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UNCOVER THE SECRETS OF IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

ESCAPE INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY BEAUTY OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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Mullaghmore Head, County Sligo





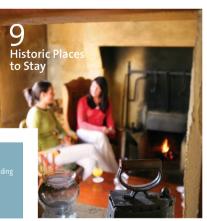
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#### Ireland Welcome

ocean's blast on the Wild Atlantic

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Community



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# PICTURE THIS

#### Cuilcagh Legnabrocky Trail County Fermanagh

County Fermanagh Stretching out beneath the rocky drama of the Cuilcagh Mountains, this glorious walking trail will bring you deep into the heart of south County Fermanagh. Chestnut-coloured bog, incredible geology and vast panoramas that unfurl towards the distant blue hills make this a walk on the wild side. Climb the boardwalk that protects this rare blanket bog and you'll be rewarded with stunning views over Lough Atona, a glacial lake nestled at the foot of the mountain. The trail is 7.4km long and should take around six hours to complete. &

# **Drives to Discover the Best** of Beautiful Ireland





Ireland is a country known for its everlasting rural landscapes and wide open spaces, also hosting some of the world's most spectacular ancient castles, historic towns, heritage houses, lively pubs and vibrant cities. What better way to discover any county than with a self-drive holiday.

## **Top Three Ireland Drives**

#### Wild Atlantic Way

Leave the ordinary behind, drive the Irish west coast and immerse yourself in the unique Wild Atlantic Way. Stretching along Ireland's west coast from Donegal to Cork, this captivating drive is filled with buzzing towns and cities, soaring cliffs, beautiful beaches and hidden bays.

#### The Causeway Coastal Route

Follow the majestic coastal road starting in Belfast and ending in Derry~Londonderry. The drive takes in historic landmarks, culture-filled villages and unforgettable scenery. Follow the coast road through the nine Glens of Antrim, winding between picturesque towns including Cushendun. Then continue on to the Giant's Causeway, before heading west towards Derry~Londonderry, with its 17<sup>th</sup> century city walls.

#### The Braveheart Drive

Discover beautiful Co. Wicklow, through wooded glens and marvellous countryside where you'll see where some scenes from the movie 'Braveheart' were filmed. Ironically, this drive begins in the tiny village of Hollywood, roughly 30kms south of Dublin and sets off in the direction of the Wicklow Gap.





# THIS IS IRF.I.ANI

A small island with a big heart, Ireland is a soul-stirring destination - a world unto itself, with wave-lashed cliffs, rolling green hills and historic, story-filled castles. It's a land of vibrant cities bursting with top restaurants, hip cafés and friendly locals; and a destination dotted with isolated islands where traditions still define daily life. You'll come across secrets, too, buried in silent monastic villages, winding along coastal roads and written in our libraries' ancient manuscripts. But here's the thing: you'll find the people on the island of Ireland have little interest in keeping secrets. They are storytellers at heart, after all.

So make your way to a special place that pulses with toe-tapping music, to traditional pubs where chatter and laughter ring in your ears, and to ancient tombs where you can connect with Stone Age man. Whether you're travelling along the windswept Wild Atlantic Way, uncovering primitive history and intriguing tales in Ireland's Ancient East, or taking it to the edge on the Causeway Coastal Route, you'll encounter an island where memories are created and stories are retold for years to come. Ireland is home to adventures both big and small. It's time to discover them for yourself. 🗞



Start your Ireland journey today by calling the self-drive specialists on 1300 363 500 or visit www.driveaway.com.au











- Giant's Causeway County Antrim
  Dunquin Harbour County Kerry
  Passing time in the local pub
- 04 Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge County Antrim
- 05 Seafood fresh from the sea
- 06 Gurteen Beach County Galway
- Tranarossan Bay County Doneg

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## HISTORIC PLACES TO STAY

From decadent drawing rooms to secret little libraries, explore an elegant side to Ireland with some of the island's most historic places to stay

#### Clare Island Lighthouse County Mayo

Boasting a dramatic location at the entrance to island-studded Clew Bay, Clare Island is all about getting back to nature. This thrilling destination rewards visitors with cliffs, woodland, mountains and Clare Island Lighthouse boutique accommodation. Here, guests relax in the wellstocked library, tuck into six-course feasts in the elegant dining room and explore the island's great walking routes. clareislandlighthouse.com

#### Belle Isle Estate County Fermanagh

County Fermanagh is perfect for a relaxing holiday, with its mix of green fields, glassy lakes, and charming towns and villages. In the heart of this idyllic beauty is Belle Isle, a magnificent castle estate set over eight islands and inhabited since the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The castle can be rented out in its entirety and sleeps up to 26, but there are attractive self-catering apartments and coach-house cottages to choose from, too. belle-isle.com

#### Lough Rynn Castle County Leitrim

Set on the shores of the rippling waters of Lough Rynn in County Leitrim, this historic castle is enveloped in 350 acres of green pasture and ancient forest. Stay here and you can enjoy a sumptuous dinner in the award-winning restaurant, stroll the Victorian Walled Garden and relax in the piano room. Or how about afternoon tea in the Baronial Hall? It doesn't get better than that. loughrynn.ie

#### The Bushmills Inn County Antrim

If you like the idea of a warming whiskey beside an open fire after a day exploring the Causeway Coastal Route, then The Bushmills Inn could be for you. In days of old, saddle-sore visitors to the coast would use the inn as a stopover, and the oldest part of the building is thought to date back to 1608. A gas-lit bar, nooks and crannies, and a secret library create an atmosphere of heritage in a village that's famous for its whiskey. bushmillsinn.com

#### **Cnoc Suain** County Galway

Wild heather, bogland, hedgerows and stone surround these exceptional thatched cottages, one of which dates back to 1691. This is simple, authentic accommodation with a very Irish soul – local stone, salvaged timbers, handcrafted furniture and cast iron beds add comfort and character, while outside, the beautiful Connemara countryside is waiting to charm. cnocsuain.com &







- 01 Clare Island Lighthouse Clare Island, County May 02 Belle Isle Estate
- County Fermana
- 03 Lough Rynn Castle
- 04 Bushmills Inn
- 05 Cnoc Suain
- County Galway

SET ON THE SHORES OF LOUGH RYNN, THE HISTORIC LOUGH RYNN CASTLE IS ENVELOPED IN 350 ACRES OF GREEN PASTURE AND ANCIENT FOREST





05

Ireland 9



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## DISCOVER ALL ABOUT... IRELAND ON SCREEN

Lights, camera, action! There's a good reason that Ireland is a star of the screen – from romantic ruined castles to the mysterious beauty of the landscape, the island has a cinematic sense of style

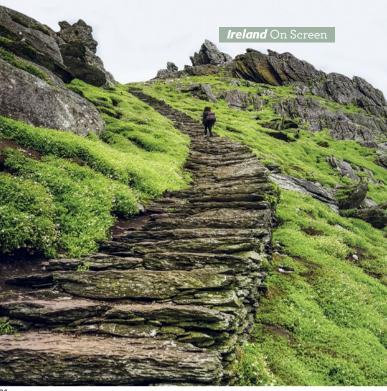
The cliffs, the green fields, the quaint thatched cottages – it's no wonder Ireland has long been a favourite of filmmakers. This is an island that feels tailor-made for big-screen stardom, from the thrilling drama of Mel Gibson's Braveheart, starring Trim Castle in County Meath, to the vast sands of Wexford's beaches, perfectly pictured in **Brooklyn**. Tour the stunning Connemara film locations that featured in The Quiet Man; climb Killiney Hill in County Dublin, which wowed in Oscar-winning **Once**; or be awed by the Cliffs of Moher in County Clare, scenic stars of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince.

Riding the swirling waves out to Skellig Michael off the coast of County Kerry feels cinematic enough in itself. But once you step onto this island, originally home to a community of monks from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, it's hard not to feel like you've walked onto a film set. And that may be because you have: in addition to the compelling history of this remote Atlantic monastic site, Skellig Michael made its on-screen debut at the end of Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens. This stunning Atlantic spot is not the only part of Ireland to feature in Star Wars, either - the location scouts were so taken with the Wild Atlantic Way, they also picked Malin Head at the tip of County Donegal to star in **Episode VIII**, as well as Loop Head in County Clare and Brow Head, near Crookhaven, County Cork, at the southwestern tip of the island.

With more Seven Kingdoms locations than anywhere else in the world – Northern Ireland has certainly earned its title as Game of Thrones® Territory. This epic medieval fantasy series employs bewitched forests, mysterious caves and otherworldly backdrops to deliver big-time drama and in Northern Ireland, they certainly found it. Just look at Tollymore Forest Park, a mesmerising expanse of wild woodland known as the Haunted Forest in Westeros, and 12<sup>th</sup> century Inch Abbey, where the War of the Five Kings began. Other filming locations from the series include the ancient Antrim plateau; Slemish Mountain in County Antrim, where St Patrick once served as a shepherd; and the twisting, haunting beauty of the Dark Hedges, a captivating avenue of beech trees, also in Antrim.

Famous for its bohemian vibes, artistic outlook and dynamic creativity, Galway is a filmmaker's dream – a city both old and new that boasts medieval streets, charismatic old pubs and flashes of bold modern architecture. In 2014, this western gem was designated a UNESCO City of Film, acknowledging Ireland's writers and producers, as well as the Galway Film Centre, the Irish Film Board and TG4 (the Irish-language television station), all of which are based in the city. The Galway Film Fleadh (festival) in July is a great way to soak up a slice of Galway's film scene, and the intimate venues, post-screening events and sense of energy and fun throughout the city during festival time give it a unique ambience. Beyond the city, the county of Galway has featured in numerous films including Marley & Me, The Guard and The Field.









- 01 Star Wars: The Force Awakens Skellig Michael, County Kerry 02 Game of Thrones®
- Dark Hedges, County Antrim 03 Brooklyn
- acloe Beach, County Wexford 04 Braveheart
- rim Castle, County Meath





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With innovative restaurants, gastropubs and fab farmers' markets. Ireland's food scene is all fired up

When it comes to food on the island of Ireland, you need to start at the very beginning. The natural produce here has made Ireland one of Europe's most talked-about food destinations, with artisan cheese, exceptional beef and lamb, and fresh seafood. From smoked salmon to the creamiest butter, Ireland's food is pure and simple, while traditional dishes of coddle (a bacon, sausage, potato and onion stew), Irish stew (made with lamb, carrot and potatoes), soda bread (a brown bread) and the Ulster Fry (a cooked breakfast) celebrate the great flavours of the past.



#### Traditional meets modern

With such a prodigiously stocked natural larder, it's no wonder that the island's chefs make full use of the great produce on their doorstep. There's a real buzz about restaurants right now, which plays out in creative, authentic cooking everywhere from the big cities to the smallest coastal villages. You'll find wonderful dishes using the best ingredients at great spots such as **Canteen**, a simple, modern eatery in Celbridge, County Kildare, specialising in local, seasonal Irish and European food. Idás in Dingle, County Kerry, also turns the best local and foraged produce into amazing tasting menus that celebrate West Kerry's flavours, while Wine & Brine in Moira, County Armagh, uses age-old techniques to create exceptional dishes including black pudding sausage rolls, slow-cooked pork shoulder, and cured and torched mackerel.

- 01 Klaw Temple Bar, Dublin
- 02 Idás Dingle, County Kerry
- 03 Love Fish Belfast
- 04 Moran's Oyster Cottage Kilcolgan, County Galway 05 Taste & Tour Belfast



## 03

Great food deserves great drinks to go with it – and Ireland certainly delivers. Irish whiskey ranges from the traditional flavours of **Bushmills** and **Jameson** to the newer tastes of Teeling, Glendalough and Nephin. Craft beers can be found everywhere, so keep your eye out for local brews such as Trouble Brewing, James Brown Brews and Northbound. Gin, meanwhile, is emerging as one of the island's most exciting artisan drinks, with small distilleries including Blackwater No.5 and Shortcross Gin. Finally, enjoy a taste of the "orchard county", County Armagh, with the award-winning AJ Apple Juice, made from freshly pressed Armagh apples, and Armagh cider – simply delicious!







#### A taste of the sea

With oysters and crab claws, mussels and lobster, Ireland's seafood is nothing short of exceptional. All around the island, you'll find enticing places to enjoy super-fresh flavours, from the plates of oysters at the Temple Bar Food Market to cosy Klaw in Dublin's Crown Alley – and from the famous Mourne Seafood Bar in Dundrum, County Down, to Love Fish in Belfast. Fancy some top-notch seafood right by the water? Then check out Harry's Shack on Portstewart Strand, County Londonderry, Moran's Oyster Cottage in Kilcolgan, County Galway, and Trá Bán in Strandhill, County Sligo.





#### The best local drinks



#### Top tip

Get to know Ireland's food scene from the inside out and taste some excellent local produce with a walking tour from Belfast's Taste & Tour, and Fab Food Trails in Dublin and Cork. &



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THE LOOP

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# A JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

Curious about your Irish ancestors? Here's how to get started on an adventure into your own personal history

#### **Getting started**

Tracing your ancestry involves its fair share of history, bloodlines and late-night sleuthing, but when it comes to Ireland, it's also about the maths. While just over six million people live on the island of Ireland, nearly 30% of Australians claim some Irish ancestry. From Canberra to Cairns, and from Adelaide to Alice Springs, generations of emigrants have spread their wings, taking their own brand of Irishness to places all over Australia. Of course, starting on a journey of discovery can be daunting, but it's a good idea to think simple. Make a list of siblings, parents, grandparents and cousins, as far back as possible, and include any details you know: names, dates of birth, where they lived, where they were born. If you don't know, ask relatives. Next, gather together any material you can, including letters; birth, marriage or death certificates; photos; memorial cards; and locations of family graves. Focus your research first on where you know the ancestor spent the last years of their life and broaden out from there. Karel Kiely of Roots Ireland recommends trying to find out where your relations may have died, and if they appear in ships' passenger lists or in newspapers. Collect as much information as possible and keep notes.

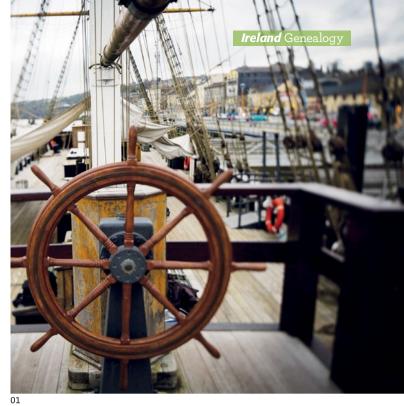




#### Make the journey home

Coming to Ireland will add a whole new dimension to your genealogy experience, and enables you to access an amazing amount of resources, as well as visiting the very place that your ancestors were born. There are free, walk-in advisory services and census records at the National Library and National Archives in Dublin, and in Northern Ireland you can access public records at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) and registers of births, deaths, marriages and adoptions at the General Register Office for Northern Ireland (GRONI). Many counties boast their own county genealogy centres, and a list is available on **rootsireland.ie**. Dublin's Glasnevin Cemetery holds burial records for over 1.5 million people and a Genealogy Research Centre (glasnevintrust.ie), while the Military Archives offers a range of information for the Republic of Ireland (militaryarchives.ie). Don't miss the Irish Family History Centre at EPIC Ireland in Dublin, with genealogy experts, family history records and interactive displays. And while rummaging through records is a vital part of the genealogy experience, remember that tracing your ancestry is ultimately an emotional undertaking and nothing can compare with the living history aspect of this journey. It'll stay with you forever.







04

#### Think outside the box

You will encounter obstacles along the way, so be flexible. Online databases make a good place to go hunting. Use websites such as the Irish Government-sponsored **irishgenealogy.ie**, or build a family tree on **ancestry.com** that faraway relatives can add to. Ireland Family History on Facebook is great for making contacts, while the Ulster Historical Foundation at **ancestryireland.com** is a useful resource that traces Scots-Irish and Irish roots. Remember that sometimes you don't need to start your research in Irish databases, though, as Karel Kiely advises: "If your ancestor emigrated from Ireland, don't start your research in Ireland. Working back from the known to the unknown, generation by generation, is the only way to be sure."



- 01 Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience New Ross, County Wexford 02 Glasnevin Cemetery
- 02 Glasnevin Cemetery Dublin
- 03 EPIC Ireland
- 04 Blasket Islands
- County Kerry
- 05 Linen Hall Library Belfast

# IRELAND'S CITIES

Take a break in some of the most exciting cities in the world, from bursts of fresh coastal air in Dublin to great sightseeing in Belfast, Cork and Derry~Londonderry





## Dublin

Dublin charms the visitor with a gorgeous coastal setting, compelling history, lively nightlife and an impressive food scene. The city gives off a warm, laid-back atmosphere thanks to friendly locals who view the world with a wry smile. This is a destination you'll want to return to again and again.

Dating back to Viking times, Dublin is a city where historic buildings sit next to cool cafés and quirky craft shops. Take a wander around the old city area and you'll happen upon ancient structures such as **Christ Church Cathedral** (founded around 1030), **The Brazen Head Pub** (1198) and **Dublin Castle** (1204).

Around Merrion Square and Fitzwilliam Square, Georgian terraces of tall, elegant townhouses from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century overlook leafy parks used for festivals and an outdoor cinema in summer. Georgian Dublin also boasts impressive, free-to-enter museums and galleries, including the **National Gallery** and the **Natural History Museum**.

Dublin is a cultural capital. You won't go far in the city without hearing a tune, whether it's from talented buskers on Grafton Street or traditional music coming from a pub. The city is also famous for being a powerhouse of the written word. In this UNESCO City of Literature, you can immerse yourself in all things literary at the **Dublin Writers Museum**; join the entertaining **Literary Pub Crawl** around some pubs beloved of writers, such as The Duke, frequented by Patrick Kavanagh and Brendan Behan; or visit the **James Joyce Museum** beside the sea in Sandycove, County Dublin, now a pilgrimage site for enthusiasts of modern literature.

Backed by mountains and on the edge of the Irish Sea, Dublin makes the most of its striking location, with great coastal villages that ooze charm and a bounty of cliff walks, castles, cool bars and "craic" (fun). So whether you're enjoying the energetic atmosphere of the modern city or a leisurely stroll to take in the views, you'll find Dublin is a breath of fresh air.

- 01 Ha'penny Bridge 02 Dublin Castle
- 02 Dublin Castle
- 04 Guinness Storehouse
- 05 Trinity College 06 The Forty Foot, Sandycove
- 07 Delahunt restaurant

Five great places to visit

#### **Guinness Storehouse**

Learn all about the history of Ireland's famous black stout in the impressive Guinness Storehouse at the home of the brewery in St James's Gate. The fascinating tour ends with a pint of the "black stuff" in the Gravity Bar, which has panoramic views across the city.

#### Trinity College and the Book of Kells

The cobblestone courtyards of Trinity College are a peaceful haven from the bustle of the city. Trinity's highlights include the Book of Kells, a richly decorated manuscript from the 9<sup>th</sup> century, and the impressive Long Room, home to 200,000 of the library's oldest books.

#### Kilmainham Gaol

When it first opened in 1796, this prison was used to house convicts bound for Australia. Kilmainham later became a symbol of the Irish fight for independence, when the leaders of the 1916 Irish Rising were executed here.

#### **National Museum of Ireland**

Uncover Ireland's rich history through artefacts that date back thousands of years. The glittering collection of prehistoric gold jewellery at Ór, Ireland's Gold exhibition, includes decorative collars dating from the Bronze Age. And don't miss the section on the mysterious Iron Age bodies discovered in Irish bogs.

#### **Temple Bar**

In this central location between the River Liffey and Dame Street, you'll find pubs, restaurants and clubs along Temple Bar's cobbled streets. The Gallery of Photography, a weekend book market and a summer design market every Saturday at Cow's Lane add to the attractions. 04











# PHOTO: BARRY McCA









#### Food and drink

With its hip cafés, bustling brasseries and elegant fine-dining restaurants, Dublin's food scene is one of the most exciting in Europe. Enjoy a taste of Ireland's famous seafood

Enjoy a taste of Ireland's famous seafood in restaurants such as **Matt the Thresher** on Pembroke Street Lower, **Fish Shop** in Smithfield and **Catch 22** on South Anne Street. Modernmeets-traditional at **Delahunt** on Camden Street Lower, where menus feature local produce transformed by often-overlooked cookery techniques. For innovative cuisine with a focus on the best local ingredients, try **Locks** in Portobello or the contemporary neighbourhood bistro **Bastible** on South Circular Road. The **Temple Bar Food Market** in Meeting

The **Temple Bar Food Market** in Meeting House Square is great for a Saturday stroll, featuring stalls laden with everything from seasonal fruit and vegetables to cheeses and meats. Don't miss **Leo Burdock's** at Christ Church Cathedral for traditional takeaway fish and chips wrapped in paper, or go for a light lunch in one of the city's popular cafés, such as **Bewley's**, a Grafton Street institution.



#### Dublin tips

Dublin has plenty of grassy spaces – there's St Stephen's Green, known for its pretty ponds and blooming flowerbeds, and Phoenix Park, Europe's largest enclosed city park, with its resident herd of fallow deer. Or try the peaceful Iveagh Gardens, a secret green oasis off Harcourt Street, which has a yew maze and ornate fountains.

For a bracing cliff walk and exhilarating sea views, spend a couple of hours exploring the remarkable cliff path on the Howth Peninsula, easily accessible by rapid rail service (DART) heading north from the city centre.

Take the DART south to Sandycove for a dip at the famous Forty Foot bathing spot, and a walk along the scenic seafront. Top things off with an ice cream from Teddy's, close to Dún Laoghaire's East Pier – it's a favourite with Dubliners.

See the 800-year-old mummies in the vaults of St Michan's Church. The first church was founded here in 1095 and the bodies are thought to have been preserved by limestone in the vault walls.







## **Belfast**

With welcoming locals and sensational sightseeing attractions, Belfast is a city with an undeniable allure. Spend a weekend, a week or even longer here, and you'll discover a place that can trace its origins back to the Bronze Age – a magnetic metropolis with a Titanic past and a vivacious present.

To soak up Belfast's unique atmosphere, it's best to explore it on foot, walking the compact centre to absorb the pulsating mix of music venues, traditional pubs, critically acclaimed restaurants and art galleries. The Cathedral Quarter, set around St Anne's Cathedral, contains some of the city's oldest streets and radiates an arty vibe, with distinctive old pubs, such as the characterful **Duke of** York, as well as the bustling restaurantfilled St Anne's Square and The MAC (Metropolitan Arts Centre).

Walk along the River Lagan, and you'll enter the heart of Belfast's industrial past, when it was once one of the greatest places in the world for shipbuilding. This is the city whose shipyards built the Titanic and her sister ships, the Olympic and Britannic. The Titanic Quarter in Belfast

Harbour is now home to **Titanic Belfast**. a state-of-the-art exhibition tracing the tragic tale of the "Ship of Dreams". It's also where you can take a walk back in time on board the SS Nomadic, which once ferried first- and second-class passengers out to the Titanic, and is the last remaining White Star Line ship in the world. At Alexandra Dock, a short walk from Titanic Belfast, sits HMS Caroline, a WWI Light Battle Cruiser. The exhibition on the ship covers battles, weaponry and life at sea.

More recently, Belfast has become a hub of all things Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup>. The epic series is filmed in the Titanic Studios in the city, and many tours around Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> locations in Northern Ireland depart from Belfast. For another slice of Westeros intrigue, nip into the **Dark Horse** coffee shop to see one of the 10 Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> doors, which are carved from felled trees from the Dark Hedges.

- 01 Titanic Belfast 02 Belfast City Hall
- 03 Queen's University
- 04 Crumlin Road Gaol
- 05 Carrickfergus Castle 06 The Gobbins
- 07 The Crown Liquor Saloon

#### Five great places to visit

#### **Crumlin Road Gaol**

A working prison from 1845 to 1996. Crumlin Road Gaol is now an exciting visitor attraction within a dramatic 19<sup>th</sup> century space. Concerts and events are regularly held at the prison, and those who dare can take the Paranormal Tour after dark.

#### **Belfast City Hall**

Belfast's architectural centrepiece is City Hall. with beautiful surrounding gardens and impressive statues. Free public tours bring visitors through the interior's finest rooms and exhibitions.

#### **Ulster Museum**

Set within the delightful Botanic Gardens, the Ulster Museum's exhibitions trace the history and prehistory of Ireland and map out the rise of Belfast's crafts and trades. There are marvels wherever you turn, so give yourself enough time to enjoy it all.

#### Carrickfergus Castle

About 30 minutes north of the city on the shores of Belfast Lough, you'll find Carrickfergus Castle. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century by the Normans, it has withstood sieges by the Scots, Irish, English and French over the years, and is one of the best-preserved medieval castles on the island of Ireland.

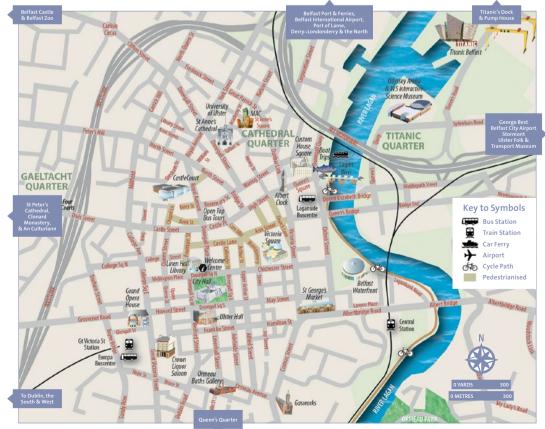
#### The Gobbins

The Gobbins Cliff Path was designed by the railway engineer Berkeley Deane Wise in 1902. Extensively renovated, it's now a stunning walkway that skirts the coastline, goes through caves and over modern bridges.





















#### Food and drink

winning food producers, breweries and food markets, Belfast's food scene is winning international accolades for good reason. The creativity in the kitchens of both **O** and **Eipic** 

creativity in the kitchens of both **Ox** and **Eipic** has been recognised with Michelin stars in recent years, while fresh seafood is the star at **Fish City**, popular for its fish and chips. Don't miss **St George's Market** (Fri–Sat), offering all types of gourmet nibbles from fresh produce to hot food, plus delicious coffees and cakes, often accompanied by live music. You can also take a guided food tour of the city from the market, sampling local drinks and dishes and learning about artisan food producers. There are pubs for all tastes in Belfast, but it's the old pubs that have the most character. Between Ann Street and High Street, explore the tiny cobblestone area called The Belfast Entries, for historic establishments such as

Entries, for historic establishments such as White's Tavern and The Morning Star Bar. Or check out the beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century Crown Liquor Saloon on Great Victoria Street.

#### **Belfast** tips

Almost hidden away on Donegall Square, the handsome Linen Hall Library is Belfast's oldest library and was founded in 1788. A general tour takes place Mon–Sat at 11:30am.

Drop in for lunch or afternoon tea at Belfast Castle Estate and Cave Hill Visitor Centre, and explore the gardens and walking trails – they offer great views over the city and Belfast Lough.

The Chronicles of Narnia writer CS Lewis was born in east Belfast – visit CS Lewis Square to see sculptures from The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, or follow a self-guided trail to places from the author's early life that may have inspired his later writings.

Take a day trip from Belfast to visit key Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> locations, such as the Dark Hedges and impressive Castle Ward, home of Winterfell. Or journey along the stunning Causeway Coastal Route. dropping in at the Giant's Causeway and then on to beautiful Ballintoy Harbour, otherwise known as the Iron Islands.





## **Derry~Londonderry**

With its ancient city walls, great street food and craft-beer scene, and a strong creative streak that vibrates through galleries, studios, shops and museums, the city of Derry~Londonderry has never been more exciting than it is right now.

Still buzzing from its year as UK Capital of Culture, the city's many layers unfold as you walk around its historic streets, from the soaring modern lines of the Peace Bridge to the 400-year-old walls. As the main city in Ireland's northwest, Derry~Londonderry is where the Wild Atlantic Way meets the Causeway Coastal Route. The beauty of its setting on the River Foyle can be best enjoyed from these famous walls, where views stretch as far as the distant Donegal hills.

From on high, you can also look down on the tangle of city streets, where modern life bustles in energetic trad sessions, great local restaurants and enchanting old buildings – all combining to give the city its unique local flavour.

First time here? Take a tour and see one of the city's fascinating flipsides, whether it's the story of the colourful street art and murals with Bogside Artists, or artisan food tours with Made in Derry. Take a step into something special.

### Cork

Cork is resolutely charismatic, with warm, friendly people who are fiercely proud of their city. And why wouldn't they be? With a beautiful location on an island at the mouth of the River Lee, the city serves up a bustling blend of cafés and restaurants, vibrant art galleries, absorbing museums and old pubs.

Walking through the streets you can weave from the working hustle and bustle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century **English Market** to the elegant Crawford Art Gallery, where Irish artists such as Paul Henry, Jack B Yeats and Dorothy Cross share space with the original 5<sup>th</sup> century Athenian discusthrower, Discobolus. You can lunch on oysters overlooking the River Lee at the Electric Fish Bar, and dine alfresco by a waterfall in the pretty courtyard at Greenes Restaurant, housed within an old warehouse.

Best explored on foot, Cork is the kind of city that has a little bit of everything, including artsy enclaves and the historic Huguenot district. Attractions here often come with a pleasing quirk, whether it's the fascinating Butter Museum or a chance to ring the church bells at St Anne's Church. Creative, cultured and cool. Cork is a charmer.



#### What to see

Sitting pretty within reach of the walls, the beautiful red-brick Guildhall boasts stunning stained-glass windows and stands like an anchor within the vibrant Guildhall Square. Mere steps from here is the river-spanning **Peace Bridge** – a Derry~Londonderry icon, and a scenic spot from which to watch the majestic River Foyle rush towards a meeting with Lough Foyle to the north. And don't miss the awardwinning **Tower Museum**, which traces the city's history and culminates in a panoramic open-air viewing platform. Located within the historic city walls, the museum also includes an exhibition on the shipwrecked Armada vessel, La Trinidad Valencera.

> 01 The Guildhall 02 Derry~Londonderry Walls 03 The Peace Bridge 04 Warehouse No 1



#### What to see

Two Cork attractions allow a peek into the bygone age of the penal system: the 17<sup>th</sup> century Elizabeth Fort was used as an army barracks, a female prison and a police station in its time, and Cork City Gaol housed prisoners during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Take a walk on the wild side at the Fota Wildlife Park, a 30-minute journey from the city centre. Dedicated to conservation and education, the park is home to lions, gibbons, bison and red panda; animals either roam free or live in natural paddocks. Back in the city, get an art fix at the **Lewis** Glucksman Gallery or mix with the stars at the Blackrock Castle Observatory, just outside the city on the banks of the River Lee.

> 05 The River Lee 06 The English Market 07 Elizabeth Fort 08 Café Paradise



#### Food and drink

Traditional pubs, culture on tap and elegant eateries: the Derry~Londonderry food scene is a joy to explore A good food scene is a joy to explore. A good place to start is the traditional pub of **Peadar O'Donnell's** for live music and a pint of porter. For something a bit different, the **Walled City Brewery** mixes a restaurant and brewery to great effect, serving craft beers and gins. A taste of Derry~Londonderry's renowned local food can be best appreciated in the fine-dining favourite, **Brown's**. Mixing elegant surrounds and top ingredients, it's one of the city's best restaurants. Finally, don't miss **Warehouse No 1** – boasting a shop, gallery, café and bistro, it's the perfect balance of culture and food in the scenic balance of culture and food in the scenic surrounds of Guildhall Square.

# Cafe Paradiso

#### Food and drink

Foodies will get a real kick out of Cork's fabulous food scene. Walk around the historic **English Market** and you'll come across artisan cheese, smoked fish and creamy chocolate among the buzzing food stalls. The city's restaurants are energetic and innovative, with celebrated vegetarian hotspots such as **Iyers** and **Café Paradiso**. The **Farmgate Café** in the English Market does a nice line in traditional Irish food, and you'll get wonderful salads at **The Rocket Man** on Princes Street. When it comes to pubs, you're spoiled for choice in Cork with the craft-beer favourite of the Franciscan Well Brewery, music-filled Crane Lane and Dan Lowery's Tavern, with local beers, toasted sandwiches and traditional décor.

# CITIES TO EXPLORE

are fascinating

#### Armagh

Ireland's ecclesiastical capital? Welcome to Armagh, proud possessor of two cathedrals, both dedicated to St Patrick. A small and attractive city, Armagh is perfect for exploring on foot. Wander through the gracious tree-lined Georgian Mall (once a rather scandalous racecourse); watch out for the 22 quirky bronze gargoyles and angels hidden around the city; or visit the ancient ceremonial monument of Navan Fort. Armagh has some great restaurants, including The Moody Boar and 4 Vicars making this a spot to be savoured.

#### Galway

The spirit of Ireland's west coast is very much present in this vibrant seaside city. Galway is never far from a festival (arts, film, horse racing and oysters are all celebrated in quick succession during the summer months). This, combined with its compact streets and colourful shop fronts, gives the feeling of a rolling street party. The super Galway City Museum, thriving food scene (Galway has two Michelin-starred restaurants, Aniar and Loam) and the scenic coastal suburb of Salthill seal the deal.

#### Kilkennv

Located in Ireland's Ancient East, Kilkenny mixes nightlife, great food and culture to perfection. This city will wow you with medieval showpieces by day, and keep you entertained in traditional pubs by night. Walk the Medieval Mile and be catapulted back centuries amid Tudor inns, merchant townhouses, hidden alleys and historic big hitters such as Kilkenny Castle and St Canice's Cathedral. The city also boasts great craft shops, design studios and the Smithwick's Experience Kilkenny.

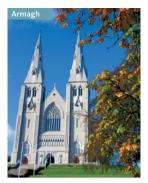
#### Limerick

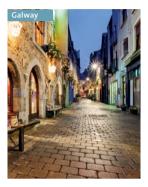
Limerick is a place with culture at its heart. Overlooking the River Shannon, this appealing medieval city is known for its festivals, galleries and museums. There's the faded Georgian elegance of the Newtown Pery district; the Hunt Museum, with its collection of precious art and antiquities; and the Frank McCourt Museum, based in the author's old school. See rugby at Thomond Park, try local food at the Milk Market's weekend market and explore the fortifications of the 13<sup>th</sup> century **King** John's Castle.

#### Waterford

The atmosphere in Waterford is more small town than big city, but you'll find lots to do in this mini medieval metropolis in Ireland's Ancient East. Waterford was founded by the Vikings and the city's history is explained within the Viking Triangle, which contains the Medieval Museum, Bishop's Palace and Reginald's Tower. See beautiful cut glass at the House of Waterford Crystal taste a freshly baked "blaa" (bread roll) at the Granary Café or take a walk along the historic quays.

Whether you're planning a quick city trip or a longer getaway, you'll find that the cities on the island of Ireland are as diverse as they











# ONLY IN IRELAND

From adventures in spectacular coastal surroundings to exciting city escapes, the island of Ireland offers incredible experiences from the breathtaking to the musical

#### Walk in the footsteps of giants

The Causeway Coastal Route stretches from Belfast to Derry~Londonderry and is one of Ireland's greatest adventures. Right at the heart of it you'll find the astounding Giant's Causeway. This unusual, honeycomb landscape features 40,000 hexagonal basalt stepping stones, whose history reaches back 60 million years to a time of intense volcanic activity. Today, crashing Atlantic waves, soaring hills and fascinating legends that tell of warring giants make visiting this UNESCO World Heritage Site an experience to cherish. Hop over the terrain of interlocking stones splashed by waves, explore the different walking trails that reach out along the coast and marvel at the mix of science and stories within the award-winning Visitor Experience. After all of that, it's time to sit back, relax and watch the intense green, grey and warm orange of the landscape change in the light, over one of the most remarkable geological formations on the planet. It's what dreams are made of.









#### **Traditional music**

Picture this: a cosy pub, friendly locals and the rapturous sounds of traditional Irish tunes. Irish music sessions are legendary for good reason – toes are tapped, hands are clapped and the atmosphere is electric. Dotted around the island, you'll find hundreds of traditional music pubs boasting local musicians and guest performers. Drop in, sit back and soak up the sounds, or if you can play an instrument, pull up a stool and take part – it's what makes a music session on the island of Ireland so enjoyable. Step through the doors of amazing pubs such as The Cobblestone in Dublin, Buckley's in Killarney, County Kerry, and Kelly's Cellars in Belfast and you'll be treated to the delightful melodies made by bodhráns (a handheld drum), fiddles (violins) and tin whistles.

## See the Burren in wildflower season

The moon-like limestone plateau of the Burren in County Clare is one of Ireland's most intriguing natural wonders. Cool grey rock etched with crevices and cracks tumbles down to the Atlantic Ocean creating a dramatic windswept space. It may seem like a hostile environment for nature to bloom, but in May, this stark stretch of County Clare is splashed with exceptional colour as Arctic, alpine, Mediterranean and local plants and flowers burst through the stone. To enjoy the Burren and its environment to the full, walk it with experts such as Heart of Burren Walks; visit the Burren Nature Sanctuary on a 50-acre organic farm; and soak up the Burren in Bloom Festival (May), which features garden visits, demonstrations and cultural events.

#### Tour Belfast by taxi

We like to do things a little differently on the island of Ireland, and city tours are no exception. There are so many exciting ways to visit our cities, from zipping around on a fun-filled tour by Segway to guided beer or whiskey outings, but if you're after a unique way to discover Belfast, then don't miss a **Black Taxi Tour**. Friendly and informative local drivers will whisk you to some of Belfast's most interesting sights, all from the comfort of a traditional black taxi cab. It's a great way to see the city and get the inside track on Belfast's history, culture and customs. You can even take a Black Taxi Tour all the way out to the Giant's Causeway or around some key Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> locations, including the Dark Hedges and Ballintoy Harbour.

- 01 Giant's Causeway County Antrim
- 02 Johnnie Fox's Pub Glencullen, County Dublin
- 03 The Burren County Clare
- 04 Black Taxi Tour Belfast

#### Ride a jaunting car through Killarney National Park

Deep in the heart of County Kerry, the Killarney National Park is one of the most majestically beautiful parts of the island, with mountains, tranquil waters and indigo lakes. Walking or cycling around is a real delight, but one of the most enjoyable ways to discover this landscape is in a traditional jaunting car. With a soundtrack of horses' hooves clip-clopping along and a cheerful guide leading the way, a jaunting tour covers the park's most scenic spots including the 15<sup>th</sup> century **Ross Castle** and the moodily beautiful **Lough Leane**. Sit back, relax and enjoy a very Irish mode of travel before taking some time to explore the beautiful 19th century Muckross House, with its craft shop and traditional farms.



#### Try a castle banquet

A unique way to enjoy Ireland's castles is with a sumptuous banquet, which take place all over the island and offer wonderful food, wine, storytelling and song within historic surroundings. There's the 15<sup>th</sup> century **Bunratty Castle** in County Clare, where the Earl of Thomond's butler hosts an evening within the Great Hall amidst decorative tapestries and medieval furniture. At the **Dunguaire Castle Banquet** on the shores of Galway Bay, the Banquet Hall brings you back to the medieval era with bench seating, dim candlelight and long oak tables. Or step into the world of Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> at the Winterfell Tours Medieval **Banquet Nights** in the grounds of Castle Ward in County Down with costumes, open fires, hog roasts and traditional music. There's Winterfell Craft Beer from the Castle Brewery and pitchers of fine wine to enjoy along with roasted boar and a 17<sup>th</sup> century-style apple pie.









24 Ireland





Cycle onto an island

Cycling onto an island might sound like a hard thing to do, but not in Ireland! Take to two wheels on the Great Western Greenway in County Mayo and you can pedal right onto one of the most beautiful spots off Ireland's west coast – Achill Island. Starting in the lively town of Westport, famous for its traditional pubs and 18<sup>th</sup> century elegance, the 42km Greenway is a wonderful off-road walking and cycling trail, and passes dramatic mountain scenery, alongside Clew Bay and through the pretty villages of Newport and Mulranny. The end point is Achill – a beautiful Atlantic gem featuring coffee-coloured peat bogs, mountain peaks and the sublime Keem Bay. Don't miss the famous Dooagh beach, which reappeared after a 30-year absence and caused a sensation worldwide!

#### Experience St Patrick's Day

It's unique, it's iconic, it's exhilarating. On 17 March, the island of Ireland thrums with energy, celebration and events that range from artistic to eccentric. Dublin gives itself over to a fabulous four-day festival with a parade, music and a carnival atmosphere. Armagh and Down embark on a thrilling programme of events with the **Home of St Patrick Festival**. Special performances feature local and international acts with music, art and theatre all inspired by the life and work of St Patrick. And wherever you go, from the oldest parade on the island in Wexford town to family concerts in Galway, you'll be treated to a celebratory atmosphere like no other. Don your green and join in the fun – you won't be sorry!

#### Experience a "walk on water"

Wrapped around the sea cliffs of County Antrim, **The Gobbins** is the only guided adventure walk of its kind in Europe. Here, along the Causeway Coastal Route only 32km from Belfast, lies a stunning path that weaves around the coast, winds through passages hewn out of rock and over dramatic bridges suspended over the sea. Designed by the railway engineer Berkeley Deane Wise in 1902 as a bold new visitor attraction, the path was closed to the public in 1954. But after extensive, exciting renovations, this remarkable walk is once again thrilling visitors with glimpses of native sea birds, tales of smugglers' caves and exceptional coastal views.

- 05 Killarney National Park County Kerry
- 06 Great Western Greenway County Mayo
- 07 St Patrick's Festival Dublin
- 08 Bunratty Castle County Clare
- 09 The Gobbins County Antrim

## RELAND'S NACIENT EAST Warder Through Time IRELAND'S ANCIEND'S ANCIENTS ANCIENTS

At first glance, the east of Ireland is all soft green fields, busy little towns and gentle rivers. But this is a landscape full of secrets, of battles and betrothals, of stars and the spirit world, of wealth and sometimes wickedness. Welcome to Ireland's Ancient East

#### 01 Brú na Bóinne County Meath

01

In a quiet part of County Meath is one of the most important prehistoric landscapes in the world. At Brú na Bóinne, human activity can be traced back 6,000 years and it's where you will find a passage tomb that predates the pyramids at Giza. Newgrange's spiral-engraved kerbstones and white Wicklow quartzite topped with grass make an impressive sight, but step into the dark heart of this UNESCO World Heritage Site and a secret is unveiled. Every year, on the winter solstice, a beam of sunlight travels up the stone-lined passage illuminating the inner chamber. Quite literally, it's an ancient architectural masterpiece.

#### What's nearby

The Boyne Valley is packed with historical attractions, such as the passage tombs of **Knowth & Dowth**, the **Hills of Slane** and **Tara**, and the 6<sup>th</sup> century Christian settlement of **Monasterboice**.

#### Take time out

Enjoy lunch at elegant **Tankardstown House**, visit **St Peter's Church** in Drogheda to see the head of St Oliver Plunkett in its gilded glass case, and take a walk through the breathtaking **Loughcrew Gardens**.

#### Try something new

Get close to magnificent birds of prey with a falconry lesson at **Newgrange Falconry**.





#### 02 The Rock of Cashel County Tipperary

Nothing can quite beat the spectacle of the iconic Rock of Cashel, which looms over the landscape like a fairytale castle. Legend has it the towering rock was dropped here by the devil, but today it is home to one of the most impressive collections of medieval buildings in Europe. Centuries of history blow through the mysterious remains of the Gothic cathedral, round tower and 15<sup>th</sup> century castle. Listen closely, and you may hear tales of lightning strikes, massacres and the 5<sup>th</sup> century conversion of the King of Munster to Christianity by St Patrick (when he accidentally stabbed the king in the foot with his staff).

1.1.1

#### What's nearby

Seek out **Holy Cross Abbey**, a Cistercian monastery founded by the King of Munster in 1168. The abbey was bestowed with a piece of the True Cross by Queen Isabella of Angoulême around 1233.

#### Take time out

Visit the Fethard Horse Country Experience in the medieval town of Fethard, have lunch at Café Hans in Cashel, and take a walk in the verdant Glen of Aherlow.

#### Try something new

Check ahead to see what's happening at the **Brú Ború** centre, Cashel's hub for traditional Irish music and dance.

#### 03 Kilkenny Castle Kilkenny city

The city's famous 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman castle was home to the Butlers of Ormonde for nearly five centuries, before the 6<sup>th</sup> Marguess of Ormonde offered it to the city of Kilkenny for a mere £50 in 1967. A tour will bring you to the Picture Gallery and around the opulent library, with its vivid colour scheme of garnet-red curtains and Berber-style carpets. Don't have time for a full tour? No problem: 500 years of history is condensed into a 12-minute film in the Medieval Room in the South Tower. Afterwards, stroll around the stunning formal terraced gardens and parkland, with pleasant woodland walks beside the River Nore.

#### What's nearby

The **Medieval Mile** is a great way to uncover the city's many secret stories and compelling attractions, which include accused witches to intricate stained-glass windows.

#### Take time out

Have lunch in the Michelin-starred Campagne, take a tour of Smithwick's Experience Kilkenny to find out about the famous brew, and head out of town to the Nicholas Mosse Pottery mill by the River Nore.

#### Try something new

Join **The Kilkenny Way Ultimate Hurling Experience** for an insight into the world's oldest and fastest field sport.











#### 04 Cobh County Cork

Along an elegant stretch of promenade in the coastal village of Cobh, you'll come across a statue of Annie Moore – the first immigrant to be processed through Ellis Island in New York. Moore was just one of hundreds of thousands of people, from Famine-stricken peasants to convicts bound for Australia, who left Cobh for a new and uncertain life elsewhere. The town also gained fame as the last port of call for Titanic before it left on its ill-fated transatlantic voyage. Discover all about Cobh's maritime connections, history of emigration and Titanic tales at the Cobh Heritage Centre and the Titanic Experience Cobh.

#### What's nearby

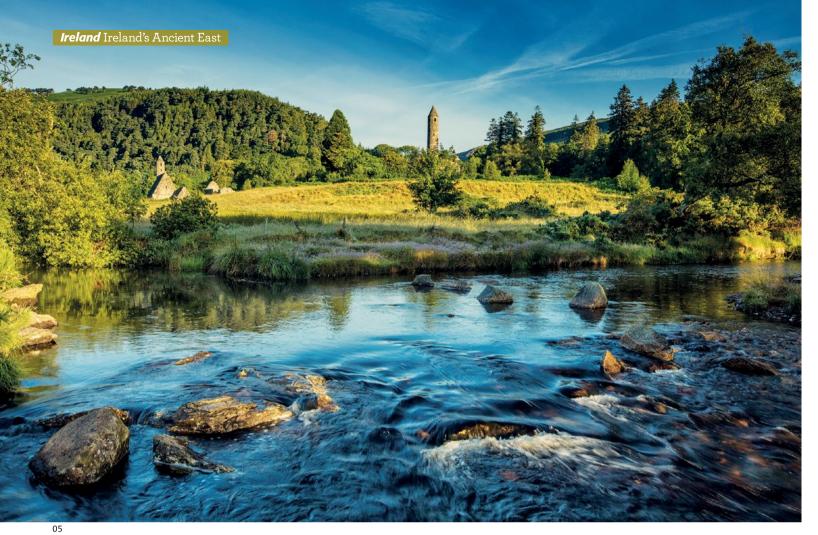
A 30-minute journey by car or bus from Cobh is the city of Cork, with its great attractions including the food hub of the **English Market**, fascinating **Cork City Gaol** and the **Butter Museum**.

#### Take time out

Head to Midleton for dinner at Sage Restaurant, a tour of the Jameson Distillery Midleton, and the excellent Midleton Farmers Market on Saturdays.

#### Try something new

Jump on a boat from Cobh to **Spike Island**, where you can uncover the stories of a prison so petrifying it was once called "Ireland's hell".



#### 05 Glendalough **County Wicklow**

Walk among Glendalough's glassy lakes, wooded valleys and silent ruins and it's easy to see why St Kevin was drawn here in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. The saint lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer in this pastoral wonderland, before establishing a vibrant monastic settlement. The Round Tower, cathedral and priests' houses made the "valley of two lakes" a bustling hub - and a natural target for merciless Viking raids. Explore the ghostly monastic village before setting off into the surrounding landscape on one of the walking trails that skirt the lake and offer beautiful views down through the valley.

#### What's nearby

With views of the River Vartry, The Lighthouse Seafood Restaurant in Wicklow town makes a nice stop: lunch at **Hunter's** in Rathnew – one of Ireland's oldest coaching inns – is something to savour; and the gardens at Mount Usher in Ashford make for a delightful afternoon stroll.

#### Take time out

Outside the village of Enniskerry is the stunning house and gardens of Powerscourt Estate, with the beautiful Powerscourt Waterfall just a 15-minute drive away.

#### Try something new

28 Ireland

Kayak down the picturesque Avonmore River with Wicklow Adventures.





#### 06 Viking Triangle Waterford

The Vikings certainly made their mark on Ireland. Bearing down on the island in the late 8<sup>th</sup> century, they went on to loot monasteries, battle kings and make off with priceless treasures. But they also laid the foundations of many Irish towns and cities, including Waterford, established by Norse raiders in 914AD. Today, Waterford celebrates its Viking legacy in the Viking Triangle at the heart of the city. Join the 45-minute Epic Tour of the Viking Triangle, which traces the city's 1,100 years of history before visiting the King of the Vikings, an exciting 3D virtual-reality experience in a recreated Viking house.

#### What's nearby

Waterford itself is packed with things to do, from a visit to the Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre. to a tour of the Waterford Treasures. a trio of museums including the Bishop's Palace, Reginald's Tower and the Medieval Museum.

#### Take time out

Try a "blaa", the floury bread roll for which the city is famed; drop into Henry Downes bar, with its own whiskey blend; or visit the seaside village of **Dunmore** East.

#### Try something new

Between Waterford and Dungarvan, journey to the stunning Waterford Greenway to walk or cycle all or some of the 46km off-road trail.

#### 07 Clonmacnoise **County Offaly**

Travelling down the River Shannon on a replica Viking ship to the ancient monastic site of Clonmacnoise is enough to give you goosebumps. It's a captivating way to arrive at this sacred place, which was founded by St Ciaran in 544AD. Today, Clonmacnoise catapults you back to a time of religious, literary and artistic creativity, and the site abounds with tales of devotion, Viking raids and kingly connections. Set amid the beautiful green fields of County Offaly and next to the River Shannon, there are churches, two round towers, high crosses and a cathedral, as well as the largest collection of Early Christian graveslabs in Europe.

#### What's nearby

Follow the river north to the town of Athlone, where you can discover the history of the area at the Athlone Castle Visitor Centre; visit Birr Castle, Gardens and Science Centre; or explore the beautiful Lough Boora Discovery Park.

#### Time take out

Relax with a slow lunch at The Fatted Calf in Glasson; have a pint in Sean's Bar in Athlone, reputed to be the oldest pub in Ireland; and take a stroll around the Ballinahown Eco-Craft Village, on the outskirts of Athlone.

#### Try something new

Take a boat trip down the River Shannon with The River Run Pleasure Cruiser from Athlone.

#### 08 Irish National Stud **County Kildare**

Surrounded by the pastures of County Kildare, the National Stud is one of the most prestigious thoroughbred horsebreeding facilities on the island of Ireland. Here, stallions and stargazing are mixed - or at least they used to be - thanks to the superstitions of the stud's founder, Colonel William Hall Walker. The colonel drew up a birth chart for each foal, and if he didn't like the stars, the foal would be sold. Equestrian astrology seems a million miles away at the adjacent Japanese Gardens, created by Walker with the help of master horticulturist Tassa Eida from Japan. It's a peaceful place where the rest of the world seems to just fade away.

#### What's nearby

Two of Europe's best racecourses, Punchestown and the **Curragh** are nearby, and a race day at either is a thrilling experience. Or visit the Curragh Military Museum, which traces the area's absorbing military history.

#### Take time out

Indulge in some retail therapy at Kildare Village, a designer outlet that offers up to 60% off top labels; enjoy lunch at Lock 13 overlooking the Grand Canal just outside Naas; and visit the blooming gardens at Burtown House, near Athy.

#### Try something new

Take a barge trip from Sallins through 250 years of history along the Grand Canal.









#### 09 Russborough House **County Wicklow**

Tucked away in the County Wicklow countryside sits a grand Palladian mansion that is pure glamour. Step through the impressive facade of Russborough House (said to be the longest of any in Ireland), and you're into a world of captivating stories, sumptuous interiors and exquisite art. The house was bought by Sir Alfred Beit in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and once he moved in, Beit and his wife set about installing a truly phenomenal art collection. Today, the collection remains largely intact and it's a joy to behold these works in rooms that have entertained everyone from Fred Astaire to Mick Jagger.

#### What's nearby

Russborough sits on the edge of the Wicklow Mountains National Park, with its abundance of walking trails. The monastic site of **Glendalough** is nearby, while the Blessington Lakes are only a stone's throw away.

#### Take time out

Enjoy a feast in the **Ballymore Inn**, visit the Museum of Style Icons at Newbridge, and walk the **Blessington Greenway**, which links Blessington with Russborough House.

#### Try something new

Watch a sheepdog demonstration in the grounds of Russborough House on weekend afternoons. 🔗

# THE NORTHERN SCENE

There's nowhere else like it. With so many adventures packed into a small space, Northern Ireland is 2018's game-changing destination. Fantastical Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> landscapes, great food, epic experiences – all lie within easy reach

#### Causeway Coastal Route

Dramatic clifftop castles, white-sand beaches, charming little villages the Causeway Coastal Route delivers an incredible amount of beauty within just 314km. Starting in the vibrant city of Belfast and finishing in **Derry~Londonderry** (or the other way around if you prefer), the route is all about slowing down, taking your time, and savouring the sights, sounds and flavours of this spellbinding coastline. See showstopping views from the craggy heights of **Torr Head**, experience the warmth of local people in the villages of the **Glens of** Antrim, enjoy music and storytelling, and tuck into fresh seafood in cosy pubs after a day of outdoor adventure.

Frequently cited as one of the best touring routes in the world, it's no surprise that the Causeway Coastal Route is a genuine joy to drive. And it's not just the views that impress, either. Part of this route's allure is that so many great places are packed into a relatively short stretch of coastline. There's **Carrickfergus**, with its 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman castle; there's **The Gobbins**, a restored 100-year-old cliff path through tunnels and over bridges; there's **Glenarm Castle**, home to the Earls of Antrim for around 400 years; and there's **Mussenden Temple**, perched on a cliff above the churning ocean.

Catch the ferry from Ballycastle to Rathlin Island and you'll discover a haven for wildlife, including basking seals, puffins and large colonies of seabirds. When you're back on the mainland again, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the **Giant's Causeway** brings you the astounding sight of 40,000 hexagonal stone columns. According to science, intense volcanic activity 60 million years ago created this whimsical landscape, but the local legend of warring giants is a lot more fun.

As you head along the coast, the ruins of the 14<sup>th</sup> century **Dunluce Castle** sit boldly on a stark, rocky headland. And if it looks like it's about to topple into the sea, that may be because part of it already has. According to local tales, on a dark and stormy night in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, part of the kitchen actually collapsed into the pounding waves below.

Not far from Dunluce is one of Northern Ireland's most exceptional golf courses – **Royal Portrush**. Standing proudly on a rocky promontory, edging out into the Atlantic, it has been hailed by golfing greats such as Rory McIlroy and is set to host The Open in 2019.

The route ends in Derry~Londonderry,





with its impressive 400-year-old walls. Walking the ramparts, the beauty of this remarkable city is revealed in all its splendour – a lasting memory of a unique journey.

And if the Causeway Coastal Route has whetted your appetite for spectacular seascapes and memorable experiences, why not continue your adventure on the Wild Atlantic Way?

#### Experience Food in Northern Ireland

Boundary-pushing chefs, a deep respect for local ingredients and a convivial atmosphere in pubs and restaurants have turned Northern Ireland into one of Europe's most exciting food destinations. And a great way to see the landscapes, meet the people and experience the incredible flavours is with a food-inspired tour that takes you from city to sea.

Thanks to an invigorating array of cafés, bars and restaurants that sit elbowto-elbow with delis, street food and the historic **St George's Market**, Belfast is the perfect place to start. This vibrant city has a bumper crop of great places to eat including fine dining at Michelin-starred **Ox** and brunch Belfast-style at **Established Coffee** or **General Merchants Café**. To taste some of what the city has to offer, join a tour such as **Taste & Tour**, which offers outings with all sorts of themes, such as local producers, craft beer and whiskey.

Once you've enjoyed what Belfast has to offer, head south to County Down and the **Schoolhouse**. Set in the heart of the Comber countryside (famous for its potato, the Comber Early), this luxury guest house and restaurant has earned a Michelin Bib Gourmand for creative, quality cooking.

TAKE A WALK THROUGH THE SCENIC MURLOUGH NATURE RESERVE ACROSS THE LAGOON TO WORK UP AN APPETITE BEFORE ENJOYING A FEAST OF CRAB CLAWS

The Schoolhouse also makes a great base for discovering the local highlights of Strangford Lough, Mount Stewart House and Gardens, and the world of Game of Thrones<sup>®</sup> at Castle Ward. Get a taste of all things Winterfell with the ClearSky Adventure at the castle.

The historic **Balloo House**, a short drive away in the small village of Killinchy, is an impressive place to dine. This 400-yearold inn delivers a lovely mix of comfort and charm, with two different dining experiences under one roof. Downstairs is a classic pub, while upstairs you can enjoy seasonal dishes such as Finnebrogue venison liver with creamy mash, crispy onions, bacon, and red wine jus – all in a rustic restaurant setting.

The shores of Dundrum Bay beckon next with a cluster of cosy local pubs and family-run eateries such as **The Buck's Head** and **The Dundrum Inn** as well as the celebrated **Mourne Seafood Bar**. Backed by the Mourne Mountains and overlooking

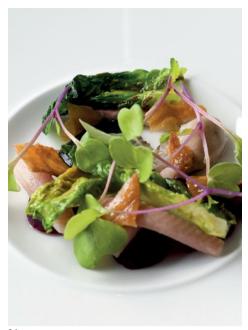












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- 01 Whiterocks County Antrim
- 02 Giant's Causeway County Antrim
- 03 Balloo House County Down
- 04 Ox Belfast
- 05 St George's Market Belfast
- 06 Mourne Seafood Bar County Down
- 07 General Merchants Café Belfast

the sea, this brasserie serves locally caught seafood. Take a walk through the scenic Murlough Nature Reserve across the lagoon to work up an appetite before enjoying a feast of tasty crab claws.

The Mourne Mountains area is known for excellent produce, from artisan honey to creamy Abernethy Butter, used in top restaurants around the world. **NI Food Tours** offers a number of treks in County Down, including a Deep in the Mournes jaunt, where you can meet some of the area's top artisan food producers. Heading back to Belfast, stop off in the small city of Lisburn, where the **Yellow Door Deli** serves up home-cooked breads, stews and pastries.





#### **Destination Fermanagh**

Swaying reeds. Rippling waters. Fields blanketed in vivid green. The Fermanagh Lakelands are a place of profound tranquillity, offering a continuous stream of quiet moments and hidden gems, from ancient statues to forest trails. Rent a small day boat, stay on a canal boat or paddle a kayak through this liquid maze and you'll discover islands, ruined castles, isolated towers and great manor houses, each with a story to tell. Travelling by water is the perfect way to soak up the languorous charm of County Fermanagh, which recently hosted a G8 summit, but there are plenty of land-based adventures to experience along the way.

Set in picturesque locations, Fermanagh's magnificent National Trust mansions and gardens bask in beauty. There's Crom Estate, a vast demesne on the shores of Upper Lough Erne; there's Castle Coole, one of Ireland's finest neoclassical houses with sumptuous Regency interiors: and there's **Florence Court**. the former home to the Earls of Enniskillen, with walks through native woodland.

Back on the water, you'll find an abundance of gentle bends and creaking locks with more waterside curiosities that will entice you to moor up for a few hours. One spot is the award-winning **Watermill Restaurant** at **Kilmore Quay**, a charming spot on the edge of Upper Lough Erne. This delightful restaurant treats guests to fine dining with great local produce and views over the lough.

You'll notice that the Lakelands are studded with islands – in fact, there are 154 of them and **Devenish** is one of the most famous. A monastery was established here in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, before being raided by Vikings, but the oratory of St Molaise and the 12<sup>th</sup> century round tower have survived, painting a vivid picture of the island's monastic past.



Keep an eye out, too, for **Boa Island**, with its 1.500-year-old Janus Man statue: White Island, boasting ancient stone figures; and Lusty Beg, a 74-acre resort with comfortable self-catering and B&B accommodation, featuring activities including archery and kayaking.

Of course, it's not just islands that Fermanagh has to offer. The Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark is home to one of the finest show caves in Europe. Situated at the foothills of Cuilcagh Mountain, this captivating subterranean world is filled with rivers, waterfalls, winding passages and lofty chambers. It's an amazing experience that blends an underground boat journey with a short guided walk through the caves.

Arriving in the town of **Enniskillen**, it's hard to miss the vast stone castle. originally built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Now housing two museums, along with a genealogy and ancestry-research facility, it's an impressive introduction to this County Fermanagh island town, which pulsates with pubs, cafés and restaurants.

With surprises around every corner, Fermanagh never fails to enchant, whether you're enjoying the natural charm of the Bubble Dome accommodation at Finn Lough or the traditions of the beautifully crafted Belleek Pottery just outside Enniskillen Beauty, tranquillity, forests and lakes it's all in a day's play in Fermanagh.





#### Hidden gems

Dominated by the heather-clad **Sperrin Mountains**, County Tyrone is one of Ireland's hidden gems. Dotted with the remains of hidden gems. Dotted with the remains of Celtic standing stones and crisscrossed by a network of quiet farm roads, this is the ideal landscape for walking and cycling, as well as exploring the intriguing journey of the Irish emigrant at the **Ulster American Folk Park** emigrant at the **Uister American Folk Park** in Omagh. Just 45 minutes from Belfast or Derry~Londonderry, the **Seamus Heaney HomePlace** is a must-see on any visit to Northern Ireland, and celebrates the life and literature of one of the world's great Nobel laureates, the poet Seamus Heaney. The exhibition is filled with artefacts, personal choice impace and books many of which bas stories, images and books, many of which have been donated by the Heaney family. 🔗

- 08 Lower Lough Erne County Fermanagh 09 Marble Arch Caves County Fermanagh
- 10 Florence Court County Fermanagh
- 11 Boa Island County Fermanagh
- 12 Seamus Heaney HomePlace County Londonderry





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#### WHERE HISTORY & CULTURE LIVE ON

Russborough is home to one of the most impressive private art collections in Ireland, including Gainsborough, Singer Sargent and van Ostade, which may be viewed by taking a guided tour of the house.

The 18th Century walled garden is available for pre booked tours.

2km walking audio tour of the demesne.

## **COME VISIT US!**

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For Family Fun there is a Maze, Fairy trail, Playground & Tree trail



# SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY

Get in gear for some of the most enchanting destinations on the 2,500km wave-lashed Wild Atlantic Way

#### 01 The Cliffs of Moher

**County Clare** Where is it? The Cliff Coast. Why is it a wonder?

Towering above the crashing Atlantic waves, County Clare's iconic cliffs offer incredible views out over the ocean. The cliffs are more than 300 million years old, and the walks they offer, the teeming birdlife and the interactive visitor centre make for an unforgettable few hours at the edge of the earth.

#### What is there to do nearby?

The Cliffs of Moher are close to the Burren National Park, a wonderland of karstic limestone formations. On your coastal drive, plan a stop in the lively music town of Doolin (where you can also catch a ferry to the Aran Islands) and, for a more remote Atlantic experience, take a car or bike around Loop Head, an awesome







headland where you can spot dolphins and whales, as well as the Loop Head Lighthouse, which dates to 1854. Where to eat?

Try Vaughan's Anchor Inn in the old fishing village of Liscannor, sample local Burren ingredients at the Wild Honey Inn in Lisdoonvarna, or stop into a restaurant with its own turf fire, such as the Riverside Bistro in Doolin. You won't go hungry on the Wild Atlantic Way!

#### 02 The Islands

#### Where are they?

All along the Wild Atlantic Way. Why are they a wonder? Unique, friendly and steeped in

traditional culture, Ireland's islands are full of exceptional landscapes, prehistoric forts, Irish-speaking communities and a real sense of escape. There are those that can be easily accessed, connected by bridges to the mainland at islands such as Achill, County Mayo, and Valentia, County Kerry, or abandoned gems such as Inishmurray off County Sligo and the Blasket Islands off County Kerry. Which island should I visit?

There's an Irish island for every taste. Fancy a thrill? Take the cable car to West Cork's Dursey Island, where the resident

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population is said to be just three. Clear blue waters meet secluded beaches on Inishturk, County Mayo; culture vultures can try a few words of Irish on Cape Clear, County Cork or Tory, County Donegal; and Inis Mór in County Galway is perfect for families.

#### Where to eat?

Find local produce elevated to high art at Inis Meain Restaurant & Suites on the Aran Islands, County Galway: break your adventure on Achill, County Mayo, with a stop at the Achill Cliff House Hotel; or try Seán Rua's restaurant and pizzeria on Cape Clear, County Cork.

#### 03 Skellig Michael

County Kerry Where is it? The Southern Peninsulas. Why is it a wonder?

Skellig Michael lies over 11km off the coast of Kerry's Iveragh Peninsula, a shard-like rock capped by a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a difference. Close to its peak sit several beehive-shaped huts in a monastic site that dates back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century, with sensational views of the Irish coast. As seen in Star Wars: The Force Awakens, history, myth and stunning scenery collide with monumental effect at this



- 01 The Cliffs of Moher County Clare
- 02 Achill Island County Mayo 03 Skellig Michael County Kerry
- 04 Downpatrick Head County Mayo

wilderness site - but come prepared with food and water (there are no facilities). Boats, both to the island and around the island, run from May to October, and are weather-dependent. There are also wonderful views of the islands to be had from the Kerry Cliffs.

#### What is there to do nearby?

The Ring of Kerry is Ireland's iconic touring loop around the Iveragh Peninsula, while the Dingle Peninsula is famous for seafood, the Slea Head Drive and a celebrity dolphin called Fungie. Where to eat?

#### The Moorings at Portmagee is where the Star Wars crew set up shop while filming on the Skelligs. QC's in Cahersiveen is the place to tuck into fresh seafood, or stop for a cup of hot chocolate at Skelligs Chocolate Factory overlooking the sea.

#### 04 Downpatrick Head

#### County Mayo Where it is? The Surf Coast. Why is it a wonder?

Downpatrick Head is one of the wildest, most glorious places on the island of Ireland. It may look modest on the map, but those who venture out from nearby Ballycastle, County Mayo, are rewarded with stunning views of the Dún Briste sea stack, rugged coastal scenery and wildlife. Dún Briste means "broken fort" in Irish, and this piece of rock is believed to have broken away from the mainland in 1393. St Patrick is also said to have founded a church on a headland where you'll find an old holy well and stone cross perched above the Atlantic Ocean. What is there to do nearby?

Visit the oldest known stone-walled farmlands in the world at Céide Fields; > view the Staggs of Broadhaven - a set of five rocky islands off the shore of Mayo's Benwee Head; take a walk around Sligo's Mullaghmore Peninsula (in winter, watch the big wave surfers); or catch a wave yourself at Strandhill beach. Where to eat?

Soak up views of Downpatrick Head from the Stella Maris Country House Hotel; have your fill of tasty home cooking at Mary's Cottage Kitchen in Ballycastle; or continue south to Sligo for the pick of Irish food and drink at Hargadon's atmospheric pub.

#### 05 Old Head of Kinsale

**County Cork** 

Where is it? The Haven Coast. Why is it a wonder?

Stretching nearly 3km into the Atlantic off the coast of West Cork. this dramatic headland is one of Ireland's most exceptional geographical formations. Although the tip of Old Head is now a private golf course, visitors can still take a stunning 6.5km walk around the base of the peninsula – or discover your adventurous side with a sea-kayaking tour. In 1915, German U-boats famously torpedoed the Lusitania offshore, and a 98ft-lighthouse guides ships to the safety of Kinsale Harbour.

#### What is there to do nearby?

Explore the foodie town of Kinsale (bring an appetite), which is packed with craft shops, pubs and seafood restaurants, take a tour of the star-shaped Charles Fort, dating from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, or travel west for a mosey around Clonakilty. Its colourful shops, restaurants and nearby Inchydoney beach make this a firm favourite with visitors.

#### Where to eat?

Eat beautifully presented local dishes in Pilgrim's of Rosscarbery, a small, friendly restaurant with a daily-changing menu; pop into Clonakilty for a local feast at An Súgán pub, restaurant and guest house; or head to Bastion for cutting-edge cuisine in Kinsale.

#### 06 Killary Harbour

County Galway

#### Where is it? The Bay Coast.

Why is it a wonder? Located within the wilderness of

Connemara, Killary Harbour stretches 16km inland from the Atlantic to its head below the Aasleagh Falls, and serves up some of the most dramatic views in Ireland. Cleaving the border between counties Galway and Mayo, activities in Killary range from sea kayaking to sightseeing boat tours. There's a stunning







19<sup>th</sup> century road here, too – the Green Road hugs the coastline tight above the waters of the fjord and is a leap into breathtaking scenery. What is there to do nearby?

Drive to Westport through the awe-inspiring Doolough Valley, set between the Connemara mountains; visit the charming villages and towns of Cleggan, Clifden, Letterfrack and Roundstone; and don't miss Kylemore Abbey. The Benedictine abbey, which casts a breathtaking reflection in its lake, is set on a 1,000-acre estate and is home to Ireland's largest walled garden. Where to eat?

Pop into Mitchell's of Clifden for a local seafood feast; stop for some tasty, home-cooked fare at the Blackberry Café in Leenane; or break your journey with delicious pub grub at O'Dowd's of Roundstone, all in County Galway.

#### 07 Malin Head

**County Donegal** Where is it? The Northern Headlands.

#### Why is it a wonder?

Want the ends of the earth? Ireland's most northerly point is every bit as elemental as you would expect, with rock formations, ancient ruins and some of Europe's largest sand dunes. Crowning the Inishowen

05 Old Head of Kinsale County Cork 06 Killary Harbour County Galway 07 Malin Head County Donegal

Peninsula, Malin Head's natural wonders include basking sharks and exotic birdlife. You might even see the Northern Lights, which are known to appear in the skies above the peninsula. Steeped in myth and history, the area also boasts Banba's Crown, a clifftop tower dating from 1805, and the ominously titled Hell's Hole, where dramatic Atlantic waves crash against cliffs.

#### What is there to do nearby?

Take a journey through Irish life from the 1840s to the present day at Doagh Famine Village; marvel at some of the highest sea cliffs in western Europe at Slieve League further south: or head towards Derry~Londonderry and explore the sights and sounds of the Causeway Coastal Route, where you'll find a whole host of amazing experiences all the way to Belfast.

#### Where to eat?

The convivial Seaview Tavern is Ireland's most northerly bar, hotel and restaurant and boasts wonderful views overlooking islands in the Atlantic; you'll meet an equally friendly welcome at Lily's Bar and Tea Room in Malin town; or grab a cuppa and a pastry from Caffe Banba, the "café on wheels" at Banba's Crown (Easter to September). 🏶

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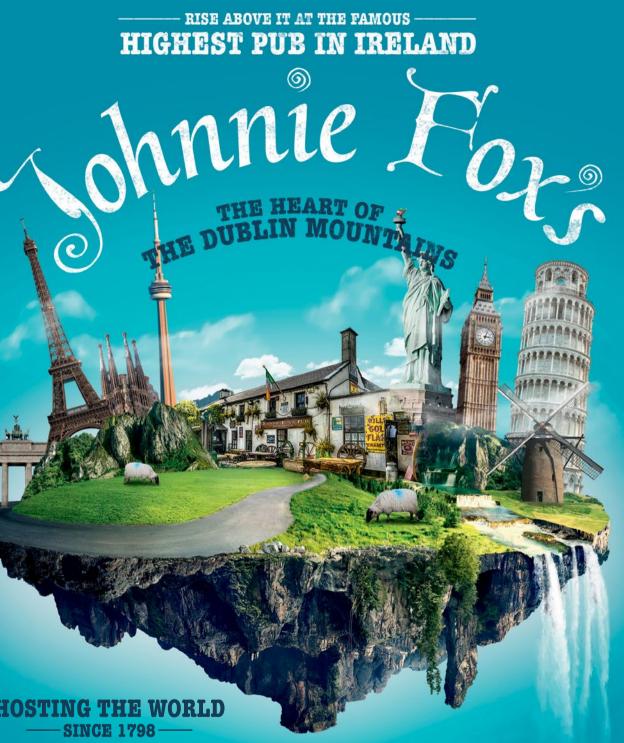
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# **TOWNS AND** VILLAGES

Ireland's towns and villages are full of charm, with beautiful coastal, river and mountainside settings, fascinating historic attractions and best of all, great food, drink and entertainment. Whether you're dropping into a town or village for a browse around the shops and galleries, or picking a base for a few days of exploring the sights, you'll find a warm welcome waiting

#### Wild Atlantic Wav

Sprinkled along the coastline of the Wild Atlantic Way, charming towns and villages offer the visitor a chance to relax and recharge after a windswept day out along the route which stretches from Malin Head in County Donegal to Kinsale in County Cork. Presiding over tranquil bays, cradled by hills or fronting vast Atlantic panoramas, these hamlets mix traditional culture, lively pubs and great seafood restaurants to create truly enchanting coastal destinations.

Once home to the acclaimed Irish playwright Brian Friel, who lived here from 1960 until his death in 2015, Greencastle rests on the edge of Lough Foyle in County Donegal. With a lively

port and pleasant beach, the village takes its name from an early 14<sup>th</sup> century castle, the ruins of which loom over the entrance to the lough. As well as being perfectly placed to enjoy the natural wonders of the stunning Inishowen Peninsula, the village is also home to the popular familyrun Kealy's Seafood Bar, which overlooks the harbour and its busy fishing boats. Settle down and take in the view while enjoying great seafood dishes, such as pan-fried hake with chorizo, olives and cherry tomatoes.

The lively heritage town of Westport in County Mayo is set around two main streets and is famous for its pubs, such as Matt Molloy's, which hosts nightly





traditional music sessions. By day, take a tour of Westport House, which was built in 1650, or bring younger visitors to enjoy the Pirate Adventure Park in the grounds. By night, seek out the town's best restaurants, which include An Port Mór, right in the centre. As well as being a destination in its own right, Westport is a great base for exploring the islands of Clew Bay and nearby Croagh Patrick Mountain, or for starting the Great Western Greenway cycle route, which winds its way to Achill Island.

05

Nature has been kind to Roundstone, set in the fabled area of Connemara in County Galway. Surrounded by mountains and the sea, the village was built in the 1820s and boasts a busy harbour where fishermen haul in the day's catch of lobster, crab and mackerel. Boats bob in the water against a backdrop of the Twelve Bens Mountains, while craft shops, cafés and restaurants create an atmosphere that makes you want to linger. Just outside the village is one of the area's real highlights – the stunning Dog's Bay beach while the Connemara National Park is a short drive away, with some splendid walks amongst mountains, bog and heath.

Thatched-roofed cottages, friendly music pubs and a perfect location in



the heart of County Clare's Burren has made **Doolin** one of the most popular destinations on Ireland's west coast. From the village, you can take a walk on the wild side along the Cliffs of Moher Cliff Path, which hugs the coast closely all the way to the cliffs themselves. Doolin is also perfectly placed for exploring the surrounding karst limestone plateau of the Burren, with its remarkable flowers that burst through the grey rock, as well as being one of the best places on the island for a night of traditional music in pubs such as Gus O'Connor's and McGann's. You may never want to leave ... With bright, colourful shop fronts and cafés, and a row of fishing boats moored along the quay, **Dingle** in County Kerry is a thriving town and one of the most popular for visitors to the southwest. Take a trip out on the water to meet the town's most famous resident, Fungie the dolphin, who has been charming visitors since he moved here in 1983 (there are lots of boat trips available). When you return, enjoy some seafood along the quay, with live music in the evenings and great traditional pubs such as Foxy John's and Dick Mack's. And don't miss a visit to Murphy's – a tub of the sea salt and honeycomb ice cream here is a fast track to foodie heaven. Day-trip options



- 01 Murphy's Ice Cream Dingle, County Kerry
- 02 Matt Molloy's Westport, County Mayo
- 03 Roundstone County Galway
- 04 Kinsale County Cork 05 Westport House County Mayo
- 06 Doolin County Clare
- 07 Carlingford County Louth
- 08 Kealy's Seafood Bar Greencastle, County Donegal
- 09 Dingle County Kerry

abound from Dingle – go south and you'll hit the remarkable sands and dunes of Inch Beach, one of County Kerry's most beautiful. Or head out along the Slea Head Drive, which curves around Slea Head taking in sights such as the Early Christian stone church of Gallarus Oratory, views of the deserted Blasket Islands and the much-photographed Dunquin Harbour.

#### Ireland's Ancient East

A former fishing village that is best known for its oysters, **Carlingford** in County Louth is an ideal spot for exploring the Cooley Peninsula. Its small medieval streets, where you can see historic sights such as the Tholsel (an old toll gate) and the old mint, are also home to plenty of places to eat, drink and stay. The ruins of King John's Castle look out over Carlingford Lough, and the waterfront area is now a popular spot for watersports. Try kayaking and >



boating, as well as cruises or fishing trips on the sheltered lough.

It's hard to take your eyes off Trim Castle when entering the town of **Trim**, County Meath. Dating back to 1172, the Anglo-Norman castle overlooking the River Boyne is one of the most impressive in Ireland, with its long curtain wall and 10 towers. After visiting the castle, spend a day exploring the town's historic sights, which include a medieval gate, Sheep Gate, the ancient St Peter's Bridge and the ruins of the Hospital of St John the Baptist, which dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

Birr town in County Offaly, which was originally planned around the estate of Birr Castle, the seat of the Earls of Rosse, is famous for its Georgian layout and architectural features. Spend an hour or two in the grounds of Birr Castle Demesne, where walking trails lead you into the tranquil gardens, the forest and along the river. In the grounds you can also see the Great Telescope, once the largest in the world. With lively pubs and restaurants such as Spinners and The Thatch, the town makes a perfect base for exploring the Slieve Bloom Mountains and the beauty of Lough Derg.

Set at the entrance to Waterford Harbour. Dunmore East in County Waterford is one of the southeast's most charming fishing villages. Taking its name from an Iron Age promontory fort, the village has a busy harbour and eye-catching cliffs, as well as sandy beaches and sheltered coves to explore. It's a popular holiday spot during summer. You can take to the water and have a go at sailing, kayaking, windsurfing or stand up paddleboarding. It's a short drive to Waterford city from here, and you can also access other small and charming villages from Dunmore East, such as the pretty fishing port of Passage East.

CUSHENDUN HAS A PICTURESQUE HARBOUR AND THE CAVES NEAR HERE WERE USED AS A LOCATION IN HBO'S FANTASY SERIES. GAME **OF THRONES®. ENJOY TEA** AND CAKE IN THE LOVELY **CORNER HOUSE TEAROOM** 

#### Northern Ireland

Dropped like a jewel into the Fermanagh Lakelands, the lively town of Enniskillen occupies a natural island that separates the upper and lower sections of Lough Erne. The beautiful waterside setting is accentuated by the stone bastion of stately Enniskillen Castle. Explore the castle museums, enjoy a music show at the Ardhowen theatre, or jump on a boat tour with Erne Tours at the Round O Jetty. The trip is the perfect way to take in some of County Fermanagh's natural landscapes.

In the charming courtyard of the old dairy market, now called the Buttermarket, you can browse galleries, craft studios and cafés, and the nearby beauty spots of Devenish Island, Florence Court, Crom Castle and Castle Coole make perfect day trips by car or boat. Back in town, top off the day with dinner at the family-run Blakes of the Hollow, a lovely Victorian pub.

A coastal gem near the top of Northern Ireland's Ards Peninsula, **Donaghadee** in County Down has a strong seafaring past. The scenic harbour has long been a haven for ships and boats, its famous lighthouse guiding the way for maritime traffic. Walk the south pier to soak up the coastal atmosphere; play a round of golf at the local golf club; or enjoy an evening at characterful Grace Neill's pub-





10 Cushendun County Antrim 11 Birr Castle County Offaly 12 Enniskillen County Fermanagh

established in 1611, it's one of the oldest on the island of Ireland!

In a stunning setting amidst the rich, green Glens of Antrim, the village of **Cushendall** is a characterful spot, known for its graceful Georgian buildings that line the town's four original streets and its great traditional music pubs. It's a wonderful base for visiting the Glenariff Forest Park, which is about 8km away and is an enticing natural wonderland of gushing waterfalls, rivers, woods and rocky gorges.

Don't miss a visit to the nearby coastal village of **Cushendun**, just 8km to the north. Managed by the National Trust, it has a picturesque harbour and the caves near to here were used as a location in HBO's fantasy series, Game of Thrones®. Pop into the Corner House Tearoom for tea and cakes in a gorgeous setting.

Set at the mouth of Strangford Lough, and across the water from Portaferry and the Ards Peninsula, **Strangford** in County Down is a petite, well-preserved harbour village that has relaxation written all over it. It's ideal for accessing the very best this area of natural beauty has to offer, including delicious local food at The Cuan and The Poacher's Pocket, the delightful Castle Espie Wetlands and the 5<sup>th</sup> century Nendrum Monastic Site, which has links to St Patrick.

An attractive, wide main street and two squares lined with chestnut trees add to the charm of Castlewellan village in County Down, but the highlight has to be Castlewellan Forest Park and Lake just to the north of the village, which offers miles of walking and mountain bike trails, a giant maze, equestrian centre and camp grounds. plus an arboretum that was first planted in the 1740s. 🔗



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# THE LAST WORD ON... TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Enjoy the captivating sounds and pulse-racing pace of traditional music on the island of Ireland

#### All about the music

Irish traditional music is legendary throughout the world for good reason – from the infectious beats of fast-paced tunes to the haunting beauty of sean-nos (unaccompanied) ballads, this is music with a very emotional heart. The two places you're most likely to experience traditional music in Ireland are at a *seisiún* and a *céilí* – and there's a difference between the two. A *seisiún* (trad music session) can be best described as an informal gathering of musicians. Often it'll kick off with just one or two instruments, but before long you've a whole group of fiddlers, flautists, banjos and bodhráns (drum) playing together to create a phenomenal sound. You'll find a *seisiún* in every village, town and city on the island, especially at weekends, and usually in a pub. A céilí (dance), meanwhile, is all about dancing to the music and there's a huge emphasis on joining in with the locals, so prepare to get on your feet! Céilís can take place at Irish cultural centres or at pubs with larger dancing spaces, such as **Vaughan's** in Kilfenora, County Clare. To get to grips with the steps, pop into the Céilí by the Lee at **Crane Lane** in Cork every Monday night, where you'll be guided through the basics. It's great fun!

03

#### The festivals

Irish music festivals take the great atmosphere you find at a seisiún and spread it over a few days or even weeks. **Temple Bar TradFest** in Dublin (January) uses eclectic venues for gigs and concerts, while local pubs keep the tunes going after dark. The world-famous festival of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann takes place every year in August and is the biggest celebration of Irish music on the planet. In 2018, the location is Drogheda, County Louth, featuring sessions, competitive events and street music. Or get into the spirit of things at the Derry International Irish Music Festival (late January), a week-long event featuring the best musicians of the trad scene.

01 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann

- 02 Temple Bar TradFest Dublin 03 Belfast Tattoo
- 04 Duke of York Belfast
- 05 Bodhrán maker Roundstone, County Galway



#### Three great music experiences An Droichead: Belfast Traditional Music Trail Belfast

Experience the best of traditional music in Belfast led by two professional musicians. This great trail winds around the Cathedral Quarter, stopping at pubs including The Dirty Onion, Duke of York and McHugh's.

#### Tig Cóilí Galway

It may have a city location, but this lively pub in Galway city's Latin Quarter has a real country atmosphere. Local and visiting musicians mean there are 14 sessions a week, all year round.

#### **McGann's Doolin, County Clare**

The softly worn wooden interior of this lovely pub in the music hub of **Doolin**, County Clare, makes the perfect backdrop for impromptu music sessions.



Listen out for

Possibly the most famous of all Ireland's nstruments, the **bodhrán** is a one-sided frame drum, the *bountain* is a one-study frame drum, played with a *cipín* (wooden stick). At a *seisiún*, you're also likely to notice a **tin whistle** (a simple wind instrument) and the **fiddle** (basically a violin played in a different way). Keep your eyes out, too, for the **uilleann pipes**, often regarded as the most melodic pipes in the world.

#### Ulster-Scots traditions

With a history stretching back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Ulster-Scots community in Northern Ireland has a rich musical heritage with a very distinct sound. Flutes, pipes and drums can be best heard at festivals such as the **Belfast Tattoo** in September in the SSE Arena on the banks of the River Lagan. It features marching bands, musicians and dancers from all over Ulster and beyond. 🏶









Waterford is Ireland's oldest city. It's a buzzy, picturesque place, full of atmospheric streets, historic architecture as well as a variety of craft studios, galleries, cafes, restaurants and traditional style pubs. A great base to explore the Copper Coast, Comeragh Mountains and the historic towns and villages of Waterford.





# **VISIT SOUTH EAST IRELAND**



With a spectacular coastline, a wealth of historic sites and attractive towns and villages, it's little wonder that Wexford is a favourite holiday destination for visitors and locals alike. The county offers a mix of mountainous scenery, river valleys with fine fishing, spectacular parks and gardens, scenic walking trails and mile upon mile of fine unspoiled beaches such as Rosslare and Curracloe. And not forgetting the many fascinating visitor attractions to choose from... Wexford has it all!





Kilkenny is a cosmopolitan city, - an ancient city with contemporary appeal - steeped in medieval history and heritage, a jewel in the crown of Ireland's Ancient East.

It's a place which inspires great design and where ancient crafts are practiced and perfected, and given a modern twist! Friendly people, festivals all year round, restaurants, boutique shopping, and a vibrant night life all combine to make Kilkenny a fantastic place to visit.

## www.VisitSouthEastIreland.com



#### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2018**

New Year's Day	1 Jan
St Patrick's Day Holiday	19 Mar
Good Friday (NI only)	30 Mar
Easter Monday	2 Apr
May Bank Holiday	7 May
Spring Bank Holiday (NI only)	28 May
June Bank Holiday (ROI only)	4 June
July Holiday (NI only)	12 July
Aug Bank Holiday (ROI only)	6 Aug
Aug Bank Holiday (NI only)	27 Aug
Oct Bank Holiday (ROI only)	29 Oct
Christmas Day	25 Dec
St Stephen's Day (ROI)	26 Dec
Boxing Day (NI)	26 Dec

South William Street Dub

# IRELAND GENERAL INFORMATION & KEY TRAVEL FACTS



The Quay House Clifden, County Galwa

#### **PASSPORT/VISA REQUIREMENTS**

Australia and New Zealand citizens are simply required to show a valid passport. If you wish to work in Ireland, you may apply for an authorisation permit to do so. However, there are certain criteria you will need to meet for a permit to be considered and strict rules apply. Working permits must be gained prior to arrival in Ireland.

#### **EMBASSIES & CONSULATES**

Embassy of Ireland – Australia 20 Arkana Street, Yarralumla, ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6214 0000 Email: canberraembassy@dfa.ie The Consulate General of Ireland – Sydney Level 26, 1 Market Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9264 9635; Fax: (02) 9264 9740 Email: sydneycongen@dfa.ie The British High Commission – Australia 130 Commonwealth Avenue, Yarralumla, ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6270 6666 gov.uk/government/world/australia

Consulate General of Ireland – New Zealand Tel: (09) 919 7450; email: consul@ireland.co.nz Twitter: @irlnz1

Facebook: ConsulateGeneralofIrelandAuckland ireland.co.nz

The British High Commission – New Zealand 44 Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011 Tel: (04) 924 2888

gov.uk/government/world/new-zealand

#### **VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES**

Ireland extends a warm welcome to visitors with disabilities. Australian & New Zealand Disability Parking Permits can be used in Ireland and allow parking in areas reserved for people with disabilities, or longer parking periods or exemption from charges. Many public places and visitor attractions are accessible to wheelchair users and an increasing number of hotels and restaurants are well equipped to accommodate guests who have any kind of disability. Useful contacts include: **REPUBLIC OF IRELAND** National Disability Authority Tel: +353 1 608 0400; nda.ie

**NORTHERN IRELAND Disability Action** Tel: +44 28 9029 7880; disabilityaction.org

#### CURRENCY

The euro is the currency of the Republic of Ireland. One euro (€) consists of 100 cent. In Northern Ireland, the currency is pound sterling (£). There are 100 pence to each pound sterling.

#### **ELECTRIC CURRENT**

The standard electricity supply on the island of Ireland is 230 volts AC, the same as in the UK. Visitors from elsewhere may require a transformer and plug adaptor (to convert 2-pin plugs to the standard 3-pin plugs), which can be bought at airports or electrical suppliers.

**TRAVELLING AROUND IRELAND** The island of Ireland is well serviced with bus, coach and train operators. You can plan your trip using public transport by using the

Good Friday is not an official public holiday in

husinesses are closed

the Republic of Ireland, although most shops and

Journey Planner and Translink. journeyplanner.transportforireland.ie translink.co.uk

If you're travelling in your own car, or renting a vehicle, it's important to know the following: as in Australia and New Zealand, cars drive on the left-hand side of the road; signposts in Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) areas are written in Irish (Gaelic); you will need either a full valid national driving license or an international driving permit to drive on the roads; Northern Ireland uses miles per hour, while the Republic of Ireland uses kilometres: and passengers are required by law to wear seat belts at all times in the front and back of the vehicle.

There are no tolled roads in Northern Ireland but you'll find tolls on a number of roads in the Republic of Ireland (disabled drivers are not charged). These are managed by the National Roads Authority and Dublin City Council. Generally tolls are paid at the barrier of the toll booth, however, there is one exception: M50 eFlow Barrier System. For more information visit: etoll.ie





Sandymount Hotel Herbert Rd Dublin 4 +353 1 614 2000 info@sandymounthotel.ie www.sandymounthotel.ie





**RAILTOURS** Hosted Railtours for the Independent Traveller RAILTOURSIRELAND.COM larnród Éireann **RAILTOURSIRELAND.COM |T: +353 1 856 0045** 

# A GREAT BASE **TO EXPLORE** DUBLIN

Sandymount Hotel is conveniently located beside the Aviva Stadium, close to Dublin Airport and ferry port. Experience the warmth and charm of this renowned family-run Dublin hotel. Complimentary parking offered to all our guests.





#### AIRPORTS

The island of Ireland is easily accessible by air, with over 30 airlines flying routes from more than 70 destinations to Ireland's international and regional airports. Emirates, Etihad and Qatar Airways offer one-stop service with direct access to Ireland from Australia via the Middle East. One-stop options from New Zealand include Emirates and Qatar, as well as an Air New Zealand/Aer Lingus partnership via San Francisco and Los Angeles. Codeshare partnerships operate under Emirates/ Qantas and Etihad/Virgin Australia along with a number of other partner combinations. Many airlines offer fares to Dublin as a continuation of their one-stop services to the UK and continental Europe. "Open-jaw" airfares are also commonly available (i.e. fly into London and out of Dublin or vice versa; or fly into Paris and out of Belfast or vice versa). This can take advantage of Ireland's zero/reduced departure tax, saving hundreds of dollars.

#### **AIRLINE CONTACT DETAILS**

#### **AUSTRALIA**

AIRLINE	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE
Aer Lingus	1300 304 016	aerlingus.com
Air France	1300 390 190	airfrance.com/au
Austrian Airlines	1300 655 727	austrian.com
British Airways	1300 767 177	britishairways.com.au
Cathay Pacific	131 747	cathaypacific.com.au
Emirates	1300 303 777	emirates.com
Etihad Airways	1300 532 215	etihadairways.com
Finnair	1300 132 944	finnair.com/au
Japan Airlines	1800 802 228	au.jal.com
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines	1300 392 192	klm.com.au
Lufthansa	1300 655 727	lufthansa.com
Malaysia Airlines	132 627	malaysiaairlines.com
Qantas Airways	131 313	qantas.com.au
Scandinavian Airlines	1300 727 707	flysas.com
Singapore Airlines	131 011	singaporeair.com.au
Thai Airways International	1300 651 960	thaiairways.com
Qatar Airways	1300 340 600	qatarairways.com/au
Virgin Australia	136 789	virginaustralia.com.au

#### **NEW ZEALAND**

AIRLINE	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE
Aer Lingus	(09) 308 3351	aerlingus.com
Air France KLM	(09) 921 6040	klm.com/home/nz/en
Air New Zealand	0800 737 000	airnewzealand.co.nz
Austrian Airlines	0800 945 220	austrian.com
British Airways	(09) 966 9777	ba.com
Cathay Pacific	0800 441 289	cathaypacific.co.nz
Ethiopian Airlines	(09) 300 4514	ethiopianairlines.com
Emirates	0508 352 436	emirates.com/nz
Etihad Airways	(09) 977 2207	etihadairways.com
Finnair	(09) 969 7603	finnair.com
Lufthansa & Swiss	0800 945 220	lufthansa.com/swiss.com
Malaysia Airlines		malaysiaairlines.com
Qantas Airways	-	qantas.co.nz
Qatar Airways	0800 174865	qatarairways.com/nz
Scandinavian Airlines	-	flysas.com
Singapore Airlines	0800 808 909	singaporeair.com
Thai Airways International	0800 100 992	thaiairways.co.nz
United	02111 902435	united.com
Virgin Australia	0800 670 000	virginaustralia.com



**EUROPEAN** AIRLINE WEBSITE Aer Lingus aerlingus.com **BMI** Regional flvbmi.com British Airways britishairways.com CityJet cityjet.com easyjet.com easyJet Finnair finnair.com Flybe flybe.com Ryanair ryanair.com

#### **REGIONAL AIRPORTS**

The following internal flights are available within Ireland:

DEPART	ARRIVE	AIRLINE	WEBSITE
Dublin	Donegal Kerry	Aer Lingus Regional Aer Lingus Regional	0

#### **TRAVELLING FROM DUBLIN AND BELFAST AIRPORTS INTO CITY CENTRES**

#### DUBLIN

a bus or a taxi into Dublin city centre. Buses and taxis are located just outside the arrivals hall. Dublin Airport is north of the city so a taxi to the north side will normally be cheaper than one to the south side. Dublin Bus Airlink operates direct buses to the city centre, bus and train stations; €7\* single and €12\* return. Children travel half price. Aircoach also runs coaches from Dublin airport to and from the city centre and suburban County Dublin locations and to and from Belfast. For details visit: aircoach.ie

a 24-hour service between the airport On arrival in Dublin Airport, you can take and the city centre with buses departing regularly throughout the day; £7.50\* single and £10.50\* return. The bus leaves from the bus stop located opposite the terminal exit. A taxi fare to the city centre is approximately £30\*. George Best Belfast City Airport Airport Express 600 into the city centre runs on the hour (every 20 minutes during peak time); £2.50\* single and £3.80\* return. Taxi fare to the city is approximately £10\*. Trains run from adjacent Sydenham station to Belfast and beyond.

BELFAST

Belfast International Airport

Belfast city centre is just 29km from the

airport and can be accessed by bus and

taxi. Airport Express 300 now operates

\*Prices are correct at time of going to press but are subject to change



#### **FERRY PORTS**

The island of Ireland has 5 main ferry ports – Belfast, Cork. Dublin. Larne and Rosslare







<b>SEA ROU</b>	TES			
DEPART	ARRIVE	CARRIER	VESSEL	DURATION
Cairnryan	Belfast	Stena Line	Superfast VII/ VIII	2hrs 15mins
	Larne	P&O Ferries	Express Superferry	1hr 1hr 45mins
Fishguard	Rosslare	Stena Line	2hrs	
			Superferry	3hrs 30mins
Holyhead	Dublin	Irish Ferries	Ulysses Cruise Ferry	3hrs 15mins
		Irish Ferries	Dublin Swift	1hr 49mins
		Stena Line	Adventurer	3hrs 15mins
Isle of Man	Belfast	Steam Packet Company	Fastcraft	2hrs 55mins
	Dublin	Steam Packet Company	Fastcraft	2hrs 55mins
Liverpool	Dublin	P&O Ferries	Irish Sea Ferry	8hrs
Liverpool (Birkenhead)	Belfast	Stena Line	Stena Lagan Stena Mersey	8hrs 8hrs
Pembroke	Rosslare	Irish Ferries	Cruise Ferry	3hrs 45mins

#### FERRY AND COACH OPERATORS CONTACT DETAILS

FERRY COMPANY	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE
Irish Ferries	+44 871 730 0400	irishferries.com
P&O Ferries	+44 871 702 3477	poferries.com
Steam Packet Company	+44 872 299 2992	steam-packet.com
Stena Line	+44 844 770 7070	stenaline.co.uk
Eurolines	+44 871 781 8181	eurolines.co.uk

\* All direct routes/information correct at time of going to press but may be subject to future operator changes. Please see websites for details. Calls to operators may incur local or national call charges

## **AUSTRALIA** TOUR OPERATORS

COMPANY	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE	B&B	Car hire	Coach/rail tours	Cruising	Cycling	Entertainment	Ferries	Fishing	Golfing	Hostels	Hotels	Luxury travel	Rail/bus passes	Self-catering	Special interest	Walking	Motor homes	Dublin pass
Access Ireland Holidays	1800 336 676	accessirelandholidays.com	٠	٠	٠		٠	•	•		٠		٠	٠		٠		•		•
Avis International	136 333	avis.com.au		٠																
Backroads Touring Company	1300 100 410	backroadstouring.com			٠								٠	٠			•			
Budget	1300 362 848	budget.com.au		٠																
Busabout	1300 287 226	busabout.com			٠							٠			•					
Celtic Travel	(02) 8243 2600	travellerschoice.com.au/agent-details/ celtic-travel-services	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
CIE	1800 502 911	cietours.com			٠								•							
Collette	1300 792 196	gocollette.com			•								•							
Compass Car Rentals	1300 132 835	compasscarrental.com.au		٠																
Contiki Holidays	1300 266 845	contiki.com.au			•							•	•							
DQ International Travel Service	(03) 9614 4588	email: travel@dqinternational.com.au		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
DriveAway Holidays	1300 723 972	driveaway.com.au		٠															•	
Drive Travel	(03) 8781 1120	drivetravel.com		٠		•								•					•	
Emerald Travel	(03) 96709696	emeraldtravel.com.au	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eurovillas	(03) 9593 2170	eurovillas.com.au	٠	٠									•	•		•	•			
Flight Centre	133 133	flightcentre.com.au	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Globus Family	1300 130 134	globusfamily.com.au			٠								•	•						
Golf Explorer	(08) 8376 4495	golfexplorer.com.au		٠							٠		•							
Handpicked Holidays	1300 308 516	handpickedholidays.com.au	٠	٠	٠								•	•	•					•
Helloworld	131 415	helloworld.com.au	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hertz Australia	13 30 39	hertz.com.au		٠																
Holiday Autos	(08) 6365 4248	holidayautos.com.au		٠																
Holidays on Location	07 567 92121	holidaysonlocation.com	٠	٠	٠		•	•			٠		•	•		•	•	•		•
Insight Vacations	1300 302 957	insightvacations.com/au			•								•	•			•			
Irelandjourneys	0417 206 932	irelandjourneys.com.au			٠								•				•			
Outdoor Travel	1800 331 582	outdoortravel.com.au				•	•						•					•		
Qantas Holidays	1300 443 485	qantasholidays.com.au	٠	•	٠			•	•				٠				•			•
Rail Plus	1300 555 003	railplus.com.au			•				•						•					
Renaissance Tours	1300 727 095	renaissancetours.com.au															•			
Scenic Tours	1300 138 128	scenic tours.com.au			•								•							
Shamrock Travel	(03) 9819 6674	shamrocktravel.com.au	٠	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	•	٠	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Shamrocker	1300 287 226	shamrockeradventures.com			•							•								
Teed Up Golf Tours	(02) 8458 9000	teedupgolftours.com									٠		•							
Tempo Holidays	1300 558 987	tempoholidays.com	٠	٠	٠								•			•				
The Wayfarers	(02) 9428 4222	thewayfarers.com											٠					•		
Top Deck Tours	1300 886 332	topdeck.travel	٠		•								٠							
Trafalgar Tours	1300 663 043	trafalgartours.com/aus			•								•							
Utracks	1300 303 368	utracks.com					•						•					•		
World Drive Holidays	1300 653 270	worlddriveholidays.com.au		•															•	

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All information correct at time of going to press but may be subject to future operator changes.





# Bailiúchán Sheáin UíChléirigh





The award winning Jackie Clarke Collection comprises over 100,000 historical artefacts, spanning 400 years. It includes items associated with some of the most influential figures in Ireland's history.

Located in a restored 19th century bank in the centre of Ballina with a newly designed walled garden. Special features of the attraction include a memory booth where you can record your own memories and interactive touch-screens throughout. Suitable for all ages.

#### FREE ADMISSION Open Tuesday to Saturday 10-5

Pearse Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland
 w: www.clarkecollection.ie
 t: +353 (0)96 73508
 ⇔: clarkecollection@mayococo.ie

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Seamus Heaney HomePlace, Bellaghy, Co Derry, N. Ireland.

Tel: +44 28 7938 7444 Email: seamusheaneyhome@midulstercouncil.org www.seamusheaneyhome.com



## **NEW ZEALAND** TOUR OPERATORS

				Car hire	Coach/rail tours	Cruising	Cycling	Entertainment	Equestrian	Ferries	Golfing	Sports	Hotels		Self-catering	Special interest	Walking	Motor homes	ler .	Dublin pass
COMPANY	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE	B&B	Car	Coa	Cru	Cycl	E	Equ	Fen	9	Spo	Hot	Rail	Self	Spe	Wa	Wo	Other	Dur
A Walker's World & Cycling Europe	(09) 486 7473	walkersworld.co.nz & cycling-europe.com	٠	٠			•						٠			•	٠		•	
Air New Zealand Holidays Travel Brokers	0800 737 767	airnz.co.nz/air-new-zealand-travel-brokers	٠	٠		•						•	•			•			•	
All Blacks Tours	0800 87 2011	allblackstours.com			•							•							•	
Avis Rent-A-Car	0800 655 111	avis.co.nz		٠																
Budget Rent-A-Car	0800 283 438	budget.com		•																
Contiki Holidays NZ	0508 266 8454	contiki.com			٠											•				
Creative Holidays	0800 652 441	creativeholidays.com	٠		٠		•			•			•	•		•			•	
Drive Away Holidays	0800 885 590	driveaway.co.nz		٠						•								•		
Eurolynx Travel Ltd	(09) 361 3661	eurolynx.co.nz			٠	•							•		•					
Europcar	0800 800 115	europcar.com		٠																
First Travel Group	0800 432 737	first-travel-group.co.nz/our-members.aspx	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Flight Centre	0800 243 544	flightcentre.co.nz	٠	٠	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Flora Tours	0800 356 728	floratours.co.nz and pilgrimagetours.co.nz			•											•				
Globus Family	(09) 379 5375	globusfamily.co.nz			•	•										•			•	
Helloworld	0800758787	helloworld.co.nz	٠	٠	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hertz New Zealand	0800 654 321	hertz.com		٠																
House of Travel	0800 367 468	houseoftravel.co.nz	٠	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Insight Vacations	(09) 300 1580	insightvacations.com			•											•			•	
PaR n.z Corporate Events & Golfing Holidays	(09) 486 1077	parnz.co.nz			٠						•		•			•			•	
Rail Plus	(09) 377 5415	railplus.co.nz												•						
Supreme Tours (for the mature traveller)	0800 809 300	supremetoursandtravel.com	•	•	٠	•		•		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Tempo Holidays	-	tempoholidays.co.nz	٠	٠		•				•			٠	•					1	•
Trafalgar Tours (NZ) Ltd	0800 484 333	trafalgartours.co.nz			•														•	
UK-Europe Self Catering	(09) 536 4200	uk-europe.co.nz													•					
Williment Sports Travel	(04) 380 2500	williment.co.nz			•				•		•	•				•			•	
World Travellers	0800777730	worldtravellers.co.nz	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WP Maher Tours	0800 500 518	mahertours.co.nz			•		•									•			•	
You Travel	0800 YOU TRAVEL	youtravel.co.nz/home	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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#### RISH EXPERIENCE • DAY 6 Shot in Co. Clare

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