurely sightseeing. The town is a noted angling centre, with wide appeal for both coarse and game anglers in the surrounding East Clare Lakelands comprised of over 40 lakes and rivers.

Feakle (H2) Noted as a traditional Irish music venue, each year the village hosts an International Traditional Music Festival with workshops, lectures, concerts, céilí, set dancing and open-air events. You can also catch great music and sample the unique atmosphere of the Irish countryside by dropping into the local pubs where music sessions are held regularly throughout the year.

Ogonnelloe (H2) Ogonnelloe offers an ideal base for engaging in wide-ranging pursuits on water or on land. The nearby UL Activity Centre offers a range of adventure pursuits, from sailing, power boating, windsurfing, kayaking, canoeing and dragon boating to high ropes courses, team challenges, orienteering and archery. Other holiday pursuits readily available in the area include golf, hillwalking and equestrian sports.

For more information on towns and villages in Clare, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

9 Brian Ború Heritage Centre

Killaloe, Co. Clare

Tel: 061 360788

www.shannonheritage.com



The 11th century High King of Ireland, Brian Ború was born in Killaloe. The Heritage centre reveals the story of Brian Ború through a series of colourful exhibits, graphic illustrations and an interactive audio-visual presentation.



Open: May - end of Aug (10.00 – 17.00),

Last admission 16.30.

Opening times may be subject to change.

10 Holy Island Boat Trip & Guided Tours

Mountshannon,

Co. Clare

Tel: 086 8749710

www.holyisland.ie



Holy Island is one of the most famous monastic sites in Ireland. In 2010 it was added to a list submitted to UNESCO for future nomination to the World Heritage List.



Open: Apr - Sep, Daily (09.30 - 17.30)

Pick up your
FREE local Town or City map
in our Discover Ireland Centres!

11 Irish Seed Savers Association

Capparoo, Scariff,
Co. Clare

Tel: 061 921866

www.irishseedsavers.ie



20 acres of Organic seed gardens, orchards & woodland trails. Ireland's Native Apple Tree Collection with over 140 different varieties of apple trees. Regular guided tasting tours during apple harvest season where visitors can learn about these rare varieties and experience apples that taste of lemons, bananas, peaches and pineapples. There are over 800 varieties of open pollinated, heritage vegetable, herb and flower seed, and over 50 varieties of potatoes-all of which are held in the Seed Bank, the only one of its kind in Ireland. Guided Tours available on request. Children's Trail with activity sheets. Regular weekend workshops. Garden Shop – selling open pollinated heritage vegetable seeds, plants, books and garden accessories.

Open: Tue - Fri (09.30 – 16.30), Sat (12.30 – 16.30), Closed Sun & Mon. Cafe open from Apr – Sep.

★ **Offer:** Free entry for Children and Free Children's Nature Trail

12 Killaloe River Cruises

Ballina / Killaloe, Co. Clare

Tel: 086 8140559

www.killaloeRiverCruises.com



1 hour cruises each day on the shores of Lough Derg, on one of our modern, clean, safe and comfortable passenger boats.

Open: All year round.

13 UL Activity Centre

Two Mile Gate,
Killaloe, Co. Clare

Tel: 061 376622

www.ulac.ie



Land and water based Adventure Centre offering activities such as Sailing, Windsurfing, Kayaking, Archery, High Ropes, Low Ropes & Climbing Tower.

Open: All year round.



Boat Trips to Holy Island, Co Clare

More to Experience

History & Heritage

Holy Island

Holy Island is one of the most famous monastic sites in Ireland. Its many attractions include a well preserved Round Tower, the ruins of six churches and a cell like structure which is one of the most extraordinary buildings in the country. There are also ancient graveyards, high crosses, bullaun stones, a bargaining stone and a Holy Well. Boat Trips daily from Mountshannon, phone 086 8749710 or visit www.holyisland.ie

Art & Crafts

Glendara Art, Glendree, Feakle . Tel: 061 924125 These studios offer you a large range of original art and prints depicting rural life scenes. Viewing by appointment welcome, please telephone in advance.

McKernan Hand Weavers, Tuamgraney. Tel: 061 921527. www.scarves.ie
Experience 19th century looms. Bringing together traditional techniques and timeless design. Open year round Mon to Sat 10am to 6pm

Walking

The East Clare Way is a long distance walking route which travels across the mysterious and secretive landscape of inland Co. Clare. It is a walk of considerable variety, you will meander along old country lanes and boreens, climb to heights via bog roads, traverse dense forests and cross lowland bogs. The East Clare Way is 112 miles (172 kilometres). The entire way is signposted. It can be comfortably walked in 8 days with stage lengths ranging from 20 to 30kms.



Fishing Boats at Mountshannon, Co Clare

Fishing

East Clare on the western shore of Lough Derg has over 40 lakes and rivers, all surrounded by scenic beauty and peace. Coarse fishing is the most popular form of angling with good catches of bream, roach, rudd, tench, pike, perch and hybrids. Wild brown trout can be found in Lough Derg and some mountain lakes. Most of the lakes are well signposted and the signs also give information on the species of fish found there. Here are just a few highlights:

Lough Derg (Ireland's Pleasure Lake)

Angling experts have described the waters of Lough Derg as 'exceedingly rich'. The largest pike ever recorded anywhere in the world, 90lbs, was apparently captured here! The lake offers superb angling for both trout and coarse fish.

Lough Graney

Lough Graney is one of the largest lakes in East Clare. Its kidney shaped 200 acres are set in scenic surroundings flanked by mountains, rolling hills and rich farmland. The lake holds good stocks of pike, an abundance of perch and some bream.

Kilgory Lough

Kilgory Lough is set in picturesque surroundings of woodland and bog land, flanked by heathered hills. The setting exudes magical isolation. Kilgory is primarily a bream fishery.

Clondorney Lough

A 40 acre lough located 2kms north of Tulla village. The road runs beside the lough and you can literally fish from your car. Most species of fish can be found here. Wheelchair accessible.

For a full listing of
Festivals & Events
 in the region see pages 170-191
 in this guide.



Limerick City at night. Credit: Sean Curtin

Limerick

With its historic city and luscious countryside, Limerick offers the perfect blend with something for everyone.

Limerick City is a down to earth city where history and culture greets you on every street. Absorb Limerick City's rich history as you take in the commanding view of the majestic Shannon from King John's medieval castle; stroll like a Georgian gent through Limerick's Georgian section; or learn about the Limerick Soviet, a major event in the opening blows of the Irish War of Independence. The Milk Market has daily themed markets with an abundance of items and characters.

Limerick County is home to many quaint villages and charming towns, some of which are detailed on the next page.

For further information on County Limerick, pick up a copy of our West Pocket Guide.



Adare, Co Limerick

Limerick Towns & Villages

Adare (I5) with its broad main street lined with thatched houses and colourful doors, Adare has long been a much-admired stopping place for tourists. It is often referred to as 'Ireland's Prettiest Village'. Must see features of Adare are its three medieval abbeys, a 13th century castle and the Adare Heritage Centre.

Cappamore (I3) This attractive village lies at the foothills of the Slieve Felim Mountains. The Slieve Felim Way, a 30km route for hill walkers and a cycle route are signposted in the village.

Castleconnell (I2) This picturesque village on the River Shannon is renowned for its well-stocked fishing waters most notably its salmon and good coarse fishing (bream, roach and pike).

Kilcornan (H5) Here you will find some fantastic family fun activities to keep you and your little ones entertained. Enjoy the great outdoors in the vast Curraghchase Forest Park consisting of some 600 acres of forest. Curraghchase was once the estate of the De Vere family and is known for its nature walks, ornamental gardens, arboretum and camping park.

Murroe (I2) In the middle of the mellow landscape of Murroe sits Glenstal Abbey, run by the Benedictine Order. Visitors are welcome to stroll and also visit the Abbey's Church. Just north of Glenstal Abbey is a noted beauty spot.

The Clare Glens, on the Clare River with a nature trail along both sides of a steep gorge, through woods of conifers, oaks and ash with natural rock pools, waterfalls and rapids.

For more information on towns and villages in Limerick, visit www.discoverireland.ie

Brackets () indicate the grid references on the regional map at the back of this guide

Visitor Attractions

14 Glenstal Abbey

Murroe, Co. Limerick

Tel: 061 621000

www.glenstal.org



Glenstal Abbey is a place of considerable natural beauty. Visitors are welcome to join the monks for all the liturgies in the Abbey Church.

Open: All year round.



15 King John's Castle

King's Island, Limerick City

Tel: 061 370500

www.shannonheritage.com



An amazing new visitor experience with interactive exhibitions, an enhanced courtyard & scenic battlement walks.

Open: All Year. Apr - Sep (09.30-17.30, last admission 16.00).
Oct-Mar (09.30-16.30, last admission 15.15). Closed on 24th, 25th & 26th Dec.



16 Limerick City Gallery of Art

Carnegie Building, Pery Square,
Limerick City

Tel: 061 310633

www.gallery.limerick.ie



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

Open: Mon - Wed (10.00 - 17.30), Thu (10.00 - 20.30), Sat (10.00 - 17.00),
Sun (12.00 - 17.00)



17 St. Mary's Cathedral

Bridge Street,
Limerick City

Tel: 061 310293

www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org



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

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



18 The Frank McCourt Museum

Hartstonge Street, Limerick City

Tel: 061 319710

www.frankmccourtmuseum.com

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

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

19 The Hunt Museum

The Custom House, Rutland Street, Limerick City

Tel: 061 312833

www.huntmuseum.com

The Hunt Museum exhibits one of Ireland's greatest private collections of art and antiquities.

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

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

20 Thomond Park Stadium and Museum Tours

Cratloe Road, Limerick City

Tel: 061 421109

www.thomondpark.ie

The full stadium tour consists of a museum visit and film, visits to pitch-side and Munster Dugout, as well as the home & away dressing rooms and post-match interview area.

Open: Monday to Saturday (advance bookings recommended)

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

21 UL Sport

University of Limerick, Limerick City

Tel: 061 213555

www.ulsport.ie

Home to the National 50m Swimming Pool, Ireland's largest indoor sports venue.

Open: Check website for details.



Limerick GAA

More to Experience

Museums And Historic Landmarks

Adare Franciscan Friary, Adare. Tel: 061 396666, www.adareheritagecentre.ie

Adare Heritage Centre, Adare. Tel: 061 396666, www.adareheritagecentre.ie

Bishop's Palace, Tel: 061 313399, www.limerickcivictrust.ie

Limerick Masonic Centre, www.freemasonsnorthmunster.com

Limerick City Museum, Tel: 061 417826, www.limerickcity.ie/museum

Lough Gur Heritage Centre, Bruff. Tel: 061 385386, www.loughgur.com

Treaty Stone, Tel: 061 317522.

The Georgian House & Garden, Tel: 061 314130, www.limerickcivictrust.ie

Sporting Venues

Limerick GAA Pairc na nGael, www.limerickgaa.ie

Limerick Greyhound Stadium, Tel: 061 448000, www.igb.ie

Limerick Racecourse, Tel: 061 320000, www.limerickraces.ie

Thomond Park Stadium, Tel: 061 421100, www.thomondpark.ie



Clare Glens

Nature & Wildlife

Clare Glens, Murroe. Tel: 061 496000, www.lcc.ie

Coillte Forest Park Curragh Chase, Kilcornan. www.coillteoutdoors.ie

Buttercup Visitor Farm, Croom. Tel: 061 397556, www.buttercupfarm.ie

Stonehall Wildlife Park, Kilcornan. Tel: 061 393940, www.stonehallvisitorfarm.com

Arts, Cultural & Entertainment Venues

69 O'Connell Street, Tel: 061 774774, www.limetreetheatre.ie

Dolan's, Dock Road, Limerick. Tel: 061 314483, www.dolanspub.com

Limerick City Gallery of Art, Tel: 061 310633, www.gallery.limerick.ie

Lime Tree Theatre, Tel: 061 774774, www.limetreetheatre.ie

The Loft Theatre @ The Locke Bar, Tel: 061 413733, www.lockebar.com

The White House, Tel: 061 412377

University Concert Hall, Tel: 061 331549, www.uch.ie

ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS



Adventure & Water Sports

The waterways in this extensive region, from Belleek in the far northwest of Co. Fermanagh to Limerick where the Shannon meets the Atlantic Ocean, provide adventure and water sports for all ages and abilities, both on land and water.

The rivers, lakes and waterways of the Lakelands region show nature at its best and most beautiful. One of the best ways to appreciate the amazing landscape is to get out there and be a part of it. Coillte, Ireland's leading forestry company has numerous recreation sites in the Republic of Ireland's section of the Lakelands. For further information visit www.coillteoutdoors.ie

The Lakelands region provides a backdrop for a diverse range of land based pursuits. These recreational hobbies include flying, ballooning, karting, parachuting and skydiving to mention but a few. The inland waters encourage people to partake in a variety of aquatic activities e.g. sailing, water skiing, surfing, etc... But the primary water based activity undertaken here, is the hire of cabin cruisers for holiday on the lakes, rivers and loughs of the Lakelands region.

Waterways Ireland has responsibility for the management, maintenance, development and restoration of inland navigable waterways principally for recreational purposes. The waterways under the remit of the body are the Barrow Navigation, the Erne System, the Grand Canal, the Lower Bann Navigation, the Royal Canal, the Shannon-Erne Waterway and the Shannon Navigation.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre / Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

www.waterwaysireland.org



Sailing in Lough Derg, Co Tipperary. Credit: Tipperary County Council



Abbeyshrule, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism

Adventure & Water Sports

NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT DETAILS	DESCRIPTION
Fermanagh		
Corralea Activity Centre Ltd., Upper Lough MacNea, Belcoo	+44 (0)28 6638 6123 www.activityireland.com	Canoeing, water trampoline, surfing, windsurfing, caving, climbing, pump track and archery
Lough Erne Canoe Trail, Countryside Access & Activities Network	+44 (0)28 9030 3930 www.canoeni.com	50 kilometre route through the magnificent lakes of Upper and Lower Lough Erne
Lough Melvin Holiday Centre, Main Street, Garrison	+44 (0)28 686 58142 / +44 (0)28 686 59814 www.melvinholidaycentre.com	A full range of outdoor activities, land & water based packages
Lusty Beg Island, Kesh	+44 (0)28 686 33300 www.lustybegisland.com	Select accommodation, team-building, corporate hospitality, away days, activity breaks
Share Discovery Village, Smith's Strand, Lisnaskea	+44 (0)28 6772 2122 www.sharevillage.org	Banana-skiing, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, dinghy sailing, windsurfing, combat corps and much more
Todds Leap Centre, 30 Todds Leap Road, Ballygawley	+44 (0)28 8556 7170 www.toddsleap.com	Body zorb, zip line, super slide, paint balling, off road driving, quad biking, clay pigeon shooting, archery, climbing wall, rodeo bull, blind land rover driving, jcb challenge and much more
Unique Helicopters (N.I) Ltd., St Angelo Airport	+44 (0)28 6632 6636 www.uniquehelicopters.com	NI's premier helicopter Flight Training Organisation. Enjoy the thrill of flying a helicopter with a 'Flight Experience'
Monaghan		
A.W.O.L Paintball Games, Killybrone	047 86224 www.letsgoawol.com	Paintball, Canoeing, Kayaking, Archery, Abseiling, Orienteering
Irish Country Quads, Inishkeen	042 9378997 www.irishcountryquads.com	Quad Biking, Archery, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Shuffleboard
Lough Muckno Waterski & Wakeboarding Club, Castleblayney	087 7402806 www.skimuckno.com	Water-skiing & Wakeboarding
Monaghan Leisure Complex, Monaghan Town	047 81734 www.coralleisure.ie/our-clubs/monaghan.html	Swimming & gym
Mourne Clay Pigeon Shooting, Castleblayney	042 9745953 www.mourneadventureactivities.com	Clay Pigeon Shooting & Archery
Muckno Adventure, Mindszenty Park, Castleblayney	087 8175520 www.mucknoadventure.com	Orienteering, Fishing, Forest Games, Raft Building etc
Rally School Ireland, Scotstown	047 89098 www.rallyschoolireland.ie	Motor sports activities
Tanagh Outdoors Education Centre, Rockcorry	049 5552988 www.tanaghoutdooreducation.com	Canoeing, kayaking, archery, orienteering, assault course
Cavan		
Bailieborough Swimming Pool & Leisure Centre, Bailieborough	042 9666644 www.bailieboroughleisurecentre.com	Gym, 20m swimming pool, kiddie's pool, steam room, jacuzzi
Cavan Canoeing, Butlersbridge	087 2905752 www.cavancanoeing.com	Kayaking, boating and canoeing on spectacular Lough Oughter
Cavan Swimming & Leisure Complex, Drumalee	049 4362888 www.cavanleisure.ie	Swimming & sports hall
Killykean Forest Park	www.coillteoutdoors.ie	Outdoor swimming area and walking trails
Outdoors & Dirty Extreme Activity Games Park, Ballyconnell	049 9523877 www.odd.ie	Hover craft grand prix, woodland laser combat, power turn dragster karts, laser clay pigeon shooting & rgy buggy racing

Ramor Watersports Club Virginia	rwc@virginia.ie	Water sports club on Lough Ramor
The Cavan Way	www.thisiscavan.ie	Scenic 26k walking trail through the uplands of West Cavan

Leitrim

Aura Leitrim Leisure Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon	071 9671771 www.auraleisure.ie	Swimming & gym
Battlebridge Paintball, Battlebridge, Carrick-on-Shannon	086 1664959 www.battlebridgepaintball.ie	4 purpose built gaming areas
Carrick Indoor Shooting, Carrick-on-Shannon	071 9623609 www.carrickindoors shooting.com	Olympic & pentathlon sports, live rifle shooting and live archery
Carrick-on-Shannon Rowing Club, Carrick-on-Shannon	www.carrickrc.com	Rowing
Carrick Quads Boyle Rd., Carrick-on-Shannon	086 7908777 www.facebook.com/carrickquads	Quad Biking
Lough Allen Adventure Centre, Ballinaglera	071 9643292 www.loughallenadventure.com	Eco facility incl. windsurfing and kayaking

Roscommon

Baysports, Hodson Bay, Athlone	090 6494801 www.baysports.ie	Inflatable waterpark, Sailing, kayaking, pedal boating etc.
Hodson Bay Watersports, Hodson Bay, Athlone	1890 704090 www.hodsonbaywatersports.com	Boating eco tours on Lough Ree
Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	071 9673122 www.loughkey.ie	A cluster of unique attractions set in 350 hectares of mixed woodland
Shannon-River Adventure, Kon-Tiki Road, Roosky	071 9638300 www.shannonriveradventure.com	Canoeing, kayaking, raft-building, pier-jumping and a range of team games
The Irish Sailing Academy, Hodson Bay, Athlone	049 9529750	Caters for both novices and adventure seekers
Wolfhound Adventure Tours, Boyle	087 6665049 www.wolfhoundtours.com	Small group activity adventure holidays throughout Ireland. Bikes, hikes & history
Woodland Segway, Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	071 9662898 www.woodlandsegway.com	Glide effortlessly along the beautiful woodland trails of Lough Key Forest Park
Zipit Forest Adventures, Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	071 9662893 www.zipit.ie	Zip lines, rope bridges, Tarzan swings and climbing walls

Longford

Canoe Kayak Hire, Killashee	086 0515898	Boat Rental
Midland Karting & Paintballing, Edgeworthstown	043 6671308 www.midlandkarting.net	Karting & paintballing
Outdoor Discovery Adventure Company, Ballymahon	087 2721245 / 090 6400111 www.outdoordiscovery.ie	Kayaking, aqua sphering, tubing, zorbing, white-water rafting, archery
Ultraflight, Abbeyshrule	087 711800 www.ultraflight.ie	Pleasure flights & flying lessons

Westmeath

Adventure Athlone, Athlone	086 2783374 www.adventureathlone.com	Snorkelling, water skiing, wakeboarding
Ambushed, Mullingar	086 8593004 www.paintballing.ie	Paintballing & laser tag
Barracuda Boat Hire, Athlone	087 2301981 www.barracudaboattrips.com	Boat Hire

Bay Sports, Athlone	:090 6494801 www.baysports.ie	Large range of water based sports
Irish Balloon Flights, Belvedere & Athlone	:046 9483436 www.balloons.ie	Pleasure flights
Lakelands Shooting, Mullingar	:044 9223127 www.lakelandshootingcentre.ie	Clay pigeon shooting
Liliput Adventure Centre, Mullingar	:044 9226789 www.liliputadventure.com	Large range of outdoor water & land based activities by appointment
Lough Ree Yacht Club	:090 6475976 www.lryc.ie	Junior sailing classes during the summer months
Midlands Tours, Athlone	:090 6430000 www.midlandstours.com	Tours of the midlands
Pollard Karting, Castlepollard	:087 1266213 www.pollardkarting.com	Karting
Viking Tours, Athlone	:086 2621136 www.vikingtoursireland.com	Pleasure cruise in a replica Viking ship

Offaly

Battlefield LIVE, Birr	hq@battlefieldLIVE.com www.battlefieldlive.com	Authentic combat entertainment experience
Birr Outdoor Education Centre, Birr	:057 9120029 www.birroec.ie	Large range of activities
Croghan Hill Challenge, Rhode	:087 9875156 www.croghanhillchallenge.com	Teambuilding obstacle course
Grand Canal Adventures, Daingean	:089 4039240 www.grandcanaladventures.ie	Kayaking, aquazorbing, surfing
Irish Parachute & Premier Skydiving Club, Clonbullogue	:1850 260260 www.skydive.ie	Parachuting & skydiving
Lough Boora Parklands, Boora, Cloghan	:057 9345978 www.loughbooraparklands.com	A range of activities
River Queen Boat Trip, Banagher	:057 9151112 www.silverlinecruisers.com	Pleasure trips
Shannon Adventure, Banagher	:057 9151411	Canoeing & camping holidays
Silverline Cruisers, Banagher	:057 9151112 www.silverlinecruisers.com	Boat Hire
Skydive Ireland, Birr	:1850 940222 www.skydiveireland.ie	Skydiving



Canoeing alongside King Johns Castle, Limerick City

Galway

Pallas Karting, Tynagh, Loughrea	090 9745147 www.pallaskarting.com	500m beginners track, 1500m advanced track, plus Paintballing and Zorbing facility
Upriver, Ballinasloe	085 860 7825 www.upriver.ie	Outdoor pursuits on the River Suck

Tipperary

Go with the Flow River Adventures, Roscrea	087 2529700 www.gowiththeflow.ie	Guided river treks, multi-day trips, canoe hire and more
Killaloe River Cruises, Ballina	086 814 0559 www.killaloerivercruises.com	Tours on a 12 seater passenger boat
Lough Derg Yacht Club, Dromineer	067 24455 www.lydc.ie	Third oldest yacht club in the world
Shannon Sailing, Dromineer	067 24499 www.shannonsailing.com	Boat rental, charter and sailing tuition
The Ku ee tu, Nenagh	067 24295	53 seater water bus offering guided tours
Upper Limits, Upperchurch	087 3919190 Find us on Facebook	Indoor climbing and bouldering wall
Watermark Ski Club, Terryglass Harbour	087 2573661 www.irishwaterski.com	Water-skis, wakeboards, pedal boarding etc.

Clare

Atlantic Airventure, Shannon	061 363687 www.atlanticairventure.com	Indulge your passion for flying
Atlantic Diving School, Ennis	086 0570544 atlanticdivingschool@gmail.com	Learn how to scuba dive
Holy Island Tour, Mounthannon	086 8749710 www.holyisland.ie	Enjoy a boat trip and guided tour
Killaloe River Cruises, Killaloe	086 8140559 www.killaloerivercruises.com	Boat cruises of River Shannon & Lough Derg
Lakeside Holiday Park Mounthannon	061 927225 www.lakesideireland.com	A range of activities and water sports
Rural Irish Holidays, Whitegate	087 6367382 www.ruralirishholidays.com	'All in' guided holiday in rural Ireland, East Clare
Shannon Castle Line, Williamstown Harbour, Whitegate	061 927042 www.shannoncruisers.com	Fully equipped modern 2-8 berth cruisers for hire
University Of Limerick Activity Centre, Killaloe	061 376622 www.ulac.ie	Safe, fun and educational activity sessions

Limerick

Athlunkard Boat Club, Limerick City	www.athlunkard.blogspot.com	Full calendar of events
Castleconnell Boat Club, Castleconnell	www.castleconnellbc.ie	Full calendar of events
Combat Zone, Shanagolden	061 302031 www.combatzone.ie	Play in over 20 acres of natural woodland
Delta Karting, Ballysimon Rd, Limerick City	061 603603 www.deltakartinglimerick.com	Unforgettable kart racing experience
Kilcorman Karting, Kilcorman	061 393733 www.limerickkarting.com	The ultimate karting experience
National Kart Centre Limerick, Corbally	061 340161 www.nationalkartcentre.ie	The largest indoor karting track in the world
Nevsail Indoor Rock Climbing, Presentation School, Sexton St, Limerick City	086 3308236 www.nevsailwatersports.com	Indoor rock climbing, Kayaking tours of Limerick City
Shannon Rowing Club, Sarsfield Bridge, Limerick City	061 415150 www.shannonrowingclub.com	Affiliated to the Irish Amateur Rowing Union
University Arena, University of Limerick, Castletroy	061 213555 www.universityarena.com	For the basic beginner to the Olympic champion. Exceptional outdoor and indoor facilities



River Shannon, Limerick City

ANGLING



Angling

For many years, Ireland has been renowned as one of the top angling destinations in Europe. The Lakelands area is an anglers' heaven as this freshwater region (consisting of Lough Erne, the River Shannon and countless kilometres of loughs and rivers) is home to some of the best game, pike and coarse fishing in Ireland.

- Pike and Coarse Fishing - Anglers favouring coarse fishing should head for the rivers and lakes of the Lakelands. Numerous rivers and streams flow into the River Shannon offering some of the best pike and coarse fish stocks in Ireland.
- Trout Fishing - The lakes and rivers of the region are recognised as some of the best trout fisheries in Ireland and regularly produce specimen fish. Loughs Erne, Ree, Derg and Melvin are the most famous trout fisheries in the area.
- Salmon Fishing - The principal salmon lake in the region is Lough Melvin. There are dozens of rivers to choose from in the Lakelands also offering superb salmon fishing, all in spectacular countryside.

The vast size of Ireland's Lakelands offers so many opportunities to anglers, that it is difficult to cover every aspect in this Pocket Guide. The following pages provide a few examples of what's on offer, but it is recommended that more concise information be consulted prior to undertaking any fishing trips (particularly with regard to conservation measures and regulations). Detailed information can be found on www.fishinginireland.info



Pike Fishing

Ireland offers several thousand kilometres of rivers and canals along with thousands of lakes ('Loughs'), which are abundant with Pike. Many of these waters are also considered to be only very lightly fished, giving Ireland a world class reputation for the quality of its pike angling.

Size

Irish pike are a very resilient fish and are generally the largest of the freshwater predators. Their particularly fast growth rate means that some can reach up to 20Kg (over 40 lbs.), whilst sizes of 10Kg (over 20 lbs.) are more common throughout Irish lakes and rivers.

Where to fish

Pike is very common in most parts of the Lakelands. For example, County Cavan has hundreds of lakes, many of which are connected to the River Erne system that flows through Lough Gowna, Lough Oughter and through the larger Upper and Lower Lough Erne in Fermanagh. All of these systems are connected to many other fisheries throughout Cavan and Leitrim via the Shannon Erne Waterway, which links up with the mighty River Shannon. The vast length of the River Shannon then offers many other excellent pike fisheries along the way such as Loughs Allen, Ree, and Derg as well as the many tributaries such as the River Suck in Roscommon / East Galway and the Grand and Royal Canals (Westmeath and Offaly).

When to fish

Pike can be fished at any time of the year in Ireland. However, the effects of weather conditions along with the common habits of Pike must be taken into account. For example, heavy winter rain increases water levels and causes flooding, which renders some waters inaccessible.

For more information on Pike Fishing, visit www.fishinginireland.info

For the
Personal Touch
visit our Discover Ireland Centres for
free Tourist Information & advice!

Coarse Fishing

Ireland's lakelands is covered by a vast limestone plain, characterised by several major river systems and thousands of lakes. These waters are home to the bulk of Ireland's coarse fish shoals. Coarse fishing is generally open all year round and the following is just an example of some of the more popular species.

Roach

First introduced to Ireland in the late 1800's, Roach is now one of the most prolific coarse fish, occurring in waters throughout most parts of the country. Specimen weight: 907grams (2lbs).

When to fish: any time of the year, but best fishing is during March, April and May.

Where to fish: suggested locations include River Erne and Lakes in Co. Cavan, Upper and Lower Lough Erne, River Shannon, Loughs Derg & Ree, Shannon Erne Waterway and the Royal and Grand Canals.

Bream

Another very common coarse fish in Ireland, and can vary greatly in size. They can be found as relatively small canal fish right up to weights of 4.5kg (10lbs) or more which can sometimes be found in limestone lakes. Specimen weight: 3.4kg (7.5lbs)

When to fish: recommended in May / June OR September / October.

Where to fish: popular locations include Upper and Lower Lough Erne, River Erne and lakes (including Lough Oughter system and Lough Gowna), River Shannon, River Suck, Lough Derg and Lough Ree.

For a full listing of
Festivals & Events
 in the region see pages 170-191
 in this guide.

Hybrids

Although there are several hybrid forms, the most common is the roach x bream which can sometimes grow to over 2.3kg (5lbs). There is an abundance of these hybrids, which are generally a very defensive fish once hooked. Specimen weight: 1.6kg (3.5lb).

When to fish: all year round.

Where to fish: some recommended locations include Upper and Lower Lough Erne, River Erne and lakes, Lough Ramor, Lough Derravaragh, Shannon-Erne Waterway, River Shannon, River Suck, Lough Derg and Lough Ree.

Tench

Found in most coarse waters especially near the sides of lakes, rivers and canals where weeds are plentiful. Specimen weight: 2.7kg (6lb).

When to fish: recommended months are June to August.

Where to fish: suggested areas include River Erne catchment Lakes, Rahan and Ballyhoe Lakes in Monaghan, Royal and Grand Canals, River Shannon at Lanesborough and Shannonbridge, various limestone loughs in Co. Clare.

For more information on Coarse Fishing, visit www.fishinginireland.info



Angling in Cavan. Credit: Cavan County Council

Trout Fishing

Wild brown trout is a much sought after fish in the Lakelands and is one of the most widely distributed freshwater fish in Ireland. It prospers in most types of waterways, from small mountain streams to the wide expanse of the many large rivers and loughs. Fly fishing is the most common method used for trout fishing in Ireland.

Variations

There are numerous forms of the Irish Trout. For example, Harvester and Croneen are relatively large trout that swim up tributary rivers from large loughs, usually from July onwards. Harvester trout is commonly found in the Lough Erne system, whilst Croneen is generally found in Lough Derg. Ferox is another large trout and is often found in Lough Melvin (Leitrim/Fermanagh), Lough Ree and Lough Derg.

Size

Irish trout are considered to be relatively large, with weights of over 4.5kg (10lbs) recorded annually, with some as high as 9kg (20lbs). The official record was 11.85kg (26lbs 2oz), caught in Lough Ennell (Westmeath) in 1894.

When to fish

Trout fishing takes place between the months of February and October. However, best fishing during this period will depend on influential factors such as weather conditions, water levels, temperatures and habits of the species. From July onwards, trout tend to rise more often from early evening to dusk (around 11pm or after), and so best fishing is usually between these times.

For the
Personal Touch
visit our Discover Ireland Centres for
free Tourist Information & advice!

Where to fish

The following are just a few examples of locations for ideal trout fishing in the Lakelands:

Camcor River

Location: Birr (Co. Offaly)

Season: 1st March - 30th September

Run of Croneen trout from Lough Derg from mid-July to September. Fly fishing only.

Lough Derg

Location: Killaloe & Scarriff (Co. Clare) AND Garrykennedy & Dromineer (Co. Tipperary)

Season: 15th March - 30th September

Lower end of Lough Derg noted to be better for brown trout. Fishing is free. All legitimate methods permitted.

Lough Ree

Location: Athlone & Ballykeeran (Co. Westmeath) AND Knockcroghery (Co. Roscommon)

Season: 1st March - 30th September

Busy lake for cruisers, means best trout fishing can be found near sheltered areas around the many islands. Fishing is free. All legitimate methods permitted.

Lough Ennell

Location: Mullingar (Co. Westmeath)

Season: 1st March - 12th October

Last two weeks of season known for excellent fishing. Permit required.

Lough Owel

Location: Mullingar (Co. Westmeath)

Season: 1st March - 12th October

All legitimate methods permitted. Month of April and last few weeks of season known for good fishing. Permit required.

Lough Sheelin

Location: Finea (Co. Westmeath) and Crover (Co. Cavan)

Season: 1st March - 12th October

All legitimate methods permitted. Good evening fishing during summer months. Permit required.

Lough O'Flynn

Location: Ballinlough & Castlerea (Co. Roscommon)

Season: 1st March - 12th October

All legitimate methods permitted. Fishing is known to be consistent throughout the season. Permit required.

For more information on Trout Fishing, visit www.fishinginireland.info

Operators & Guides

If you're unfamiliar with the vast waters of the Lakelands, then there are plenty of options to assist you along the way. Here is a list of some boat hire operators, guides and ghillies:

Zone 1: Lough Erne

Watermill Fishing Lodge, Kilmore Quay (Upper Lough Erne),
Tel: +44 (028) 6772 4369

Mark Corps, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, Tel: +44 (028) 6634 1811

Richard Turner, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, Tel: +44 (028) 6634 9974

Zone 2: Upper Lakelands

Pike Fishing Ireland, Boyle, Co Roscommon,
www.pike-fishing-holidays-ireland.com

Angling Services Ireland, Boyle, Co Roscommon, www.anglingservicesireland.com

Joel Carson - Angling Guide, Lough Oughter and West Cavan, Tel: 049 4334486

Liam Duffy - Angling Guide, Killeshandra, Co Cavan, Tel: 049 4334731

Kieran McCormack - Angling Guide, Lough Oughter and West Cavan, Tel: 086 1721810

Zone 3: Lough Ree & Mid Shannon

Mick Flanagan, Mullingar, Co Westmeath, www.midlandangling.com

Oliver Daly Boat Hire, Lough Derravaragh, Co Westmeath, Tel: 044 9371220

Doolan's Boat Hire, Lough Owel, Mullingar, Co Westmeath, Tel: 044 9342085

Lilliput Boat Hire, Lough Ennell, Dysart, Co Westmeath, www.lilliputboathire.com

Mark Shields Boat Hire, Lanesborough, Co Longford, Tel: 043 3321510

Mr J Homes Boat Hire, Lanesborough, Co Longford, Tel: 043 3321491

Michael Farrell, Lough Sheelin (Co Cavan) & Lough Derravaragh (Co Westmeath),
Tel: 087 4194156

Lough Derravaragh Boat Hire, Multyfarnham, Co Westmeath, Tel: 044 9371500

Mr Corbett Boat Hire, Shannonbridge, Co Offaly, Tel: 090 9674249

Martin Fagan Boat Hire, Lough Derravaragh, Co Westmeath, Tel: 044 9371353

Zone 4: Lough Derg

FisHerman, Killaloe, Co Clare, www.FisHerman.nl

Murray's Angling Services, Portumna, Co Galway, www.shannonfishingholidays.com

Peche Irlande, Killaloe, Co Clare, www.pecheirlande.com

Great Pike Fishing Company, Scarriff, Co Clare, www.greatpikefishing.com

Fishing for Kids, Killaloe, Co Clare, www.fishingforkids.ie

Shannon Lakeboat and Mini Cruiser Hire, Killaloe, Co Clare, Tel: 086 7856633

For more information and listings on boat hire, guides and ghillies, visit
www.fishinginireland.info

Regulations

Ireland has developed effective conservation measures on all types of fishing, which ultimately contributes to more sustained and healthy fish stocks. Below are just some examples, please check with Inland Fisheries Ireland (www.fishinginireland.info) for more detailed information.

Licences & Permits

Licences - In the Republic of Ireland, you do not need a license to fish for pike, trout or coarse species, but a rod licence is required in Northern Ireland. If you intend to fish for salmon or sea trout, you must have a State Fishing Licence (available as a National Licence or a District Licence), which can be bought from most fishing tackle shops, the regional fisheries offices or on the website of Inland Fisheries Ireland (www.fishinginireland.info).

Permits - whether a licence is required or not, a permit is often required to fish most waters. They can be bought directly from the fishery owner and can usually cost from €20 - €50 per day.

Fines

On the spot fines of €150 can sometimes be issued for a range of offences prohibited under Irish Angling regulations, such as fishing in a closed season, taking more fish than a bag limit allows etc.

General Freshwater Regulations

- The only legal method to catch freshwater fish is by rod and line
- A person may fish with not more than two rods at any time
- It is illegal to have or to use live fish as bait
- It is illegal to transfer live roach from one water to any other waters
- Killing and possession of foul hooked fish is prohibited

Foul Hooking

- The killing and possession of foul hooked fish (i.e. fish not hooked in the mouth) in any fishery district in any year is prohibited.

Coarse Fishing

- No more than 4 coarse fish can be taken and killed on any one day
- Any coarse fish greater than 25 cm in length cannot be taken and killed

Pike Fishing

- It is prohibited to kill more than 1 pike in any one day
- It is prohibited to kill any pike greater than 50 cm in length

CRUISING



Cruising

Your cruise begins on the Erne System which is a truly rural, unspoilt and tranquil waterway encompassing the upper and lower lakes. Upper Lough Erne is dotted with islands whereas Lower Lough Erne opens into vast expanses of water. Travel along the majestic River Erne through Portora Lock in Enniskillen and on to Belturbet joining the Shannon-Erne Waterway and linking up to the delightful landscapes of the Upper Shannon region. The island studded Lough Key and the expanse of Lough Allen, surrounded by the mountains of north Leitrim, awaits your arrival.

Then joining the River Shannon, journey south through Carrick on Shannon following the river as it meanders down the Albert, the Roosky and Tarmonbarry Locks and flows into Lough Ree. This serrated lake lays claim to the geographical centre of Ireland.

The Shannon then accelerates down by Athlone and through the Victoria Lock to Portumna at the head of Lough Derg. It continues apace past Killaloe via the Ardnacrusha Lock to Limerick and the Shannon Estuary where it rushes out into the Atlantic Ocean. The Lakeland moorings provide cruising waters and facilities for a holiday to cater for all tastes. Waterways Ireland has responsibility for the management, maintenance, development and restoration of inland navigable waterways principally for recreational purposes. The waterways under the remit of the body are the Barrow Navigation, the Erne System, the Grand Canal, the Lower Bann Navigation, the Royal Canal, the Shannon-Erne Waterway and the Shannon Navigation.

For further information contact www.waterwaysireland.org. Also, a full range of publications, guides and Smart cards can be ordered online at www.shopwaterwaysireland.org

Carrick-On-Shannon To Leitrim Village, Boyle & Lough Key 3 Day Cruise

Day 1

Travel north from Carrick along the majestic Shannon River, passing through pleasant water meadows stocked with grazing cattle. Look out for the herons fishing in the shallows and the numerous swans and other water fowl that live along its banks. Mark off the various easily recognisable navigation marks as you pass the confluence of the **Boyle River** and continue to travel at a sedate speed towards **Leitrim Village**. As you travel further north the countryside becomes more interesting, with spectacular views of distant hills and forests. Depending on the time of year the trees can be a lush green or an Autumn gold as their branches bend down to the river. Pass under the ancient bridge at **Leitrim** and moor at the jetty. The village is a short walk away and has several shops, restaurants and pubs, and many traditional Irish music nights on offer.

Day 2

Stay the night, and in the morning turn the boat to head south and enter the **Boyle River**. Within a short time you are passing through a small lough, Lough Eidin. Take in a round of golf at the **Carrick-on-Shannon Golf Club** if you wish, it has its own jetty to tie your boat to, or continue on towards **Cootehall** to stop for lunch. Pass on through Knockvicar, through the **Clarendon Lock** and on into **Lough Key**. Cross the lake and head for the **Boyle Canal** which will bring you to within a mile of this fine town. Visit the **Abbey** or **King House**, and dine in **Boyle**.

Day 3

Travel back along the **Boyle Canal**, re-enter Lough Key and head for the extensive new marina facility at **Lough Key Forest Park**. The park has 350 hectares of park land to explore, the innovative **Boda Borg Adventure House** to visit the children's adventure play kingdom or the **Lough Key Experience** complete with **Tree Canopy Walk** and **Zipit Forest Adventures**.

Board your boat for your three hour cruise back to **Carrick-on-Shannon** or linger a little longer on the way.



Lough Key, Boyle, Co Roscommon

Portumna & Lough Derg 3 Day Cruise

Day 1

Lough Derg is famous for its idyllic little towns and villages with small harbours that fringe the shore. **Lough Derg** is a spectacular lake with lots to see and do. **Portumna Forest Park**, which has its own harbour and **Portumna Castle** are both well worth a visit.

From Portumna, cruise across the lake to **Terryglass** and experience a small picturesque **Tipperary** lakeside village. Stay for lunch before moving on further south to **Dromineer**. Moor at the marina facility and enjoy the atmosphere of this small village, complete with pubs and restaurants. Dromineer is famous for its sailing tradition and is home to Lough Derg Yacht Club, the third oldest in Ireland, as well as having excellent walks and fishing opportunities.

Day 2

The scenery becomes more dramatic the further south that you travel and the mountains to the south appear to sweep down in to the lough whilst those to the west provide an exciting back drop to the towns of **Scarriff, Mountshannon and Williamstown**.

It is a short trip to **Garrykennedy** before crossing the lake once more to the Connacht shore of **Mountshannon**. Stay the night in the marina which is a short walk from the town.

Day 3

Turn now to go north calling at **Williamstown** before making the leisurely trip back up the Lough to **Portumna**.



Garrykennedy, Co Tipperary. Credit: Tipperary County Council

Lough Erne 4 Day Cruise

Day 1

Starting on Lower Lough Erne head northward to the delightful village of Belleek, a renowned border crossing, and home to the world famous Belleek Pottery. The pretty village boasts a number of places to lunch, buy tackle and bait or you can make the short four mile journey to the coast from here.

Day 2

Returning from Belleek take the eastern shore of the lake southward passing Castle Caldwell, a forest park and bird reserve. Staying on the eastern shore your craft will pass through the Broad Lough, the widest part of the lake, and head towards Lusty Beg, an island resort with excellent accommodation and leisure facilities.

Day 3

Heading further south, the lake becomes dotted with islands. White Island is home to a series of pre-Christian statues collected from islands all over the lake. White Island is just off-shore from Castle Archdale, an excellent country park offering walking and cycle paths and in season, an outdoor pursuits centre.

As the lake narrows, meander through the islands, easily moving from Ely Forest and the Lough Erne Resort on the western shore, to Lough Erne Yacht Club on the eastern shore.

Just north of Enniskillen, Devenish Island dominates the horizon; the round tower and ruins of the monastic settlement break the island skyline and providing a wonderful stopping off point for a visit.

Enniskillen, the island town, has a multitude of moorings. Served by a wide range of restaurants, bars, shops and leisure services, the town is also home to a 12th century castle and museum and a theatre with its own moorings. Extensive mooring facilities are also available at the Killyhevlin Hotel on the shores of Upper Lough Erne just 5 minutes cruising from Enniskillen.

Day 4

South of Enniskillen, the lough winds in a channel through the beautiful rural countryside stopping in Bellanaleck and Carrybridge, before heading out into the island dotted expanse of the upper lough. Stop at the Share Discovery Village, an outdoor centre for able bodied and disabled outdoor activities, or visit the Hare Krishna on Inish Rath Island. The last stop of the trip is Crom Estate, now run by the National Trust, a 1,900 acre lough side estate with a visitors' centre and café beside the mooring, and walks and paths for cycling throughout the estate.

For a full listing of
Festivals & Events
 in the region see pages 170-191
 in this guide.

Banagher To Athlone & Lough Ree 4 Day Cruise

Day 1

Travel north from the Georgian town of Banagher. Within a short distance you will pass by Shannon Harbour where the Grand Canal meets the Shannon Navigation. Marvel at the ruins of a by gone age in transportation. Visit the dry docks where the canal barges were maintained and note the architectural heritage of classic Georgian industrial architecture. Pass under the majestic Shannon Bridge where Leinster meets Connacht and travel on to Clonmacnoise, the 6th century monastery, university and ancient Christian capital of Ireland. Spend the night moored at the marina.

Day 2

Continue onward to Athlone and explore this ancient town, birth place of the famous Irish tenor Count John McCormack, and one time boyhood home to the Duke of Wellington. Lots to see here and great shopping too. Pass on through Athlone and enter the great Lough Ree, truly an inland sea. Head for Hodson Bay and moor for the night in the harbour. Golfers are well catered for with a number of golf courses nearby.

Day 3

Explore Lough Ree and visit Glasson - Oliver Goldsmith country - on the east side of the lake, returning to Athlone for the night.

Day 4

Leave Athlone and return south at your leisure to Banagher.



Hodson Bay, Athlone, Co Roscommon

Moorings & Facilities

Erne System: Lower Lough Erne

- Belleek** - Moorings, toilet and pump outs. Slipway. Food and fuel available locally.
- Rosscor Jetty** - Moorings.
- Castlecaldwell Jetty** - Moorings.
- Magho Jetty** - Moorings.
- Lusty Beg** - Private Marina (public access by arrangement). Food and drink available.
- Lustymore** - Moorings.
- Muckcross** - Moorings with toilet facilities. Slipway.
- Kesh Jetties** - Moorings with showers and toilet facilities. Food and fuel available.
- North Crevenishaughy Island** - Moorings.
- Crevenishaughy Jetty East** - Moorings.
- Clareview Marina** - Private Marina (Public access by arrangement)
- Aghinver Hire Boat Company** - Private Marina (Public access by arrangement)
- White Island Jetty** - Moorings.
- Tom's Island Jetty** - Moorings.
- Davy's Island Jetty** - Moorings.
- Castle Archdale Marina** - Private Marina with public access to pump-outs.
- Tully Jetty** - Moorings.
- Drumcrow East Jetty** - Moorings.
- Tully Bay Marina** - Private Marina with public access to fuel.
- Rossigh Jetty** - Moorings with toilet facilities. Slipway.
- Inish Davar Jetty** - Moorings.
- Inishmacsaint Jetty** - Moorings with ancient monuments to be seen.
- Camagh Bay Jetty** - Moorings. Slipway.
- Rosslare Jetty** - Moorings. Slipway.
- Hay Island Jetty** - Moorings.
- Manor House Marina** - Private Marina with public access to fuel. Food available.
- Carrickreagh Jetty** - Moorings.
- Lough Erne Resort Jetty** - Moorings. Food available.
- Trory Jetty** - Moorings.
- Devenish Island** - Moorings with ancient monuments and castle.
- Enniskillen** - Moorings available at a number of locations: Round O (Slipway) Jetty (Service Block with full facilities and shore power), Riverview, Regal Pass, Broad Meadow, Erneside Jetty, Henry Street Jetties, Waterways Ireland Headquarters, 122 Ardhowen and Killyhelvin. All essential services available in town.
-

Erne System: Upper Lough Erne

Culkey Jetty - Moorings.

Bellanaleck Jetty - Moorings with showers and toilets. Slipway. Food and fuel available.

Cloonatrig Jetty - Moorings.

Tullyinnishmore Jetty - Moorings.

Carrybridge Jetty - Moorings with showers, toilets and pump-outs. Slipway. Food and fuel available.

Knockninny Jetty - Moorings with toilets and pump-outs.

Naan Island Jetty - Moorings.

Tirraroe Jetty - Moorings.

Share Holiday Centre - Private Marina. Food available.

Corradillar - Moorings. Slipway.

Derryadd Jetty - Moorings. Slipway.

Gealum Jetty - Moorings.

Derryvore - Moorings.

Crom Jetty - Moorings.

Galloon Jetty - Moorings with showers, toilets and pump-outs.

Belturbet - Moorings, toilets and pump-outs. All essential services available in town.

Shannon-Erne

Service blocks are provided at a number of locations on the Shannon-Erne Waterway with facilities (showers, laundry and pump-outs) operated by smart cards.

Aghalane - Moorings and service block. Slipway

Ballyconnell - Moorings and service block. Slipway. Food and fuel available a short walk from the Moorings.

Haughton's Shore - Moorings and service block. Slipway
Lock 7, Ballyduff – Slipway.

St John's Lough - Off shore moorings.

Ballinamore - Moorings and service block. Slipway. Food and fuel are available in the town

Keshcarrigan - Moorings and service block. Slipway. Food is available in the town.

Leitrim - Moorings and service block. Slipway. Close to local amenities for fuel and food.

Shannon Navigation: Upper Shannon

Cleighran More – Moorings, Parking and Picnic Area.

Spencer Harbour - Moorings, Parking and Picnic Area.

Drumshanbo Lock - Moorings, Service block and Pump-out. Parking and Picnic Area with access to all amenities.

Acres Lake - Moorings and shore power with access to all local amenities.

Boyle - Moorings and service block. Parking and Picnic Area with access to all amenities.

Lough Key Forest Park - Moorings with showers, toilets, pump-outs and shore power. Lough Key Forest park activities and restaurant.

Clarendon Lock - Moorings.

Knockvicar - Moorings. Close to local amenities for food.

Cootehall - Moorings. Close to local amenities for fuel and food.

Carrick-on-Shannon - Moorings with service block and shore power. All essential services in town.

Jamestown - Moorings.

Drumsna - Moorings. Close to local amenities for food.

Albert Lock - Moorings.

Carnadoe Quay - Moorings.

Grange - Moorings. Close to local amenities for food.

Kilglass - Moorings.

Dromod Harbour - Moorings and service block and Pump-out. Close to local amenities for fuel and food.

Roosky - Moorings with toilets and fuel, close to all local amenities.

Tarmonbarry - Moorings with toilets. Parking and close to local amenities for fuel and food.

Clondra Moorings/Richmond Harbour - Moorings with showers, toilets and pump-outs. Close to local amenities for food.

Ballyleague - Moorings with Pump-out.

Shannon Navigation: South Shannon

Lanesborough - Moorings with showers, toilets and pump-outs.

Portrunny - Moorings, service block and pump-outs.

Lecarrow - Moorings with service block, power bollards and Pump-out. Close to local amenities for food.

Hodson Bay - Moorings. Food available locally.

Coosan Point - Moorings with service block.

Ballykeeran - Moorings with showers and toilets.

Athlone - Moorings and pump-outs. All essential services available in town.

Clonmacnoise - Moorings.

Shannonbridge - Moorings, showers, toilets, pump-outs and shore power. Food available locally.

Ballinasloe - Moorings, showers, toilets, pump-outs and shore power.

Shannon Harbour - Moorings. Food available locally.

Banagher - Moorings, showers, toilets and pump-outs. All essential services in town.

Meelick - Moorings.

Victoria Lock - Moorings.

Portumna (Castle Harbour) - Moorings and service block with pump-outs. All essential services in town.

Connaught Harbour - Moorings.

Terryglass - Moorings with shore power. Food available locally.

Rossmore - Moorings.

Kilgarvan - Moorings.

Dromaan Harbour - Moorings.

Dromineer - Moorings, showers, pump-outs and shore power. Food available locally.

Garrykennedy - Moorings with service block, pump-outs and shore power. Food available locally.

Mountshannon - Moorings with pump-outs and shore power. Food available locally.

Scarriff - Moorings with showers, toilets, pump-outs and shore power. Food available locally.

Ballina - Moorings with pump-outs.

Killaloe - Moorings with showers, toilets, pump-outs and shore power.

Limerick - Moorings at Customs House and George's Quay. All essential services in town.



Cruising in Limerick

Cruising Operators/Boat Trips

Co. Fermanagh

Aghinver Boat Company - Lisnarick. Cruiser Hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 6863 1400.

CarrickCraft - Blaney. Cruiser Hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 3834 4993.

Carrybridge Boat Company - Lisbellaw. Cruise hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 6638 7034.

Castle Archdale Marina Day Boat Hire - Lisnarick. Boats available for full and half day hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 1892.

Corraquill Cruising - Derrylin. Barges which are suitable for all weather cruising. Tel: +44 (0)28 6774 8712.

Erne Charter Boat Association (ECBA) - Enniskillen. Independent hire cruiser companies on Lough Erne. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 3110.

Inishcruiser and Viking Voyager - Share Discovery Village, Smiths Strand, Lisnaskea. Boat Trips. Tel: +44 (0)28 6772 2122.

Lady of the Lake Tours - Manor House Country Hotel, Killadeas. Boat Trip. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 2200.

Lochside Cruisers Ltd. - Enniskillen. Cruiser Hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 4366.

Manor House Marine Day Boats - Killadeas. Boats available for half and full day hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 8100.

Muckcross Estate - Enniskillen. Day boat hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 68631957

MV Kestrel - Round O Jetty, Enniskillen. Boat Trip. Tel: +44 (0)28 6632 2882.

White Island Ferry - From Castle Archdale to White Island July & Aug and Bank Holiday weekends. Tel: +44 (0)28 6862 1892

Co. Leitrim

CarrickCraft - The Marina, Carrick-on-Shannon. Cruise hire. Tel: +44 (0)28 3834 4993.

Emerald Star Ltd. - The Marina, Carrick-on-Shannon. Cruise hire. Tel: 071 962 0234.

Pleasure Cruisers - The Craft Shop, Roosky. Cruise hire. Tel: 086 3284800.

RentOurBoat - Battlebridge. Cruise hire. Tel: 085 203 7136

Riversdale Barge Holidays - Ballinamore. Luxurious Holiday barges for all year round cruising. Tel: 071 9644122.

RiverRun Pleasure Cruiser - Main Street, Carrick-on-Shannon. Boat Trip. Tel: 087 266 3866.

Shannon Private Cruisers - Shannon Cove, Dromod. Cruise hire for long or short breaks. Tel: 086 2730721.

Co. Roscommon

Lough Key Boat Tours - Lough Key Forest Park, Boyle. Powerboat trips, Rowing and Day Boats. Tel: 086 084 6849.

Co. Westmeath

Barracuda Boat Trips - Athlone. Tel: 087 230 1981.

Flagline Cruisers - Jolly Mariner Marina, Coosan, Athlone. Cruise hire. Tel: 090 647 8090.

Lough Ree Cruisers Ltd. - Mucknagh Point, Glasson, Athlone. Cruise hire. Tel: 01 492 3150.

Shannon Princess - Ballykeeran Lakeside Marina, Athlone. Regular cruising itinerary plus charter available. Tel: 087 2514809.

Locaboat - Killinure Point, Glasson. Cruise hire. Tel: 090 6485866.

Viking Tours - 7 St Mary's Place, Athlone. Boat Trip. Tel: 086 262 1136.

Co. Offaly

Silver Line Cruisers - The Marina, Banagher. Cruise hire for long or short breaks. Tel: 057 9151112.

River Queen - Silverline Cruisers, The Marina, Banagher. Boat Trip. Tel: 057 915 1112

Co. Tipperary

Cruise Lough Derg / Ku Ee Tu - Dromineer, Nenagh. Boat Trip. Tel: 067 24295 / 087 214 2363.

Co. Clare

AnnaCarriga Estate - Killaloe. Marina and Boat Hire. Tel: 061 376777

Bó Island Motor Yacht Cruises - Terryglass. Boat Trip. Tel: 087 637 0228

Cruise Lough Derg / Ku Ee Tu - Dromineer Tel: 087 214 2363.

Lough Derg Holiday Village - Carrownakilly, Killaloe. Marina and Boat Hire. Tel: 061 376 777 / 061 376 329.

Secret Ireland Escapes - Killaloe. Skippered motor yacht hire. Tel: 087 675 4814

Spirit of Lough Derg River Cruises - Killaloe. Tours of Shannon and Lough Derg. Tel: 086 8140559.

Spirit of Killaloe Cruises - Killaloe. Cruise along the Shannon & Lough Derg. Tel: 086 8140559.

EQUESTRIAN



Equestrian

The Lakelands is not just about cruising the many wonderful rivers and lakes, as there is plenty of delightful green countryside on offer too. And what better way to explore it than on horseback?

There are lots of horse riding options available to you in the Lakelands region, so whether you are looking for an exhilarating gallop, a leisurely hack on a quiet country road or a challenging cross-country trail through some of Ireland's most beautiful countryside, there is something for everyone in the Lakelands.

Follow the Shamrock



Independently Assessed and Quality Assured by Fáilte Ireland, The National Tourism Development Authority. 'Whenever you see this symbol you can be assured this Equestrian Centre is visitor friendly and committed to delivering high quality services and facilities'.

Visit: www.discoverireland.ie/equestrian for current listings

There is simply no better way to chill out and take in the splendid scenery. You'll also benefit from picking up some supplementary equestrian skills and making new friends.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre /Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

www.ehi.ie

www.aire.ie



Mosstown Stables, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism



Ross House, Mountnugent, Co Cavan

Equestrian

NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Fermanagh	
Clanabogan Riding Stables, 85 Clanabogan Road, Omagh	+44 (0) 78 21 894927
Drumbaragh Stables, Baragh House, Baragh Road, Ballinamallard	+44 (0)28 6638 9708
The Forest Stables (BHS APPROVED), 100 Cooneen Road, Fivemiletown	+44 (0)28 8952 1991
Monaghan	
Castle Leslie Estate, Glaslough	047 88535 www.castleleslie.com
Cloncaw Equestrian, Emyvale Road, Glaslough	087 6689866 www.cloncaw.com
Mullaghmore Equestrian Centre, Mullaghmore, Tydavnet	047 89645
Cavan	
Ross House, Mountnugent	049 8540218 www.ross-house.com
Leitrim	
Drumcoura Equestrian Centre, Ballinamore	071 964 5781 www.drumcoura.ie
Moorlands Equestrian Centre, Curraghill, Drumshanbo	071 9641500 www.moorlands.ie
Roscommon	
Roscommon Equestrian Centre, Mount Cashel, Kilroosky	086 3270984 www.roscommonequestrian.ie
Longford	
Mosstown Stables, Keenagh	043 3322414
Westmeath	
Athlone Equestrian Centre, Moydrum, Athlone	086 2433609 www.athloneequestrian.ie
Auburn Riding School, Dublin Road, Athlone	087 8592476
Catherinestown Riding School, Gaybrook, Mullingar	044 9340365
Harbour Lodge Stables, Harbour Rd, Kilbeggan	057 9332310
Ladestown Riding Stables, Ladestown House, Mullingar	044 9348218 www.ladestownridingstables.com
Mullingar Equestrian Centre, Athlone Rd, Mullingar	044 9348331 www.mullingarequestrian.com
Offaly	
Annaharvey Farm Equestrian Centre, Tullamore	057 9343544 www.annaharveyfarm.ie
Birr Equestrian Centre, Kingsborough House, Birr	087 2445545 www.birrequestrian.ie

Galway

Dartfield Horse Museum & Riding Centre, Kilrickle, Loughrea	091 843968 www.dartfield.com
Loughrea Equestrian Centre, Kilnadeema, Loughrea	091 847077
Parkmore Stables, Parkmore, Creagh, Ballinasloe	090 9643994
Slieve Aughty Riding Centre, Kylebrack, Loughrea	0909 745246 www.riding-centre.com

Tipperary

Crossogue Equestrian Centre, Ballycahill, Thurles	0504 54166, www.crossogue-equestrian.ie
Gurteen College, Ballingarry, Roscrea	067 21282, www.gurteencollege.ie
Lough Derg Equestrian Centre, Killaloe/Ballina	061 375847, www.aire.ie
Nenagh Equestrian Centre, Ballintoher, Nenagh	067 31400, www.aire.ie
Tipperary Equestrian Centre, Mill Road, Thurles	087 7995585, www.aire.ie
Tipperary Mountain Trekking Centre, Borrisoleigh	087 410 6868 www.timotrec.com
Whitehall, Drumbane, Thurles	0504 54963

Clare

An Sabin Equestrian Centre, Derryoran East, Whitegate	061 927411 www.irishhorseriding.com
Clonlara Equestrian Centre, Clonlara	061 354172 www.clonlaraequestrian.com

Limerick

Boskil Equestrian Centre, Caherconlish	085 7673468 www.limerickhorseriding.com
Clarina Equestrian Centre, Clarina House, Clarina	061 353087 / 087 2479965 www.clarinaequestriancentre.com
Clonshire Equestrian Centre, Adare	061 396770 www.clonshire.com

Ask our Travel Advisors for a comprehensive listing of "Whats On" in the local area!



Curlews Horseman, Boyle, Co Roscommon. Credit: Richard Thorn

FAMILY FUN



Family Fun

In the Lakelands, enjoyment comes naturally to all, due in part to the abundance of stimulating and educational things to do.

There's plenty of water-based activities on offer so whether it's cruising, sailing, water-skiing, canoeing, kayaking or wind surfing, the tuition is easily accessible. If you're intent on keeping your feet dry, we have leisure centres, visitor attractions and outdoor activity hubs that are worth exploring.

Children always enjoy a visit to pet farms and we have a number for you to choose from. Well-equipped playgrounds are scattered around the region - ideal for burning off some of that excess energy.

Festivals are run throughout most of the year here and while not all cater specifically for children many have aspects that are especially tailored for them.

It may come as a surprise but the Lakelands sometimes has inclement weather - the wind has been known to blow and the rain to fall! In spite of this your holiday fun shouldn't come to an end as there's plenty to do indoors too. From indoor sports and play areas, from historical houses and museums, the whole family can be entertained all day, whatever the weather.

A range of options for families are listed on a county by county basis on the following pages. You can also check out the various Visitor Attractions in each county, which are detailed from pages 8 to 97. A full listing of Adventure & Water Sports can also be found on pages 98 to 105.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre /Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

www.waterwaysireland.org



Canoeing alongside King Johns Castle, Limerick City



Canoeing on the River Erne, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh

Family Fun

NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT DETAILS	DESCRIPTION
Fermanagh		
Bawnacre Centre, Irvinestown	+44 (0)28 6862 1177 www.bawnacrecentre.com	Tennis & Leisure facilities. New 3G playing pitch available.
Fermanagh Lakeland Forum, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 4121 www.lakelandforum.com	Get fit at the forum-full range of facilities available
IMC Cinemas, Enniskillen	+44 (0)871 7200400 www.imccinemas.ie	Cinema
Johnny Rocko's, Irvinestown	+44 (0)28 6862 1115	10 Pin Bowling Alley, Kids Go Karts, Soft Play Area & American Style Diner.
Share Fitness, Lisnaskea	+44 (0)28 6772 2122 www.sharevillage.org	Share Fitness-state of the art leisure suite

Monaghan

GR8, Castleblayney	042 9749955 www.gr8entertainment.ie	10 pin bowling, Laser Tag, F1 racing and indoor play area & astro turf
Monaghan Leisure Centre, Monaghan	047 81734 www.coralleisure.ie	Leisure centre & fitness studio
Planet Kidz, Monaghan Town	047 75830	Indoor children's soft play centre
Play Parks Lough Muckno & Clones		Outdoor play areas for kids
Sam Moore Open Farm, Threemilehouse	047 57397 / 086 2322601	It combines unusual animals, nature walks and vintage displays.
The Diamond Screen Cinema, Monaghan Town	047 84755 www.diamondmonaghan.com	Cinema
Wildlife & Heritage Centre, Clontibret	047 80632 www.wildlifeandheritage.com	A unique opportunity to see 'close up' many rare and beautiful species of Irish wildlife

Cavan

Astra Bowl, Cavan Town	049 4372662 www.astrabowl.ie	6 full length bowling lanes with fully automatic scoring & kids bumper
Bailieborough Swimming Pool & Leisure Centre, Bailieborough	042 9666644 www.bailieboroughleisurecentre.com	Gym, 20m swimming pool, kiddie's pool, steam room, Jacuzzi
Bear Essentials & Silver Bear centre, Bawnboy	049 9523461 www.bear essentials.ie	Teddy bear gift shop & showroom with tours & workshops
Cavan Burren Park, Blacklion	www.marblearchcavesgeopark.com	Prehistoric park with visitor centre and four walking trails
Cavan County Museum & WW1 Trench Experience, Ballyjamesduff	www.cavanmuseum.ie	Museum with playground, walk, gardens, tea rooms & trenches
Cavan Swimming & Leisure Complex, Drumalee	049 4362888	Swimming & Sports Hall
Dun a Ri Forest Park Kingscourt	www.coillteoutdoors.ie	Forest park with walking trails & multi-access path & sculpture trail
Killinkere Pet Farm, Virginia	087 2596890 E: Killinkerevisitorfarm@yahoo.ie	Visit a traditional working farm



Hodson Bay, Athlone, Co Roscommon



Newcastle Woods, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism

Killykeen Forest Park Cavan	www.coillteoutdoors.ie	Lake & forest walks inc. multi-access path, picnic tables
Koolkids Children's Play Centre, Cavan Town	:049 4372388 www.koolkids.ie	Indoor Play Centre
Odeon Cinema, Cavan Town	www.odeoncinema.ie	Cinema

Leitrim

Aura Leitrim Leisure, Carrick-on-Shannon	:071 9671771 www.auraleisure.ie	Family leisure centre
Carrick Cineplex, Carrick-on-Shannon	:071 9672000 www.carrickcineplex.ie	4 screen cinema
Fenagh Heritage Centre & Monk's Play Den, Fenagh	:071 9645590 www.fenagh.com	Includes soft play area
Glenview Folk Museum, Ballinamore	:071 9644157 www.glenview-house.com/glenview-museum	Private collection of more than 7,000 antique, historical and novel items from pre-famine to recent past
Kidz Kingdom & bowling, Carrick-on-Shannon	:071 9621605 www.mulveystoys.com	Bowling, Sumo Wrestling, F1 Go Karting & 3D multi level play centre

Roscommon

Arigna Mining Experience, Arigna	:071 9646466 www.arignaminingexperience.ie	Guided mine tours
Glendear Open Pet Farm, Drum, Athlone	:090 6437147 www.glendearpetfarm.ie	Pet farm & indoor play area
Lough Key Boat Tours, Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	:086 0846849 www.loughkeyboats.com	Boat tours of Lough Key
Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	:071 9673122 www.loughkey.ie	A cluster of unique attractions set in 350 hectares of mixed woodland
Roscommon Leisure Zone, Roscommon Town	:090 6634372 www.roscommonleisurezone.ie	Bowling, Sports Hall, Play Centre, Diner
Tullyboy Farm, Boyle	:071 9668031 www.tullyboyfarm.com	Real working pet farm
Zipit Forest Adventures, Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, Boyle	:091 9662893 www.zipit.ie	Zip lines, rope bridges, Tarzan swings and climbing walls

Longford

Longford Swimming Pool, Longford Town	:043 3346536 www.longfordsportsandleisure.ie	Swimming pool
Mega Bowls, Longford Town	:043 3347643	Bowling & activity centre
Octopus Kidz Imaginary and Sensory Experience, Longford	:043 3336082 www.octopuskidz.ie	Ten fun filled play areas
Omniplex Longford	:1520 444000 www.omniplex.ie	Cinema

Westmeath

Athlone Castle Visitor Centre, Athlone	:090 6442130 www.athloneartandheritage.ie	8 interactive exhibition spaces that's fun for kids
Athlone Little Theatre	:090 64 74324 www.littletheatre.ie	Theatre
Athlone Regional Sports Centre, Athlone	:090 6470975 www.athlonesportscentre.ie	Children's pool, activity centre
Belvedere House, Mullingar	:044 9349060 www.belvedere-house.ie	Season events & activities for children
Dean Crowe Theatre, Athlone	:090 6492129 www.deancrowetheatre.com	Theatre
IMC Athlone	:090 64 76655 www.imc.ie	Cinema
IMC Mullingar	:044 9385800 www.imc.ie	Cinema
Jump for Joy, Athlone	:090 6498450 www.jump4joy.ie	Indoor activities
Kidz & Co. Activity Centre, Mullingar	:044 9345366 www.kidzandco.ie	Activity centre

Kingdom of Sports, Mullingar	:044 9313000 www.kingdomofsports.ie	10 sports in self contained sections
Krazy Kids Fun Factory, Athlone	:090 6486882 www.krazykids.ie	Activity centre
Mollie Moos, Tudenham, Mullingar	:087 7188880	Pet farm and outdoor activities
Mullingar Arts Centre	:044 9347777 www.mullingarartscentre.ie	Theatre
Mullingar Swimming Pool, Mullingar	:044 9340262 www.westmeathcoco.ie	Swimming pool
Pollard Karting, Castlepollard	:087 1266213 www.pollardkarting.com	Indoor karting
Rock N Bowl & Jungle Joe's, Mullingar	:044 9333300 www.rocknbowlie	Bowling & activity centre
The Planet Entertainment Centre, Athlone	:090 6494766 www.planetathlone.ie	Bowling, quasar, games

Offaly

Aura Leisure Centre, Tullamore	:057 9329392 www.auraleisure.ie	Swimming pool
Belmont Mills & Artist Studios, Belmont	:090 64 57598 www.belmontmill.com	Crafts/children's activities
Birr Castle Demesne, Birr	:057 9120336 www.birrcastle.com	Off road walking, children's play area & café
Birr Leisure Centre, Birr	:057 9120343 www.birrleisurecentre.ie	Swimming pool
Birr Outdoor Education Centre, Roscrea Road, Birr	:057 9120029 www.birroec.ie	Outdoor activities
Clara Bog Visitor Centre, Clara	:057 9368878 Find us on Facebook!	Family friendly visitor centre
IMC Tullamore	:0818 719719 www.imc.ie	Cinema
Jumpin' Jacks, Tullamore	:057 9322453 www.jumpinjacks.ie	Activity centre
Lough Boora Parklands, Boora, near Cloghan	:057 9345978 www.loughbooraparklands.com	Family friendly off road walking, cycling

Galway

Dartfield Horse Museum & Riding Centre, Kilreekil, Loughrea	:091 843968 www.dartfield.com	Horse museum with activities for children
Pallas Karting, Paintball & Zorbing, Tynagh	:090 9745147 www.pallaskarting.com	500m beginners track, 1500 metre advanced track, plus Paintballing and Zorbing facility
The Fairy Walks, Loughrea	Find us on Facebook	Walks for children / families
The Fun Shack, Loughrea	:087 2467676 www.funshackplaycentre.com	Indoor play centre and activities
Turoe Pet Farm, Bullaun, Loughrea	:091 841580 www.turoepetfarm.com	Pet farm and indoor play area

Tipperary

Fairyfort Farm, Summerhill, Borrisoleigh	:086 4021659 www.fairyfortfarm.com	Traditional style animal farm
Fairymount Farm, Ballingarry, Roscrea	:067 21139 www.fairymountfarm.com	Walking trails through 450 acre farmland & new mountain bike trails
Fishing for Kids, Killaloe/Ballina	:086 7856633 www.fishingforkids.ie	Teaching kids through fishing
IMC, Slievenamon Road, Thurles	:0504 26422 www.imccinemas.ie	5 screen cinema

Lar Na Pairce - The Story of the Gaelic Games, Slievenamon Road, Thurles	0504 22702 www.larnapairce.ie	Interpretative centre of Gaelic games
Pallas Hill Open Farm, The Ragg, Thurles	087 2909688 www.pallashill.ning.com	Friendly open farm and adventure playground
Tearaways Pet Farm & Activity Centre, Rathcabbin	057 913 9081 www.tearaways.ie	Pet farm with indoor and outdoor activities
The Ku ee tu, Calista, Dromineer	067 24295	42 foot - 53 seater water bus

Clare

Aistear Park, Mounshannon	www.aistear-iniscealtra.com	4.5 acres unique park which includes a maze. Free.
Atlantic Airventure, Shannon	061 363687 www.atlanticairventure.com	The ultimate thrill for flight enthusiasts
Ballymorris Pottery, Cratloe	061 357118 www.ballymorrispottery.ie	Clay parties & events for all ages. Make & decorate your own piece.
Bunratty Castle & Folk Park, Bunratty	061 360788 www.ShannonHeritage.com	Step back in time and discover Ireland's fascinating past
Craggaunowen - The Living Past, Quin	061 360788 www.ShannonHeritage.com	Award winning prehistoric park
Fishing for Kids, Ballina/Killaloe	086 7856633 www.fishingforkids.ie	Teaching kids through fishing
Irish Seedsavers, Capparoe, Scarriff	061 921856 / 921866 www.irishseedsavers.ie	20 acres of beautiful organic heritage seed gardens and weekend workshops
Lakeside Holiday Park, Mounshannon	061 927225 www.lakesideireland.com	Motor boats, row boats, kayaks, swimming, fishing, table tennis, football and tennis
Shannon Leisure Centre, Shannon	061 361841 www.shannonleisurecentre.ie	Swimming, gyms, playground, tennis, climbing wall.
UL Sport Adventure Centre, Killaloe	061 376622 www.ulac.ie	Offering land and water based adventure activities

Limerick

Buttercup Farm, Ballygrennan, Croom	061 397556 www.Buttercupfarm.ie	Share the fun of an old style farming tradition
Curraghchase Forest Park, Kilcornan	087 9955363 www.coillteoutdoors.ie	Discover the great outdoors
Delta Lazer & Adventure City, Delta Retail Park, Limerick	061 423994 www.adventurecity.ie	Ireland's biggest & best children's activity centre
Fun World, Ennis Road, Limerick City	061 325088 www.funworld.ie	Arcade games, pool, snooker and bowling
Kilcornan Karting, Kilcornan	061 393733 www.limerickkarting.com	The ultimate karting experience
Limerick Omniplex (Cinema), Dooradoyle	061 305020 www.omniplex.ie	Twelve-screen cinema complex
Odeon Cinema, Castletroy Shopping Centre	1520 880 000 www.odeoncinemas.ie	8 Screen cinema complex
Red Viking Bus Tour, Limerick	061 394033 www.redvikingtours.com	Guided bus tours of Limerick City and county
Rollerjam, Ballysimon Road, Limerick City	061 422500 www.rollerjam.ie	Indoor skating rink
Ryans Honey Farm, Pallasgreen	062 57147	Discover how honey is made
Showtime Cinema, Ennis Rd, Limerick City	061 329288 www.showtimecinema.ie	Multi-Screen Cinema
Stonehall Visitor Farm, Curraghchase, Kilcornan	061 393940 www.stonehallvisitorfarm.com	Experience the enjoyment & fun of a wide variety of animals
Tons of Fun Children's Activity Centre, Eastway Business Park, Ballysimon Road, Limerick	061 431141 www.tonsoffun.ie	Indoor activity centre for kids

FOOD AND CULINARY



Food & Culinary

If you're looking for gourmet dining or good value, the Lakelands Region has options to suit all tastes and budgets.

Cafés

Found in most towns and villages and generally open from 9am to 6pm with some having longer opening hours. Serving homemade baking, tea, coffee, other hot drinks and sweet and savoury snacks.

Restaurants

Locally sourced ingredients and produce make dining out a memorable experience. Many open for lunch, some operate an Early Bird menu, and the majority have last sittings around 9pm. Most are family friendly and offer Kids menus.

Pubs

Some pubs will offer tasty breakfast, lunch and dinner. Last orders for food is usually no later than 8 or 9pm.

Deli Counters & Take-Aways

Deli Counters are found in most convenience stores and supermarkets, offering freshly made sandwiches, rolls, wraps as well as some hot food. Take-Aways are found in most towns and usually open late.

Farmers' & Country Markets

Browse and sample some of the finest local produce in the Lakelands. See listing on following pages.

Useful Info...

- Watch out for Early Bird menus between 5pm - 7pm, these provide great value for money.
- Awards and recommendations from organisations such as The Bridgestone Guide, Bord Bia, The Michelin Guide and the Georgina Campbell Guide are marks of quality and prestige.
- Tipping in restaurants is usually between 10%-15%.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre /Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

www.bordbia.ie

Farmers' & Country Markets

County Fermanagh

Enniskillen Farmers' Food Market,

Tesco Car Park, Enniskillen. Saturday 9am - 1.30pm

County Monaghan

Carrickmacross Market,

Main St., Carrickmacross. Thursday 9am-6pm

Monaghan Farmers' Market,

In front of the Courthouse, Monaghan Town. Fridays 10am- 2pm.

County Cavan

Belturbet Farmers' Market,

McGowan's Garden. Fridays, 3pm - 6pm.

Cavan Farmers' Market,

McCarran's, Farnham Road, Cavan Town. Saturdays, 9am - 2pm.

Cavan Town Farmers' Market,

The Egg Market, Connolly Street. Friday 10am - 2pm.

County Leitrim

Carrick-on-Shannon Farmers' Market,

Market Yard Centre. Thursdays, 10am - 2pm.

County Roscommon

Boyle Farmers' Market,

Grounds of King House, Boyle. Saturday, 10am - 2pm.

Roscommon Farmers' Market,

Market Square, Roscommon Town. Every Friday 10am - 2pm.

Strokestown Traditional Market,

Church St, Strokestown. Fridays, 9am - 2pm.

County Longford

Longford Market,

Market Square, Longford Town. Fridays 9.30am - 2pm.

Granard Country Market,

Town Hall, Main Street, Granard. Fridays 8.30am - 11am

County Westmeath

Athlone Co-Op Farmers Market, St. Marys Parish Hall, Northgate Street, Fridays 10am - 3pm.

Athlone Food and Village Market, Athlone Town Centre (beside Civic Centre), Saturdays 9am-5pm.

Ballynacargy Country Market, Parish Hall, Ballynacargy Village, Friday 10am-12pm.

Brosna Indoor Market, Industrial Estate, Mullingar, Saturdays 10am-6pm.

Moate Farmers Market, Main St., Moate, Saturdays 10am-2pm.

County Offaly

Clara Sunday Market & Car Boot Sale, 8am-4pm.

Edenderry Indoor Market, Granary Court, Thursdays and Fridays 10am-5pm.

Edenderry Farmers Market & Crafts Fair, Mangans, Sundays 10am-3pm.

Rahan Farmers Market, Rahan Community Centre, Saturdays 10am-2pm.

Tullamore Car Boot Sale & Market, Tullamore Texas car park, Sundays 9am-4pm

County Galway

Ballinasloe Farmers' Market, Croffys Centre, Main Street, Ballinasloe. Fridays from 9am - 2pm.

Loughrea Farmers' Market, Barrack St., Thursdays from 9am - 2pm.

Portumna Farmers' Market, Town Hall. Fridays from 8.30am - 12.30pm.

County Tipperary

Nenagh Farmers' Market, Quintins Way, Nenagh. Saturdays 10am - 3pm.

Thurles Farmers' Market, Greyhound Stadium, Thurles. Saturdays 9.30am -12.30pm.

County Clare

Killaloe Farmers' Market, Killaloe. Sundays 11am - 3pm.

Mountshannon Farmers Market, Main Street, Saturdays 11am - 3pm.

County Limerick

Limerick Milk Market, Cornmarket Row, Limerick City. Fridays (10am - 3pm), Saturdays (8am - 3pm) & Sundays (11am - 3pm).

University of Limerick Farmers Market, Castleconnell, Limerick city, every Tuesday 12pm - 5pm.

GARDENS



Gardens

Ireland has developed a global status among gardening buffs for the excellence of our gardens.

Rain and soft sunshine combine to make ideal conditions for the creation of magnificent and magical gardens in the Lakelands, and thus allows an extraordinary array of flowers, shrubs and trees to flourish in the region.

The gardens here vary in size and style. From large formal gardens which provide hours of enjoyment, to the smaller more intimate gardens that may only be open to visitors at certain times of the year. There are wonderful gardens to visit across the Lakelands. Each garden has its own individual story to tell which we trust you will discover and enjoy.

Please note that some of the gardens are strictly by appointment so it is advisable to make contact with the Garden prior to your visit.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre /Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com



Orchard Acre Farm, Co Fermanagh

Gardens

NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Fermanagh	
Castle Archdale Country Park, Walks & Gardens, Lisnarick, Irvinestown	+44 (0)28 6862 1588 www.doeni.gov.uk/niea
Castle Coole National Trust House, Walks & Gardens, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 2690 www.nationaltrust.org.uk
Crom Estate National Trust, Walks & Nature Conservation Site, Newtownbutler	+44 (0)28 6773 8118 www.nationaltrust.org.uk
Florence Court National Trust House, Walks & Gardens, Florence Court	+44 (0)28 6634 8249 www.nationaltrust.org.uk
Garden of the Celtic Saints, Irvinestown	
Orchard Acre Farm Organic Garden (contact for opening times), Lisnarick, Irvinestown	+44 (0)28 6862 1066 www.orchardacrefarm.co.uk
Rose Isle Garden, Belleek	+44 (0)28 6865 9300 www.belleek.ie
Monaghan	
Hilton Park Victorian Gardens, Clones	+44 (0)28 6607 56007 www.hiltonpark.ie (Group bookings by appointment only)
Cavan	
Corravahan House & Gardens, Ballyhaise	+44 (0)28 6607 9772224 www.corravahan.com
Roscommon	
Castlecoote House & Gardens, Castlecoote	+44 (0)28 6607 090 6663794 www.castlecootehouse.com
Strokestown Park House & Gardens, Strokestown	+44 (0)28 6607 071 9633013 www.strokestownpark.ie



Hilton Park Gardens, Co Monaghan

Westmeath

Belvedere House, Gardens & Park, Mullingar	:044 9349060 www.belvedere-house.ie
Tullynally Castle Gardens, Castlepollard	:044 9661159 www.tullynallycastle.com

Offaly

Ballindoolin House and Gardens, Edenderry	:046 9731430 www.ballindoolin.com
Bellfield House Gardens, Shinrone	:0505 47766 www.angelajupe.ie
Birr Castle Gardens and Science Centre, Birr	:057 9120336 www.birrcastle.com

Galway

Portumna Castle & Gardens, Portumna	:090 9741658 www.heritageireland.ie
Woodville House Walled Garden, Kilchreest	:087 9069191 www.woodvillwalledgarden.com

Tipperary

Castletown Glebe Garden, Portroe	:067 23318
Fancroft Mill and Gardens, Roscrea	:0505 31484 www.fancroft.ie
Rathurles Gardens, Rathurles, Nenagh	:086 8079763 www.loughderggardens.com
St Mary's Garden of Remembrance, Thurles	:0504 21651
Turtulla Garden, Thurles	:0504 21839

Clare

Bunratty Castle Gardens, Bunratty	:061 360788 www.shannonheritage.com
Irish Seed Savers Association, Scariff	:061 921866, www.irishseedsavers.ie
Knappogue Castle Gardens, Quin	:061 360788 www.shannonheritage.com
Lough Derg Garden Trail, Lough Derg	:086 8079763 www.loughderggardens.com

Ask our Travel Advisors for a comprehensive listing of "Whats On" in the local area!



Birr Castle Gardens & Science Centre, Co Offaly



Strokestown Park House & Gardens, Co Roscommon

GOLF



Golf

Golf is a way of life here in the Lakelands. This is reflected in the diversity of the golf courses in the region.

Glasson G.C. designed by Christy O'Connor Jnr., Mullingar G. C. designed by James Braid and the Faldo Course @ Lough Erne stand high on the list of championship golf courses in Ireland.

Approved Golf Clubs



Whenever you see this symbol you can be assured this golf club is committed to delivering high quality services and facilities. Ireland is the first country to set up a nationwide approval scheme for golf courses.

This scheme was launched by Fáilte Ireland in 2010 to navigate consumers towards an excellent Irish golfing experience.

Visit: www.discoverireland.ie/golf for current listings

But there are plenty more golf courses to choose from in the Lakelands. Each one of them offers a unique and individual experience. The temperate climate here means that golfers can enjoy their sport almost all year round. The main summer season runs from April to October, but the exhilaration of winter golf is a special experience.

You will discover that there is an engaging quirkiness about the way the game is played here. Golfers will be eager to engage you in their sense of the game and ask you 'what are ye havin' in the 19th. Go with it, relax and enjoy - in the Lakelands, golf is both exciting and different and, in a word... SUPERB!

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre /Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie/golf

www.fermanaghlakelands.com



Lough Erne Resort, Co Fermanagh



County Longford Golf Club, Longford Town. Credit: Longford Tourism

Golf

NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT DETAILS	HOLES
Fermanagh		
Castle Hume Golf Club, Belleek Road, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 7077 www.castlehumegolf.com	18
Enniskillen Golf Club, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 5250 www.enniskillengolfclub.com	18
The Faldo Course at Lough Erne Resort, Belleek Road, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 3230 www.loughernereresort.com	18
Monaghan		
Clones Golf Club, Clones	047 56017 www.clonesgolfclub.com	18
Concra Woods Castleblaney Golf Club, Castleblaney	042 9749485 www.concrawood.ie	18
Mannan Castle Golf Club, Carrickmacross	042 9663308 www.mannancastlegolfclub.ie	18
Nuremore Hotel and Country Club, Carrickmacross	042 9671368 www.nuremore.com	18
Rossmore Golf Club, Cootehill Rd, Monaghan Town	047 71222 www.rossmoregolfclub.ie	18
Cavan		
Belturbet Golf Club, Old Cavan Road, Belturbet	049 9522287 www.belturbetgolfclub.com	9
Blacklion Golf Club, Toan, Blacklion	071 9853024 www.blackliongolf.com	9
Cabra Castle Golf Club, Kingscourt	042 9667030 www.cabracastle.com	9
Co. Cavan Golf Club, Armmore House Drumelis	049 4331541 www.cavangolf.ie	18
Radisson Blu Farnham Estate Golf Club, Farnham Estate	049 4377700 www.farnhamestate.com	18
Slieve Russell Hotel Golf & Country Club, Ballyconnell	049 9526444 www.slieverussell.ie	18
Virginia Golf Club, Virginia	049 8548066 www.virginiagolfclub.ie	9
Leitrim		
Ballinamore Golf Club, Ballinamore	071 9644346	9
Carrick On Shannon Golf Club, Carrick-on-Shannon	071 9667015 www.carrickgolfclub.ie	18

Roscommon

Athlone Golf Club, Hodson Bay, Athlone	090 6492073 www.athlonegolfclub.ie	18
Ballaghaderreen Golf Club, Aughalustia, Ballaghaderreen	094 9860295 www.ballaghaderreengolfclub.com	9
Boyle Golf Club, Knockadoobrusna, Boyle	087 7760161 www.discoverireland.ie/golf	9
Castlereagh Golf Club, Clonalis, Castlereagh	094 9620068 www.castlereaghgolfclub.com	9
Roscommon Golf Club, Mote Park, Roscommon	090 6626382 www.roscommongolfclub.ie	18
Strokestown Golf Club, Bumlin, Strokestown	071 9633660 www.strokestowngolfclub.com	9

Longford

County Longford Golf Club, Dublin Road, Longford Town	043 3346310 www.countylongfordgolfclub.com	18
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Westmeath

Ballinlough Castle Golf Club, Clonmellon	087 2444892 www.ballinloughcastle.com	18
Delvin Castle Golf Club, Delvin	044 9664315 www.delvincastlegc.com	18
Glasson Golf Club, Glasson	090 6485120 www.glassongolfhotel.ie	18
Moate Golf Club, Aghanargit, Moate	090 6481271 www.moategolfclub.ie	18
Mount Temple Golf & Country Club, Mount Temple, Moate	090 6481841 www.mounttemplegolfclub.com	18
Mullingar Golf Club, Belvedere, Mullingar	044 9348366 www.mullingargolfclub.com	18
New Forest Golf Club, Higginstown, Tyrellspass	044 9221100 www.newforest.ie	18

Offaly

Birr Golf Club, The Glens, Birr	057 9120082 www.birrgolfclub.com	18
Castle Barna Golf Club, Daingean	057 9353384 www.castlebarna.ie	18
Edenderry Golf Club, Edenderry	046 9731072 www.edenderrygolfclub.ie	18
Esker Hills Golf Club, Tullamore	057 9355999 www.eskerhillsgolf.com	18
Tullamore Golf Club, Tullamore	057 9321439 www.tullamoregolfclub.ie	18

Galway

Ballinasloe Golf Club, Rossgloss, Ballinasloe	090 9642126 www.ballinasloegolfclub.ie	18
Curra West, Kylebrack, Loughrea	090 9745121 www.currawest.com	18
Loughrea Golf Club, Graigue, Loughrea	091 841049 www.loughreagolfclub.com	18
Oldthort Golf Course, Tynagh Rd, Portumna	090 9741123 www.oldthortgolf.com	9
Portumna Golf Club, Ennis Road, Portumna	090 9741059 www.portumnagolfclub.ie	18

Tipperary

Nenagh Golf Club, Beechwood, Nenagh	067 31476 www.nenaghgolfclub.com	18
Roscrea Golf Club, Derryvale, Dublin Road, Roscrea	0505 21130 www.roscreagolfclub.ie	18
Templemore Golf Club, Manna South, Templemore	0504 31400 www.templemoregolfclub.ie	9
Thurles Golf Club, Turtulla, Thurles	0504 21983 www.thurlesgolfclub.com	18

Clare

Clonlara Golf & Leisure Club, Clonlara	061 354141 www.discoverireland.ie/golf	12
East Clare Golf Club, Bodyke	061 921322 www.eastclare.com	18
Shannon Golf Club, Shannon	061 471849 www.shannongolfclub.ie	18

Limerick

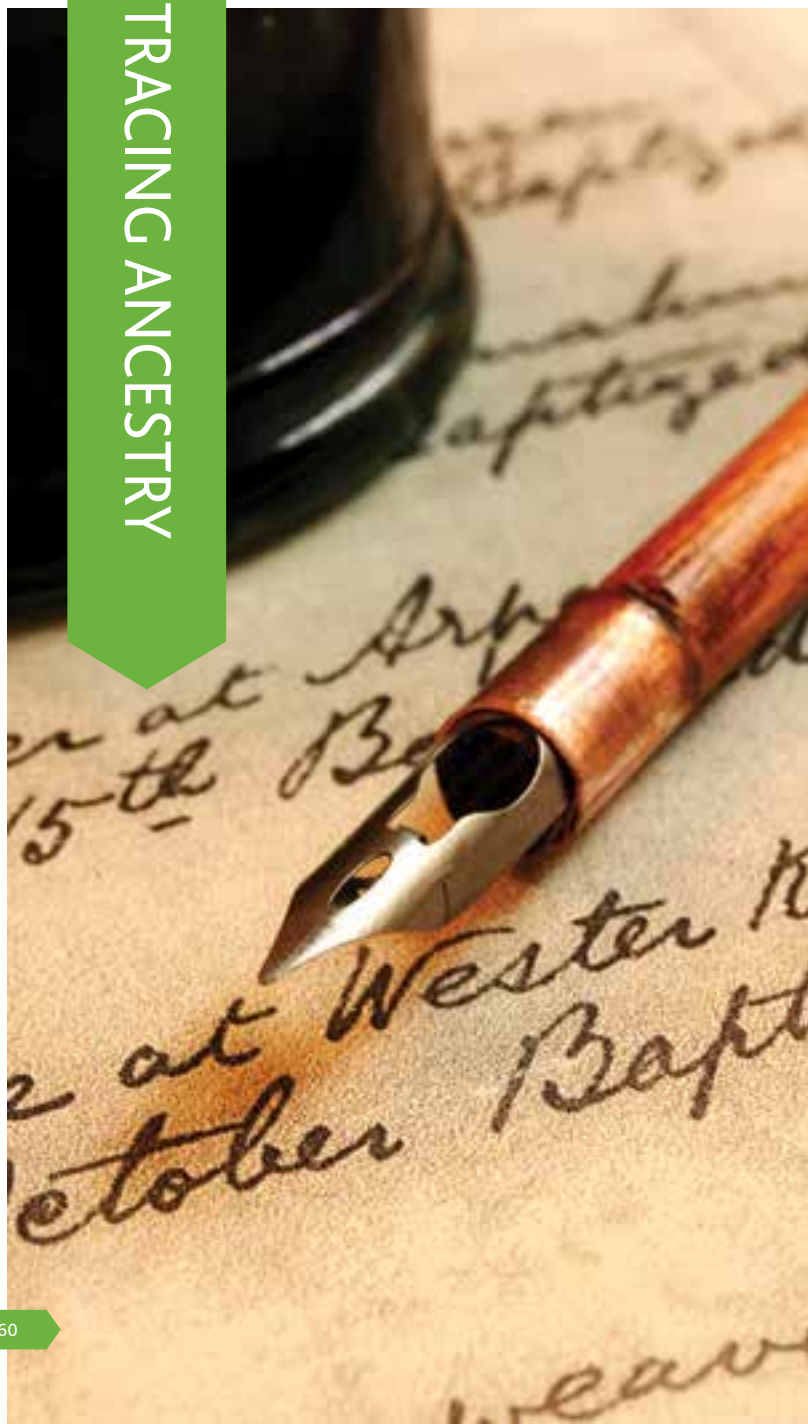
Adare Manor Golf Club, Adare	061 605200 www.adaremanor.com	18
Castletroy Golf Club, Castletroy	061 335753 www.castletroygolfclub.ie	18
Limerick Golf Club, Ballyclough	061 415146 www.limerickgolfclub.ie	18
Rathbane Golf Club, Rathbane	061 313655 www.rathbanegolfclub.com	18

Ask our Travel Advisors for a comprehensive listing of "Whats On" in the local area!



Adare Manor Golf Club, Co Limerick

TRACING ANCESTRY



Tracing Ancestry

With around 80 million people around the world claiming Irish ancestry, why not take the opportunity to track down your own Irish heritage?

Perhaps you will discover Irish roots you never knew existed and you may even be able to lay claim to the Irish Government's Official Certificate of Irish Heritage!

www.heritagecertificate.com

Resources in the Lakelands

Fermanagh - Irish World Heritage Centre, 51 Dungannon Road, Coalisland, Co Tyrone. Tel: +44(0)28 87746065, Email: info@irish-world.com

Monaghan - County Library, Clones (Caitriona Lennon)
Tel: 047 74713, Email: clennon@monaghancoco.ie

Cavan - Cavan Genealogy, Johnston Central Library, Farnham St, Cavan Town
Tel: 049 4361094, Email: cavangenealogy@eircom.net

Leitrim - Leitrim Genealogy Centre, Ballinamore
Tel: 071 9644012, Email: info@leitrimroots.com

Longford - Longford Genealogy, 17 Dublin Street, Longford Town
Tel: 043 41235, Email: longroot@iol.ie

Roscommon - Roscommon Heritage and Genealogical Company, Church St, Strokestown. Tel: 071 9633380, Email: info@roscommonroots.com

Westmeath - Dun na Si Heritage Centre, Knockdowney, Moate
Tel: 090 6481183, Email: dunnasimoate@eircom.net

Galway - East Galway Family History Society, Woodford Heritage Centre, Woodford. Tel: 090 9749309, Email: galwayroots@eircom.net

Offaly - Irish Midlands Ancestry, Bury Quay, Tullamore
Tel: 057 9321421. Email: info@offalyhistory.com

Tipperary - North Tipperary Genealogy Centre, The Governor's House, Kickham St, Nenagh. Tel: 067 33850, Email: tipperarynorthgenealogy@eircom.net

Limerick - Limerick Genealogy, Lissanalta House, Dooradoyle
Tel: 061 496542, Email: research@limerickgenealogy.com

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre / Tourist Office or visit the following websites:

www.rootsireland.ie

www.nationalarchives.ie

www.nli.ie

www.groireland.ie

WALKING & CYCLING



Walking & Cycling

The rivers, lakes, loughs and waterways of the Lakelands offer serenity and tranquillity as opposed to the hustle and bustle of modern day life.

An alternative way to discover and explore the region is to put on your walking boots or fasten on your helmet and head off for a ramble or cycle around the area. Travelling around the Lakelands you will become aware of the real sense of community spirit that is prevalent in the towns and villages of the region. You are struck by the greenness of the countryside, but it's the feeling of calm and the silence of this impressive region that you will never forget. It is no wonder that many visitors return to the Lakelands year after year 'to get away from it all'.

There is no better way to get away from it all and immerse oneself in the culture and spirit of the Lakelands, than by walking. The region has a variety of walks to suit all ages and abilities. These walks range from mountain trails, way marked ways, looped walks, waterside walks, bog and forest walks and strolls along level ground.

Cycling is also an excellent way to get off the beaten track to explore and discover the Lakelands. There are numerous cycling trails, tours and loops in the region that will suit all levels of athletic prowess or just the social cyclist.

Please see the listing of walking, cycling and tour guide operators for the Lakelands in the following pages.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre / Tourist Office or visit:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

www.waterwaysireland.org

Way Marked Ways

NAME	START POINT	END POINT	LENGTH (KM)
Fermanagh			
Cuilcagh Way	Claddagh Bridge	Claddagh Bridge	33
Sliabh Beagh Way	Aughnacloy	Lisnaskea	50
Ulster Way (3 Quality Sections in Fermanagh)	Aughnacloy	Lisnaskea	128.6 (approx.)
	Florececourt	Belcoo (incl. Cuilcagh way)	
	Belcoo	Belleek	
Monaghan			
Monaghan Way	Monaghan Town	Inishkeen	56.5
Cavan			
Cavan Way	Dowra	Blacklion	22
Leitrim			
Miner's & Historical Way (2 Loops)	Arigna	Dowra	118
Roscommon			
Miners Way & Historical Trail	Arigna	Dowra	118
Suck Valley Way	Castlereia	Castlereia	105
Longford			
Royal Canal Way	Dublin	Abbeysrule	144
Westmeath			
The Royal Canal Way	Dublin	Mullingar	77
The Westmeath Way	Kilbeggan	Mullingar	33
Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway	Killucan	Coolnahay	32.3
Galway			
Hymany Way	Portumna Bridge	Ballygar	90
Offaly			
Sieve Bloom Way	Trailheads: Glenbarrow, Clonaslee, Cadamstown, Kinnitty, Glenafelly and Monicknew Forest	Trailheads: Glenbarrow, Clonaslee, Cadamstown, Kinnitty, Glenafelly and Monicknew Forest	84
The Grand Canal Way	Dublin	Shannon Harbour, Offaly	114
The Offaly Way	Cadamstown	Lemanaghan	29

Tipperary

Lough Derg Way	Limerick City	Dromineer	68
Slieve Felim Way	Murroe	Silvermines	43

Clare

East Clare Way	Killaloe	Killaloe	180
Lough Derg Way	Limerick City	Dromineer	68
Mid Clare Way	Newmarket on Fergus	Newmarket on Fergus	148

Limerick

Lough Derg Way	Limerick City	Dromineer	68
Slieve Felim Way	Murroe	Silvermines	43



Cycling in Tipperary. Credit: Tipperary County Council



Edenmore Bog Walk, Co Longford. Credit: Longford Tourism

Walking Operators

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS	DESCRIPTION
Fermanagh		
Blue Badge Tours, Irvinestown	+44 (0)28 6862 1430	History walks
Bryan Gallagher, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 3336	History walks
Erne Heritage Tour Guides, Belleek	+44 (0)7855 325693	History walks
Ian McCutcheon, St Angelo Airport, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 9900 info@lakelandtours.co.uk	History/Walking tours of Enniskillen
Trevor Thornton, Walking West	+44 (0)28 6864 1071	Walking Tours
Cavan		
Blue Damsel Discovery, Heather Bothwell, Killeshandra	087 6699681 heatherbothwell@eircom.net	Guided nature walks suitable for adults and accompanied children.
Roscommon		
Philip Walking, Frenchpark	086 335 3000 www.philipwalking.com	Hill walking guide for North Roscommon, Leitrim & Sligo
Rathcroghan Tours, Rathcroghan	086 1779490 www.rathcroghantours.com	Tours of the archaeological sites of Rathcroghan
Wolfhound Adventure Tours, Ballymore West, Boyle	087 6665049 www.wolfhoundtours.com	Guided bicycle and walking tours
Longford		
Royal Canal Walking Tours	Michael Keenan 086 2309182	Walking Tours
Westmeath		
Boherquill Ramblers Walking Club, Boherquill	086 2596656	Walking club
Offaly		
Lough Boora Parklands, Leabeg, Tullamore	057 9345978 www.loughbooraparklands.com	50km of paths ranging from a short stroll to 5km
Slieve Bloom Walks, Kinnitty	057 9137009 www.kinnitty.com	Organised walks available all year round
Tipperary		
Walk in Ireland, Roscrea	0505 24845 / 086 3399193 www.walkinireland.com	Walking Tours
Clare		
Clare Walking Tours, Tuamgraney, Scariff	087 2686708 www.clarewalkingtours.ie	Walking tours, holidays and short breaks in East Clare
Limerick		
Angela's Ashes Walking Tour, Limerick Tourist Office, O'Connell Street	087 2351339 www.discoverireland.ie	Based on the book by Frank McCourt
Historical Limerick Walking Tour, Limerick Tourist Office, O'Connell Street	061 317522 www.discoverireland.ie	A colourful and fascinating history is evident everywhere
Limerick Civic Trust Walking Tours, Bishops Palace, Limerick City	061 313399 www.limerickcivictrust.ie	Choose from a range of great walking tours
Shannonside Walking Tours, Limerick City	087 2351339	Walking tours of Limerick City and The Burren Area.

Looped Walks

NAME	LOCATION	CATEGORY	TIME (HRS)	DIFFICULTY
Fermanagh				
Aghanaglack Walk	Ballintempo Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	4	Moderate/Difficult
Big Dog Walk	Big Dog Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	2	Moderate
Carrickreagh Viewpoint Walk	Ely Lodge Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	45 mins	Moderate
Castle Archdale Country Park	Lisnarick	Nature/History	2.5	Easy
Castle Coole	Castle Coole, Enniskillen	History	1.5	Easy
Claddagh Glen	Claddagh River	Nature	40 mins each way	Easy
Correl Glen National Nature Reserve	Lough Navar Forest	Nature	30 mins	Easy
Crom Estate	Crom Estate, Newtownbutler	Nature/History	1.5	Easy
Ely Lodge Loughshore Walk	Ely Lodge Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	30 mins	Easy
Enniskillen Town Walk	Enniskillen	History	2	Easy
Florence Court Forest	Florence Court (3 Routes - 2km, 3.5km and 8km)	Nature/History	varies	Varies
Killyfoyle Lough Roslea	Roslea	Nature	1	Easy
Killykeegan National Nature Reserve	Marl Bank Scenic Route	Nature	30 mins	Easy
Lough Formal Walk	Carrigan Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	3	Moderate
Lough Navar Forest	Lough Navar Scenic Drive	Nature	varies	Moderate
Pollnagollum Cave Walk	Belmore Forest (part of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark)	Nature	2	Moderate
Tully Castle	Tully Castle, Belleek Road	Nature/History	1	Easy
Monaghan				
Emy Lough	Emyvale	Nature	1.5	Easy
Cavan				
Ballyconnell Loop	Ballyconnell	Nature	2	Easy
Canal Loop	Ballyconnell	Nature	1.5 - 2	Easy
Castle Lakes Loop	Bailieborough	Nature	1.5	Easy
Cavan General Hospital Sli	Cavan	Urban	1	Easy
Hawkswood Loop	Swanlinbar	Nature	2	Moderate
Killeshandra Loop	Killeshandra	Nature	2	Easy
The Burren Loop	Blacklion	Nature	1	Easy
Virginia Sli	Virginia	Forest	1.5	Easy
Leitrim				
Aghacashel Loop	Aghacashel	Nature	1.5	Easy
Ballinagleragh Loop	Ballinagleragh	Nature	3	Moderate
Battlebridge Loop	Drumhauver Bridge	Canal	3	Easy
Bencroy Loop	Stralongford	Forest	6	Hard
Crummy Loop	Aghacashel	Nature	3.5	Moderate
Drumleagu Lock Loop	Drumhauver Bridge	Canal	3	Easy
St Brigid's Loop	Ballinagleragh	Nature	2.25	Easy
Tullylackan Loop	Stralongford	Forest	3.5	Moderate
Roscommon				
Cloonfad Sli	Cloonfad	Nature	1.5	Easy
Derrylahan Loop	Cloonfad	Nature	4	Easy
Derryvunny Greenwood Trail	Corrigeenroe	Nature	40 mins	Easy
Kilronan Castle - Doon Point	Ballyfarnon	Nature	40 mins	Easy
Kilronan Castle - Lake Walk	Ballyfarnon	Nature	1	Easy
Kilronan Castle - Woodland	Ballyfarnon	Nature	1.5	Easy
Knockranny Wood Loop	Keadue	Nature	20 mins	Easy
Knockvicar Bog Loop	Knockvicar	Nature	1.5	Easy
Lough Key Forest Park Sli	Boyle	Woodland	1	Easy
Lough O'Flynn Bog Loop	Ballinlough	Nature	1	Easy
Lough O'Flynn Wild Goose Bog Loop	Ballinlough	Nature	2	Easy
Mote Park - Bluebell Loop	Roscommon	Woodland	0.5	Easy

Mote Park - Crofton Trail	Roscommon	Woodland	45 mins	Easy
Rinn Duin - Castle Loop	Lecarrow	Woodland	1-1.5	Easy
Rinn Duin - Warren Point Loop	Lecarrow	Woodland	1.5	Easy
Roscommon Town & Golf Course Slí	Roscommon	Urban	0.5	Easy
Longford				
Ballinamuck Bog Walk	Ballinamuck	Nature	2	Easy
Commons North-Woodland Walk	Lanesborough	Nature	1	Easy
Edenmore Bog Walk	Edenmore	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
Longford Slí na Sláinte	Longford	Town Trail	1.15	Easy
Westmeath				
Athlone Slí na Sláinte	Athlone	Town Trail	1.5	Easy
Glasson Loop	Glasson	Nature	1	Easy
Mullaghmeen Forest Red Walk	Mullaghmeen	Nature	1.5	Easy
Mullaghmeen Forest White Walk	Mullaghmeen	Nature	2	Moderate
Mullaghmeen Forest Yellow Walk	Mullaghmeen	Nature	1	Moderate
Mullingar Slí na Sláinte	Mullingar	Town Trail	1	Easy
Galway				
Bonaveen Walking Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Woodland	2	Moderate
Forest Friendly Walking Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Woodland	0.25	Easy (Buggy & Wheelchair friendly)
Rinmaher Walking Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Woodland	2	Moderate
Woodland Walking Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Woodland	0.5	Easy
Offaly				
Birr Town Trail	Birr	Town Trail	0.5	Easy
Farmlands Loop	Lough Boora Parklands	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
Giant's Grave Loop	Cadamstown	Nature	2.5-3	Difficult
Glenafelly Eco Walk	Glenafelly	Nature	2	Moderate
Glenregan Loop	Glenregan	Nature	3	Moderate
Glinsk Castle Loop	Kinnitty	Mountain	2.5-3	Moderate
Kinnitty Castle Loop	Kinnitty	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
Knockbarron Wood Eco Walk	Kinnitty	Nature	1.5	Moderate
Mesolithic Loop	Lough Boora Parklands	Nature	2	Easy
Paul's Lane Loop	Cadamstown	Nature	2-2.5	Moderate
Sculpture Park Loop Walk	Lough Boora Parklands	Nature	1	Easy
Silver River EcoWalk Loop	Cadamstown	Nature	4	Moderate
Silver River Nature Trail Loop	Cadamstown	Nature	1.5-2	Easy
Tullamore Slí	Tullamore	Town Trail	1.5	Easy
Tipperary				
Ballyhourigan Woods Loop	Slieve Felim	Woodland trail	2.5 - 3	Moderate
Birchill Loop	Upperchurch	Nature	2-2.5	Moderate
Clare Glens Loop Walks	Clare Glens, Murroe	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
Cosan Felim Inch Loop Walk	Monroe	Nature	1.5	Easy
Devil's Bit Loop	Templemore	Mountain	1.5 - 2	Moderate
Eamonn a Chnoic Loop Walk	Upperchurch	Nature	2.5 - 3	Moderate
Glenstal Woods Loop	Slieve Felim	Nature	3-4	Moderate
Keeper Hill Trek	Slieve Felim	Woodland trail	4-4.5	Moderate
Kilcommon Pilgrim Loop Walk	Kilcommon	Nature	2 - 2.5	Moderate
Knockalough & Red Hugh Loops	Upperchurch	Nature	2-2.5	Moderate
Knockanroe Wood Loop	Silvermines	Nature	1.5 - 2	Moderate
Nenagh Slí	Nenagh	Urban	1.5	Easy
Templemore Slí	Templemore	Urban	0.5	Easy
Clare				
Ballycroum Loop	Feakle	Nature	2.5	Moderate
Ballycuggaran Loop	Killaloe	Nature	2	Strenuous
Cahermurphy Loop	Cahermurphy Forest, Flagmount	Nature	3	Moderate
Errina Canal	O'Briensbridge	Nature	2	Easy
Old Barge	O'Briensbridge	Nature	3	Moderate
Parteen Weir	O'Briensbridge	Nature	1.5	Easy
Limerick				
Ballyhourigan Woods Loop	Murroe	Nature	3	Moderate
Castletroy Slí na Sláinte	Castletroy	Urban	1	Easy
City Centre Slí na Sláinte	Limerick City	Urban	1	Easy
Clare Glens Loop	Murroe	Nature	1.5	Easy
Glenstal Woods Loop	Murroe	Nature	4	Moderate
Nature Loop	Murroe	Nature	1	Easy
Three Bridges Slí na Sláinte	Limerick City	River	1	Easy

Fáilte Ireland Walking Site: www.discoverireland.ie/walking

This website contains very comprehensive information, walks are listed by county, and there is an accompanying orientation map to show the location of the walk and its starting point. There is then a more detailed route map showing the actual route of the looped walk.

Useful Websites

National Parks & Wildlife Service: www.npws.ie

Irish Forestry Walks: www.coillteoutdoors.ie

Slí na Sláinte (Health Walks): www.irishheart.ie

Irish Trails: www.irishtrails.ie

Cycling Operators

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS	DESCRIPTION
Fermanagh		
Belleek Bicycle Hire	+44 (0) 28 6865 8181	Cycling Operators
Bicycle Hire & Touring	+44 (0) 77 8049 6969	Cycling Operators
Castle Archdale, Lisnarick	+44 (0) 28 6862 1156 www.drumhoneyholidaypark.com	Cycling operators
Corralea Activity Centre, Belcoo	+44 (0) 28 6638 6123 www.activityireland.com	Cycling operators
Finn Lough	+44 (0) 28 6863 1957 www.finnlough.com	Cycling Operators
Kinawley Cycles	+44 (0) 28 6634 9946 www.kinawleycycles.co.uk	Cycling Operators
Knockninny Marina	+44 (0) 28 6774 8590 www.knockninnyhouse.com	Cycling Operators
Lakeland Bikes, Enniskillen	+44 (0) 28 6632 2511	Cycling Operators
Manor House Marine & Cottages	+44 (0) 28 6862 8100 www.manormarine.com	Cycling Operators
WildFlower Cycling Holidays	+353 4995 23923 www.wildflowercyclingholidays.com	Cycling Operators

Monaghan

Monaghan Hire, Monaghan Road, Castleblayney	042 9740875 www.monaghanhire.com	Bike Hire
Patrick McQuaid, Knocknafubble, Emyvale	047 88108	Bike Hire

Cavan

On Yer Bike, Belturbet	049 9522219	Bike hire
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Leitrim

Electric Bike Trails, Leitrim Village	071 9623609 www.electricbiketrails.com	Bike Hire & Guided Tours
Morans Cycles, Drumshanbo	071 9641974	Bike hire, sales & repairs

Roscommon

Electric Bike Trails, Lough Key Forest & Activity Park	071 9670200 www.electricbiketrails.com	Bike Hire & Cycle Treasure Hunt
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Westmeath

Buckley Cycles, Dublin Rd, Athlone	090 6478989 www.buckleycycles.ie	Bicycle hire
DB Cycles, Magazine Rd, Athlone	090 6492280 www.dbcycles.ie	Bicycle hire

Offaly

Buckley Cycles, Tullamore	057 9352240 www.buckleycycles.ie	Bicycle hire
Lough Boora Parklands, Leabeg, Tullamore	057 9345978 www.loughbooraparklands.com	Bicycle hire and bicycle tours
Velo - The Bicycle Shop, Roscrea Road, Birr	057 9120080 www.velo.ie	Bicycle hire

Galway

Cycle Holidays Ireland, Gortanumera Portumna	www.cycleholidaysireland.com	Guided bike tours around the West of Ireland
Murray's Cycle Hire, Derryhiney, Portumna	090 9759596 www.murraysireland.com	Bicycle hire

Tipperary

Moynans, 4 Cecil Walk, Nenagh	067 31293 www.moynans.com	Bicycle hire (summer only)
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Clare

Irish Cycle Tours	066 7128733 www.irishcycletours.com	Bicycle tours
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Limerick

Coca Cola Zero Bikes, Limerick City	0818 444 477, www.bikeshare.ie	Bike rental on streets of Limerick City
Goeco Ireland, Cappamore	061 381427 www.goeco.ie	Electric & folding Bikes
Mountain Biking Club, University Of Limerick	086 3502195	Mountain biking

Cycling Routes

NAME	CONTACT DETAILS	DESCRIPTION
Fermanagh		
Castle to Castle Cycle Route, Visitor Info. Centre, Enniskillen	+44 (0)28 6632 3110 www.fermanaghomagh.com	2.5 mile signposted cycle route from Enniskillen Castle to Castle Coole National Trust
Kingfisher Cycle Trail, Sustrans Northern Ireland, Belfast	+44 (0)28 9043 4569 www.sustrans.org.uk www.kingfishercycletrail.com	300 miles of signposted cross border cycle trail through Fermanagh, Leitrim, Cavan & Monaghan
North West Trail, Sustrans Northern Ireland, Belfast	+44 (0)28 9043 4569 www.sustrans.org	200 mile circular signposted cycle route through Fermanagh, Tyrone, Leitrim, Sligo & Donegal
Sliabh Beagh, Unit 7, Roslea Enterprise Centre, Liskilly, Roslea	+44 (0)28 6775 1918 www.sliabhbeagh.org	5 challenging cycle routes varying in length from 18 miles to 37 miles.
Monaghan		
Sliabh Beagh Cycle Trails, Sliabh Beagh Tourism Centre, Knockatallon	047 89014 www.knockatallon.com	5 signed cycle routes in the Sliabh Beagh region varying in length from 18 to 37 miles
Leitrim		
The North West Trail, Donegal, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Leitrim and Sligo	www.northwest-trail.com	326km circular route through various counties
Tour de Humbert, Sligo & Leitrim	www.discoverireland.ie	Begins in Mayo, passes through Sligo & Leitrim. Marked trail with signposts & sites of historical interest

Roscommon

Green Heartlands Cycle Route, The Suck Valley Visitor Centre, Athleague	090 6663602	217km cycle route through South Roscommon
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Longford

The Táin Trail, Tarmonbarry, Longford, Keenagh, Granard	043 3342577	Follows the route of the armies of Ireland in the ancient saga of Táin Bó Cualigne
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Westmeath

Mullingar cycle loop 1, Mullingar	044 9348650 www.discoverireland.ie/cycling	North of Mullingar past Lough Owel & through Multyfarnham village (30km)
Mullingar cycle loop 2, Mullingar	044 9348650 www.discoverireland.ie/cycling	Taking in Lough Owel, Ennell, and the Royal canal (49km)
Mullingar cycle loop 3, Mullingar	044 9348650 www.discoverireland.ie/cycling	From Liliput on the shores of Lough Ennell to Belvedere House (38km)
The Táin Trail, Castlepollard, Fore	044 9348650	Follows the route of the ancient saga of Táin Bó Cualigne
Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway	044 9348650	Taking in Killucan Coralstown Shandonagh and Coonahay (32.3km)

Galway

Bonaveen Cycling Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Cycling loop through a variety of trees and open lakeshore (10.5km)
Forest Friendly Cycling Trail	Portumna Forest Park	A short trail on a wide and smooth forest road (1.4km)
Rinmaher Cycling Trail	Portumna Forest Park	Challenging single track cycling trail (10km)
Woodland Cycling Trail	Portumna Forest Park	A short trail used by families (2km)

Offaly

Birr Cycle Hub, Birr	www.discoverireland.ie	Bicycle routes of Birr and neighbouring towns and villages
Lough Boora Parklands, Lough Boora	www.loughbooraparklands.com	Off road family friendly cycle routes
Pilgrim's road to Clonmacnoise, Ballycumber	www.discoverireland.ie	Bicycle route from Ballycumber to Clonmacnoise monastic site

Tipperary

Bike Park Ireland, Fairymount Farm, Roscrea	www.bikeparkireland.ie	6 downhill trails with fast uplift service
Moneygall Kearney Loops	www.discoverireland.ie	3 different loops around the ancestral home of US President Barack Obama
North Tipperary Cycle Routes: Loop 1 - Nenagh to Terryglass	www.discoverireland.ie	65km Charming lakeshore villages along the shores of Lough Derg
North Tipperary Cycle Routes: Loop 2 - Nenagh to Garrykennedy	www.discoverireland.ie	30km loop with the finest scenic views of Lough Derg
North Tipperary Cycle Routes: Loop 3 - Nenagh to Cloughjordan & Borrisokane	www.discoverireland.ie	Cycle to Ireland's first eco-village in Cloughjordan on a 67km loop

Limerick

The Mouth Of The Shannon Cycling Tour	061 317522 www.discoverireland.ie	211km through the plains of north Kerry and Limerick
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FESTIVALS AND EVENTS



Festivals & Events

Enjoying the Lakelands region is not just about taking it easy along its many peaceful lakes, rivers and canals; it's also about enjoying lots of exciting festivals & events happening throughout the year!

So we invite you to join us for a spectacular line up of events happening throughout 2015. Most towns and villages have at least one annual festival, sporting or cultural event, which provide the opportunity to see the Irish at play and join in the exuberance of a real Irish party.

Here is just a small selection of what to expect throughout the Lakelands:

Heart of Ireland Festival (10 – 12 July)

Mullingar, Co. Westmeath - www.heartofireland.ie

The streets of Mullingar will become a timeline from one end of the town to the other; starting with the 1920s bedecked in the style of a vintage country fair with traditional Irish music, street theatre and storytelling sessions.

Munster Fleadh Cheoil 2015 (12 - 19 July)

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary - www.munsterfleadh.ie

Traditional Irish music event which celebrates music, song & dance with a selection of outdoor and indoor concerts, céilithe, workshops, competitions, and street sessions. Listen participate & share!

Cowboys & Heroes Festival (17 - 19 July)

Derrygoan, Ballinamore, Co. Cavan - www.drumcoura.ie

Country and Western Festival with top acts including Nathan Carter and Mike Denver. Fun for all the family.

Boyle Arts Festival (23 July – 1 August)

Boyle, Co. Roscommon - www.boylearts.com

Boyle Arts Festival began as the vision of a group of local people and has now blossomed into an annual event with a significant reputation earning it a place as one of the best festivals in Ireland each summer.

Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

SYMBOLS



Family



Music



Sport



Heritage



Educational



Food



Arts



Garden



Agriculture



Miscellaneous

MAY 2015

Slieve Bloom Eco Walking Festival

1 – 4 May

Kinnitty, Co. Offaly

www.slievebloom.ie

A weekend of walks where the emphasis is on the natural environment. Offering the Tourist a choice of walks led by experienced local guides.



Cavan Walking Festival

1 – 10 May

Throughout Co. Cavan

www.cavansportspartnership.ie

A walking festival with something for everyone's ability with 30 walks over 10 days.



NCCFI Senior Canals Championships

2 – 3 May

Daingean, Co. Offaly

T: 086 811 5526

The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland proudly presents the Senior & Ladies championships fishing the Grand Canal. This two day event attracts regular overseas anglers to fish the popular stretch at Daingean, Co. Offaly.



Limerick School of Art & Design Fashion Show 2015

15 May

The Milk Market, Limerick City

www.lit.ie/lisad

Limerick School of Art & Design is ranked in the top 50 Fashion schools in the world. The Fashion Show for 2015 will take place right here in Limerick. Top designers will also be present. It is not a show to be missed!



Tullynally Castle Plant Fair

16 May

Tullynally Castle Gardens,

Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath

T: 044 9661159

www.tullynallycastle.com

Annual plant fair on the grounds of the castle from 11am. Entry Free.



Hype Festival

16 May

St Mel's College, Co. Longford

T: 087 262 6806

This one day event offers all that is good about a music festival in a safe and well supervised environment. This is a music event for young people and about young people.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Country Fair at Florence Court

24 May

Florence Court, Co. Fermanagh

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/florence-court

Celebrating 60 years under the care of the National Trust with dog shows, rare breeds, live music, craft stalls and much more. An event not to be missed.



Ballinamore Angling Match Festival

25 - 29 May

Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim

www.ballinamore.ie

5 day open match, fishing local loughs.



Monaghan County Fleadh

28 - 31 May

Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan

www.comhaltas.ie

Annual competition and celebration of traditional Irish music, dance and language.



Carrickmacross Festival

28 May - 1 June

Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan

www.carrickmacross.ie

Annual festival of music, dance, children's entertainment, craft and art exhibitions.



Tuamgraney Community Weekend

28 May - 1 June

Tuamgraney, Co. Clare

T: 087 2937479

A community weekend of welcomes for all expats and visitors remembering Brian Ború. Events include a céilí, handball, sports, concert, music and craic.



An Tostal Festival

28 May - 2 June

Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim

www.antostalfestival.ie

The longest running Tostal festival in Ireland which caters for all the family.



Life Festival

29 - 31 May

Belvedere House, Mullingar,

Co. Westmeath

www.life-festival.com

Life Festival 2015 is about forward thinking music. It's about showcasing the finest electronic artists over a three day open-air weekend and once again, Belvedere House will act as the backdrop for this celebration of talent.



Co. Cavan Fleadh Cheoil

29 May - 1 June

Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan

www.thisiscavan.ie

A weekend of traditional music, song, dance and heritage events.



Abbeyshrule Air Show and Village Festival

30 May - 1 June

Abbeyshrule, Co. Longford

T: 044 9357742

It is the longest running air show in Ireland, held annually at Abbeyshrule Airfield, Co Longford's own airport and the only airport in the Irish Midlands. The Air Show is an exciting and spectacular event regularly featuring aircraft from the Irish Air Corps, US Air Force and some of the best civilian acts in Ireland and the UK.



Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Mullingar International Horse Show

29 May - 1 June

Mullingar Equestrian Centre,
Co. Westmeath

www.mullingarinternationalhorseshow.com

Combines all things equestrian with interactive side shows and a retail and food village in a unique purpose built venue near Mullingar Town.



May Day Extravaganza

30 - 31 May

Share Discovery Village, Lisnaskea,
Co. Fermanagh

www.sharevillage.org

Lisnaskea Day Visitor Activity programme for all the family.



Goldsmith International Literary Festival

30 May - 1 June

Abbeyshrule & Ballymahon,
Co. Longford

T: 090 6485162

www.goldsmithfestival.ie

The Goldsmith International Literary Festival is a unique social, cultural and literary event. Founded to celebrate the literary genius of Oliver Goldsmith and to promote Goldsmith Country, it has over the years explored many aspects of Goldsmith's life, society, and writings.



JUNE 2015

Edenderry Angling Festival

1, 3 & 5 June

Edenderry, Co. Offaly

T: 086 3503117

www.activeirishangling.com

Coarse Angling Festival on the Canal around Edenderry. On its 26th anniversary the festival is growing in popularity each year.



Laid Back Lecture – Rocking around the Geopark

4 June

Marble Arch Caves Visitor Centre
(7pm), Co Fermanagh

Tel: 028 6634 8855

Join Dr Kirstin Lemon for an illustrated talk on the fascinating Geology of the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark.



Clones Canal Festival

5 - 7 June

Clones, Co Monaghan

www.clonescanalfestival.com

Something for everyone with soapbox Racing, family fun day and much more.



Cookery Course – Summer Entertaining

6 June (9.45am to 3.30pm)

Belle Isle Cookery School,
Co. Fermanagh

www.irishcookeryschool.com

Cookery school and demonstrations.



Pink Ribbon Walk

7 June

Lakeside Hotel, Killaloe, Co. Clare

www.pinkribbonwalk.ie

10km sponsored walk to raise funds for Action Breast Cancer.



Ballinallee Connemara Pony Show

8 June

Ballinallee, Co. Longford

T: 043 3323180

An annual event and the 2nd largest of its type in the country, the show completely transforms this rural and historical village of Ballinallee and provides a thoroughly enjoyable day out for all the family.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Roscommon Races

8 – 9 June

Racecourse Road, Roscommon Town
www.roscommonracecourse.ie

The first recorded race meeting took place in 1837. The racing consists of good quality, full fields featuring lively betting markets. With excellent views from stands and enclosures.



Tempo Fair Day

13 June (11.30am)

The Meadow, Tempo, Co. Fermanagh
T: 028 8954 1861

Vintage cars, tractors and lorries. Autojumble, craft stalls, dog show, live entertainment, children's entertainment, sheep dog trials and much more. Admission £5



Forest Marathon

13 June

Portumna Forest Park, Portumna, Co. Galway

www.forestmarathon.com

Forest Marathon is a running festival in the beautiful Coillte forest of Portumna in Co. Galway. The event includes a number of race distances.



Body & Soul Festival

19 - 21 June

Ballinlough Castle, Co. Westmeath
www.bodyandsoul.ie

Body & Soul is an arts & music festival where like-minded people come together for three days on the grounds of Ballinlough Castle in Co. Westmeath to explore and discover new music, interact with visual and performance art outside a traditional setting, and celebrate life in all its shapes and colors.



Lough Key Castle Island Swim

20 June

Lough Key Forest Park, Boyle, Co. Roscommon
www.openwaterswimmer.ie

An open water swimming event with 2 distances, a 750 metre and a 1.5km swim.



Festival Lough Erne

20 - 21 June

Broadmeadow, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh

E: joanne.cunningham@fermanaghomagh.com

Local food festival, historical talks, tours and water based activities.



Croghan Hill Challenge

21 June

Croghan Hill, Co. Offaly

T: 087 9875156

www.croghanhillchallenge.com

Croghan Hill is situated in the heart of the Irish midlands in Co. Offaly. The famous extinct volcanic hill is a perfect location for a cross country boot camp style obstacle course. You will experience hills, thrills & spills when you take on the Croghan Hill Challenge.



Summer Solstice Festival

21 June

Cavan Burren Park, Burren, Blacklion, Co. Cavan

T: 049 4378600

Celebrate the Summer Solstice at Cavan Burren Park where the inspiring and intriguing human history of West Cavan is on display. The festival will see an exciting and packed programme of celebratory activities for all the family.



Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Shannonbridge & Clonmacnoise Midsummer's Music Festival

22 - 25 June

Shannonbridge / Clonmacnoise,
Co. Offaly

T: 090 9674973

Intimate Music Festival set in wonderful indoor and outdoor locations. Lots of concerts, kids workshops, and great entertainment.



Waterways Ireland Loughfest

Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh

27 June (12 noon to 4pm)

Tel: 028 66 325050

Free event sponsored by Waterways Ireland which promises thrills and spills for the whole family with a range of activities including climbing walls, bouncy castles, high ropes course, face painting, fossil making and rubbing and much more.



Geopark Safari Tour

29 June (10.45am)

Market House, Blacklion, Co Cavan

Tel: 028 66 348855

As part of the Cathal Bui Community Arts and Heritage Festival join a guided bus tour of some of the highlights of the Geopark showcasing the archaeological, geological and scenic value of this area. Tour will last approx. 4 hours. Cost is €15 for adults.



JULY 2015

Summer Extravaganza

1 July - 31 August (Daily)

Share Discovery Village, Lisnaskea,
Co. Fermanagh

T: 028 677 22122

E: info@sharevillage.org

Share Extravaganza is the exciting and innovative activity programme, which runs during Easter, May Bank Holidays and the Summer months. Visitors may enjoy the thrills in a variety of land and water activities; taster sessions in archery, banana boating, canoeing, climbing, orienteering, circus skills, combat corps, sailing, windsurfing and mountain biking.



Féile Brian Ború Festival

1 - 5 July

Killaloe, Co. Clare

www.feilebrianboru.com

Féile Brian Ború is an annual festival held in Killaloe & Ballina to commemorate Ireland's Greatest High King in his native place. The festival includes heritage, arts, music, comedy, family & outdoor events in the twin towns of Killaloe & Ballina.



Make a Move Festival

2 - 5 July

Limerick City

www.makeamove.ie

Community arts festival with its roots in hip-hop. With street art, breakdancing, rapping & DJs with a strong focus on education and free city wide spectacles.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

TriAthlone

5 July

Athlone, Co. Westmeath

www.triathlone.com

This is the 9th annual Waterways Ireland TriAthlone taking place in Athlone.



Roscommon Races

6 - 7 July

Racecourse Road, Roscommon Town

www.roscommonracecourse.ie

Ladies Day on 6 July. The first recorded race meeting took place in 1837. The racing consists of good quality, full fields featuring lively betting markets. With excellent views from stands and enclosures.



The Percy French Festival 2015

8 - 10 July

Castlecoote House, Co. Roscommon

www.percy french.ie

A celebration of the life and times of the multi-talented William Percy French, set in the wonderful historic Georgian building of Castlecoote House in French's native Roscommon.



Lady of the Lake Festival

10 - 19 July

Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh

T: 028 6862 1656

The festival theme is based on a mysterious lady who was known to glide over the waters of Lower Lough Erne. It provides mystery and entertainment for all the family to enjoy.



Heart of Ireland Festival

10 - 12 July

Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

www.heartofireland.ie

The streets of Mullingar will become a timeline from one end of the town to the other; starting with the 1920s bedecked in the style of a vintage country fair with traditional Irish music, street theatre and storytelling sessions.



Abbeysrule Air Show (30 May - 1 June), Co Longford Credit: Longford Tourism

Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Muckno Mania Festival

10 - 13 July

Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

A festival offering a variety of activities aimed at all sections of the community. Primarily promoting arts, music, dance, creative arts and sports.



The Sounder Pig n Porter Festival

11 July

Old Crescent RFC, Rosbrien, Co. Limerick

www.pignporter.com

The world's largest tag rugby festival with 1800 fit male & female players aged 21-35 competing to find the Champion Team.



All Ireland Street Parish Vintage Weekend

11 - 12 July

Streete, Co. Westmeath

T: 086 2596656

Annual Vintage Display and Autojumble including demonstrations, amusements, outdoor bandstand and much more.



Mullingar Agricultural Show

12 July

The Show Grounds, Culleen, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

T: 087 9971306

www.mullingarshow.com

The Mullingar Agricultural Show, which attracts entries from across Ireland, will take place once again this July. It particularly highlights the traditional agricultural strengths of Westmeath, in pedigree and commercial cattle and sheep, showing and sheep shearing competitions.



Munster Fleadh Cheoil 2015

12 - 19 July

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

www.munsterfleadh.ie

Traditional Irish music event which celebrates music, song & dance. Listen, participate & share.



BORUMAN Sprint Triathlon

13 July

Killaloe, Co. Clare

www.borutriclub.com/boruman

This triathlon consists of a 750m canal swim, 23km cycle & 5k run through the historic location of Killaloe. A great event for competitors and for spectators.



Traditional Fair Day

15 July

Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh

T: 028 6862 1656

Something for all the family.



Carrick Water Music Festival

15 - 19 July

Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

A time tested fine mix of music, drama, street markets and events to suit all ages and tastes.



Cowboys & Heroes Festival

17 - 19 July

Derrygoan, Ballinamore, Co Cavan

www.drumcoura.ie

Country and Western Festival with top acts including Nathan Carter and Mike Denver. Fun for all the family.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Marie Curie Truck Convoy

17 - 19 July

Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh

T: 028 6862 1656

This Truck Convoy raises money for Marie Curie, and is part of the Irvinestown Lady of the Lake festival. Up to 500 trucks take part.



Joe Mooney Summer School

18 - 25 July

Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim

www.joemooneysummerschool.ie

Attend classes and workshops with world renowned tutors in traditional instruments, singing and set dancing.



Boyle Arts Festival

23 July - 1 August

Boyle, Co. Roscommon

www.boylearts.com

Boyle Arts Festival began as the vision of a group of local people and has now blossomed into an annual event with a significant reputation earning it a place as one of the best festivals in Ireland each summer.



4th Happy Days Enniskillen International Beckett Festival

23 July - 3 Aug

Further info from

s.doranenator@gmail.com



Midlands Home and Garden Festival

24 - 26 July

Belvedere House,

Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

T: 044 9349060

There is a wide array of goods for sale with everything from sundials to showers, gates to gardens all on one site. Tempting food from local food producers and the exciting continental market adds to the enjoyment.



South East Clare Agricultural Show

26 July

Bridgetown, Co. Clare

www.bridgetownshow.com

Annual agricultural show held with events for horses, ponies, show jumping, cattle, novelty events and more.



County Longford Show & Country Fair

26 July

Moydow, Co. Longford

T: 043 3341812

www.longfordshow.ie

An important part of our show is field entertainment for families and children alike which include puppet shows, rare breeds, live music and dance, play area, vintage display, and much more.



Scariff Harbour Festival

31 July - 2 August

Scariff, Co. Clare

www.scariff.ie

A varied programme of activities, arts, music and entertainment inspired by the "lake" theme.



Castle Palooza Music & Arts Festival

31 July - 2 August

Tullamore, Co. Offaly

www.castlepalooza.com

This music and arts festival, showcasing a range of music styles from both Irish and international artists, is held at the historic Charleville Castle.



Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Birr Vintage Week

31 July - 7 August

Birr, Co. Offaly

T: 087 9226961

www.birrvintageweek.com

Vintage parade, arts & craft market, olde time fair, visual arts, street theatre, sporting & literary events, pub entertainment, donkey derby, live music, fireworks and much, much more!



AUGUST 2015

Ballygar Carnival

Early August

Ballygar, Co. Galway

One of Ireland's oldest and longest running Carnivals, featuring street entertainment, discos, fancy dress, funfair and country fair.



Rare Breeds Poultry Fair

1 August (10am-2pm)

Florence Court, Co. Fermanagh

This is the place to be if you're thinking of getting some hens and enjoy your own free range eggs. Exhibitors of pure breed poultry will be bringing all manner of rare breeds to show, talk about and sell. Normal admission, members free.



Joe Dolan Festival

1 - 3 August

Mullingar, Co. Westmeath

T: 044 9341948

www.joedolan.com

Joe Dolan's world fan base is invited back to the town where he came from, for a 3 Day Festival of music and song and craic.



Loughrea Sprint Triathlon 2015

2 August

Lake Road, Loughrea, Co. Galway

www.loughreatriathlon.ie

With over 700 participants, this 10th annual event features a 750m swim, 20km cycle, and a 5km run.



North Tipperary Agricultural Show

3 August

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

www.northtippshow.com

This long standing tradition in Tipperary hosts plenty of interest to all. A show of cattle, horses, ponies & dogs. Crafts, food, trade stands and entertainment



Castleblayney Show

3 August

Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan

www.castleblayneyshow.ie

Annual Agricultural Show with competition classes in livestock - horses, poultry, sheep & goats along with horticultural, art & craft, flower and photograph classes plus lots of other attractions for young and old.



Ballymore Country Music Festival

3 August

Ballymore, Co. Westmeath

T: 086 8227258

The 2015 festival promises to be the best festival yet! After two hugely successful years the line-up for this year is the best you will see anywhere in Ireland.





Joe Dolan Festival (August Bank Holiday weekend)

Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Fermanagh County Show

4 - 5 August

Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh

E: secretary@fermanaghcountyshow.com

Fermanagh's premier agricultural event which attracts 10,000 visitors from across Ireland, the UK and further afield.



Roscommon Races

4, 17 & 31 August

Racecourse Road, Roscommon Town

www.roscommonracecourse.ie

Family Day on 17 August. The first recorded race meeting took place in 1837. The racing consists of good quality, full fields featuring lively betting markets. With excellent views from stands and enclosures.



Feakle Festival of Traditional Irish Music

5 - 10 August

Feakle, Co. Clare

www.feaklefestival.ie

Traditional music festival offering a vibrant programme of events, including concerts with internationally renowned acts, music workshops, poetry readings, singing and music sessions.



Taste of Cavan

7 & 8 August

Cavan Town, Co. Cavan

www.thisiscavan.ie

Two day food festival celebrating all that is good about local food.



Kilbeggan Races

8 August

Kilbeggan, Co. Westmeath

T: 057 9332176

www.kilbegganraces.com

An evening of fun at Kilbeggan Races is one of the most enjoyable experiences. It mingles the heart stopping spectacle of racing over jumps with the laid back charm of a genuine rural meeting. The Kilbeggan formula is made for fun, friendship and atmosphere for the thousands who return meeting after meeting giving Kilbeggan the edge over other events.



The Cavan Kayakarun

8 August

Maudabawn, Cootehill, Co. Cavan

www.thecavankayakarun.com

Adventure race involving running, kayaking and cycling. Open to everyone from 16 years of age.



Tullamore Show & AIB National Livestock Show

9 August

Butterfield Estate, Blueball, Co. Offaly

www.tullamoreshow.com

Truly authentic high profile cultural event with a broad based programme focussing on an agricultural and country lifestyle.



Terryglass Arts Festival

12 - 16 August

Terryglass, Co. Tipperary

www.terryglassartsfestival.ie

This festival offers an eclectic mix of visual arts, music, film, workshops, comedy, street performance and a food and crafts market.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Erne Vintage Car Rally

14 August
Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh
T: 028 6632 6125 / 079 8947 8328
www.evcc.org.uk



Ulster Rally comes to Fermanagh

14 - 15 August
Co. Fermanagh
E: eddie.mcGovern@fermanaghomagham.com
Ultimate car rallying!



Sarsfield Day Festival Weekend

21 - 23 August
Limerick City
www.sarsfieldsday.com
A whole Festival weekend dedicated to Limerick's hero Patrick Sarsfield & the heroes of Limerick in 1690. Sound & lighting will feature heavily with a fantastic fireworks display on the river front along with much much more.



Dan Furey Weekend

21 - 23 August
Labasheeda, Co. Clare
www.danfurey.ie
A full weekend of set dancing to the best of Irish music from the Abbey Céilí Band, Míchéal Sexton, Johnny Reidy Céilí Band and The Five Counties Céilí Band.



Limerick Agricultural Show

22 - 23 August
Limerick Racecourse, Limerick
www.limerickshow.com
The show features exhibitors & competitors with classes for cattle, horse & pony showing and jumping, sheep goats, poultry, horticulture, arts, crafts, a dog show, trade stands and family entertainment



National Heritage Week

22 - 30 August
Countrywide
www.heritageweek.ie
The aim of Heritage Week is to build awareness of our built, natural and cultural heritage. There are lots of events taking place, so be sure to join in.



Newtowncashel Harvest Festival

23 August
Newtowncashel, Co. Longford
T: 087 2705014
Following the success of last year, this festival will take place for the third consecutive year. A great day out for all the family.



Irish Game & Country Fair

29 - 30 August
Birr Castle, Co. Offaly
www.irishgameandcountryfair.com
The fair is the largest game & country fair in the ROI and is twinned with the Irish Game Fair at Shanes Castle, Antrim and the Ballywalter Game & Country Living Fair under the brand The Great Game Fairs of Ireland.



SEPTEMBER 2015

Monaghan Rhythm & Blues Festival

4 - 6 September
Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan
www.harvestblues.com
Weekend of Rhythm & Blues in Monaghan Town.





Fire Breather in Limerick City



National Heritage Week (22 - 30 August). Credit: Heritage Council

For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Elemental Arts and Culture Festival

11 – 13 September

Limerick City, Co. Limerick

www.elementalfestival.com

Elemental Arts & Culture Festival is a three day event encompassing the arts in all guises. The title, Elemental, is inspired by the five elements of nature:

Earth, Fire, Water, Air and Metal.



Irish Bog Snorkelling Championships

12 September

Doohamlet, Co. Monaghan

www.irishbogsnorkelling.com

Competitors complete two consecutive lengths of a 60 yard (55m) water filled trench cut through a peat bog, in the shortest time possible. Lots of fun too.



Enniskillen 100

12 September

Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh

E: joanne.cunningham@fermanagh.gov.uk

The Enniskillen 100 Revival featuring parade laps by historic racing motor cycles. Featuring vintage, classic and modern motorbikes, static displays, side shows etc.



Portumna Shorelines Arts Festival

17 - 20 September

Portumna, Co. Galway

www.shorelinesartsfestival.com

Incorporating a full spectrum of arts events, drama, music, poetry, art, film and more. All packed into one exciting weekend.



Limerick Jazz Festival

25 - 27 September

Various venues in Limerick City

www.limerickjazzfestival.com

An annual event promoting live jazz performances throughout the city. 2015 will feature artists from the US, UK, Ireland and mainland Europe.



Patrick Kavanagh Annual Poetry Weekend

25 - 27 September

Inniskeen, Co. Monaghan

www.patrickkavanaghcountry.com

The annual poetry weekend remembering Monaghan's beloved poet.



Lakeside Set Dancing

25 – 27 September

Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan Town

www.4seasonshotel.ie

Sessions with local musicians, Sean Nós workshops and céilí.



Mountshannon Traditional Music Festival

25 - 27 September

Mountshannon, Co. Clare

www.mountshannontradfestival.ie

This festival hosts a packed weekend of pub sessions, céilís, workshops, singing sessions, a song contest & a concert.



Roscommon Races

28 September

Racecourse Road, Roscommon Town

www.roscommonracecourse.ie

The first recorded race meeting took place in 1837. The racing consists of good quality, full fields featuring lively betting markets. With excellent views from stands and enclosures.



Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

Mullagh Fair Day

Dates TBC

Mullagh, Co. Cavan

T: 087 7466606

Mullagh Fair Day with events including displays, livestock market, pig roasting and variety of street entertainment.



OCTOBER 2015

Dromineer Literary Festival

1 - 4 October

Dromineer, Co. Tipperary

www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie

A literary festival on the shore of Lough Derg that includes poetry, prose, visual art, book launches, interviews with acclaimed writers, an event float on Lough Derg, kids' events & story time.



Bualadh Bos Children's Festival

1 - 31 October

www.limetreetheatre.ie

Lime Tree Theatre, Mary Immaculate Campus, Limerick City

This 2nd annual festival will offer theatre, film, workshops and a book festival to cater for ages 3 months -18 years.



Taste of Monaghan

2 - 4 October

Monaghan Town, Co. Monaghan

www.tasteofmonaghan.com

Top quality local produce with 50+ exhibitors, plus cookery competitions, demonstrations, cocktails & children's entertainment.



Ballinasloe International Horse Fair and Festival

3 - 11 October

Ballinasloe, Co. Galway

www.ballinasloeoctoberfair.com

This is a nine day extravaganza of all things equestrian with entertainment, great family fun and three days of traditional horse trading on the Fair Green.



OFFline Film Festival

7 - 11 October

Birr, Co. Offaly

T: 085 2389416

www.offlinefilmfestival.com

A festival dedicated to making and screening quality films in the Irish midlands. OFFline includes screenings, workshops for filmmakers and a short film-making competition.



Ed Reavy Traditional Music Festival

15 - 18 October

Maudabawn, Cootehill & Cavan Town
Celebration of music of fiddle player and composer Ed Reavy, a Cavan native who spent most of his life in Philadelphia.



Clones Film Festival

22 - 25 October

Clones, Co. Monaghan

www.clonesfilmfestival.com

Ireland's biggest little film festival with screenings in various pop-up cinema venues.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Cloughtoberfest

23 – 26 October

Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary

www.cloughtoberfest.com

A great combination of gypsy jazz music with concerts, music master classes and swing dance workshops and family events.



Birr Stage Guild's One Act Drama Festival

23 – 25 October

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Birr,

Co. Offaly

T: 057 9122911

Birr's One Act Drama Festival has become one of the most sought after festivals in Ireland for award-winning drama groups as they compete for a place in the All Ireland One Act Drama Finals.



Virginia Pumpkin Festival

23 - 27 October

Virginia, Co. Cavan

www.pumpkinfestival.ie

The Virginia Pumpkin Festival is an annual event held in the town of Virginia every bank holiday weekend at Halloween. There is a fun packed programme of events for all the family to enjoy.



Spleodar Nenagh's Community Arts Festival

26 - 31 October

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

www.spleodar.ie

Spleodar is a family-focused arts festival with concerts, exhibitions, theatre, films and an eclectic mix of workshops for the 0-12 year age group, along with a fireworks display on Halloween night.



Sessions at the Shannon

27 - 29 October

Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim

www.facebook.com/sessions-at-theshannon

Traditional Irish Music weekend.



Hullabaloo! Offaly's Children's Arts Festival

28 – 31 October

Various venues in Birr & Clara,

Edenderry, Co. Offaly

T: 057 9357400

www.offaly.ie

Promising a week of fun, frolics and mayhem this mid-term break! A festival with exuberant artistic delights running in various venues in both Birr and Clara offering something for all the family.



Aisling Children's Arts Festival

Dates TBC

Backstage Theatre, Longford,

Co. Longford

T: 043 33 47888

www.aislingfestival.ie

The ethos of the festival is to nurture and develop an artistic appreciation by introducing children to a wide range of disciplines such as drama, music, dance and the visual arts - through the medium of workshops and performances.



Festivals and Events in the Lakelands

NOVEMBER 2015

Upperchurch Walking Weekend

6 - 8 November

Upperchurch, Co. Tipperary

www.upperchurch.ie

10th Annual Walking Weekend featuring walks suitable for all levels of fitness, from 6km to 20km, including night walks, cycling, traditional evenings of food, music and entertainment.



Killaloe Festival of Light

11 November

Killaloe, Co. Clare

www.killaloefestivaloflight.com

A multicultural light festival that draws inspiration from many traditional festivals around the world.



HearSay International Audio Arts Festival

20 - 22 November

Kilfinane, Co. Limerick

www.hearsayfestival.ie

A unique international festival, HearSay brings together the world's finest audio makers from radio, art, film and beyond to celebrate and inspire audio.



Glendeer Pet Farm Christmas Lapland

Glendeer Pet Farm, Drum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

29 November - 23 December

T: 090 6437147

www.glendeerpETFarm.ie

Glendeer is transformed into Ireland's Lapland for the month of December, starting with Santa's arrival by horse drawn carriage. He is here every day with his deer Dancer and Prancer.

Reflect at the crib with a live cow and donkey, soak up the magical, festive atmosphere surrounded by thousands of twinkling lights & plenty of Christmas scenes including a winter wonderland.



DECEMBER 2015

Limerick Christmasfest

December 2015

www.limerick.ie/christmas

Have a very merry Limerick Christmas! The city's Christmas stocking is packed full to the brim with a spectacular line up of free festive events, traditional food and craft markets at Limerick's Milk Market, an exciting entertainment line-up and an impressive display of Christmas lights.



Christmas at Birr Castle Demesne

December 2015

Birr Castle Demesne, Co. Offaly

T: 057 912 0336

www.birrcastledemesne.com

Join in on festive Christmas fun when Santa Claus & his Elves pay a visit to Birr Castle Demesne. Booking essential.



Shannon Airport Christmas Horse Racing Festival

26 - 29 December

Greenmount Park, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick

www.limerick.ie/christmas

A brilliant festive feast of racing and a great way to spend the holidays with friends and relations old and new. The feature races are the Greenmount Novice Chase and the Tim Duggan Memorial.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

COMING IN 2016

19
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20 16

'Ireland 2016' is a national government initiative to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising of 1916. This huge initiative will deliver a programme of activity and events to honour and remember those who fought and those who died in the 1916 Rising, and to reflect on the legacy of that period. A number of formal state events will be held over Easter weekend 2016, along with other events nationwide throughout the year.

For full details, including an outline of the programme of events, please visit www.ireland.ie



Fun at the Festivals in Tipperary. Credit: Tipperary County Council



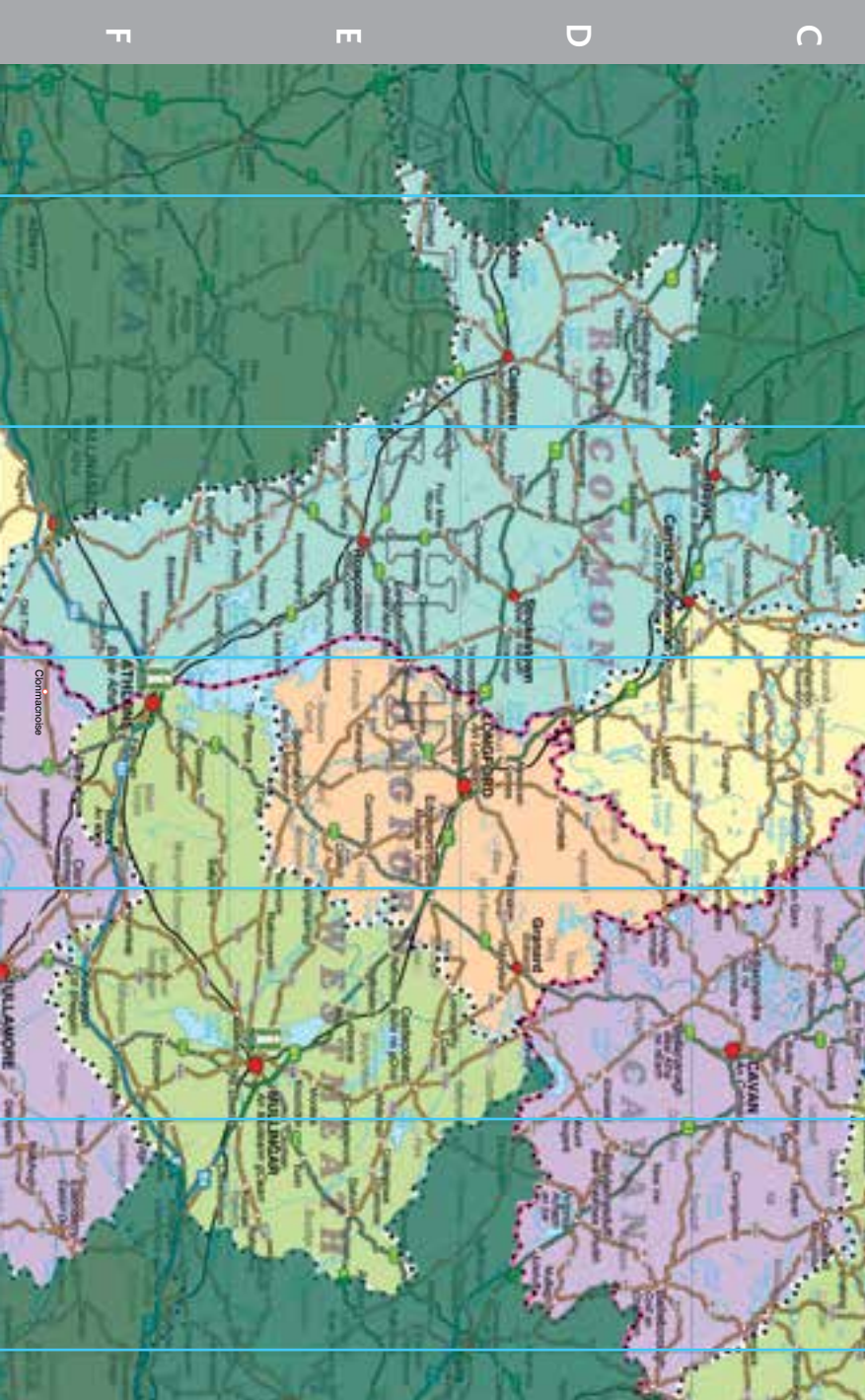
St. Patrick's Day Parade, Limerick City. Credit: Sean Curtin



King House, Boyle, Co Roscommon



Traditional Irish Music Session



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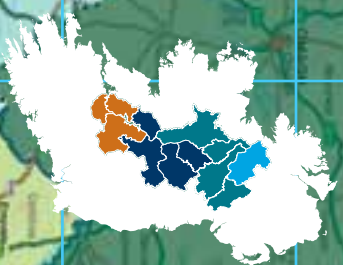
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IRELAND

Lakelands & Inland Waterways



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THINGS TO DO



Cavan Burren Park, Co Cavan

PLACES TO SEE



Devinish Island, Co Fermanagh

FAMILY FUN

EVENTS & MAPS

AND LOTS MORE...



Hilton Park Gardens, Co Monaghan

Lakelands & Inland Waterways

ZONE 1: LOUGH ERNE

- 1 FERMANAGH

ZONE 2: UPPER LAKELANDS

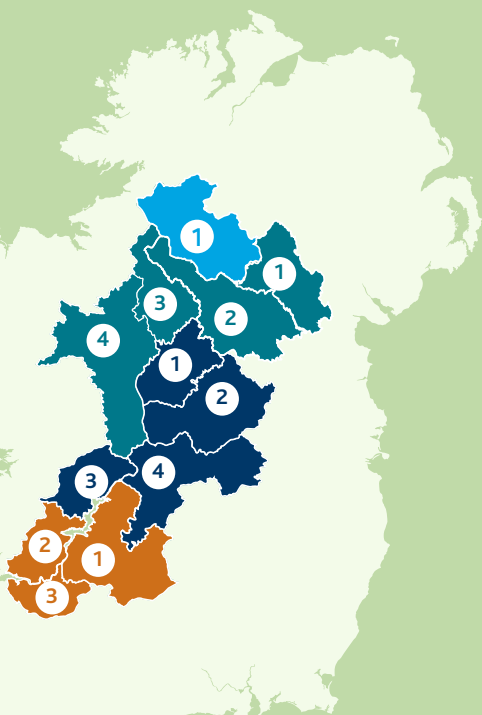
- 1 MONAGHAN
- 2 CAVAN
- 3 LEITRIM
- 4 ROSCOMMON

ZONE 3: LOUGH REE & MID SHANNON

- 1 LONGFORD
- 2 WESTMEATH
- 3 GALWAY
- 4 OFFALY

ZONE 4: LOUGH DERG

- 1 TIPPERARY
- 2 CLARE
- 3 LIMERICK



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

