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 pocketguides@failteireland.ie

The Skellig Islands, Co. Kerry

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS & HAVEN COAST

VISITOR GUIDE

FREE GUIDE

Fold out map also included

Valentia Island, Co. Kerry



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PICK UP A FREE, MORE DETAILED MAP IN OUR TOURIST OFFICES!

See contents page for details



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

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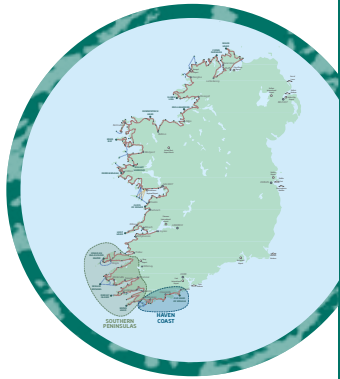
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Back Cover Image (Skellig Islands)
Credit: @storytravelers



TOURIST OFFICES:

Dingle, The Quay, Dingle,
Co. Kerry, V92 HHT0

T: 1850 230 330
E: dingletio@failteireland.ie

Killarney, Beech Road, Killarney,
Co. Kerry, V93 AW26

T: 1850 230 330
E: killarneytio@failteireland.ie

***Kenmare**, Heritage Centre,
Kenmare, Co. Kerry, V93 XVX6

T: 1850 230 300
E: kenmaretio@failteireland.ie

Clonakilty, 25 Ashe Street,
Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 X340

T: 1850 230 330
E: clonakiltytio@failteireland.ie

Kinsale, Pier Road, Kinsale,
Co. Cork, P17 C973

T: 1850 230 330
E: kinsaletio@failteireland.ie

**Seasonal Office*



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WILD ATLANTIC WAY

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

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






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

Stop often at the many small settlements and towns along the route. Every few miles there are places to stretch your legs and have a bite to eat, so be sure to allow enough time take it all in. For the foodies,

you can indulge in some seaweed foraging with a local guide with a culinary experience so you can taste the fruits of your labours. As night falls enjoy the craic at traditional music sessions and even try a few steps of an Irish jig! It's out on these western extremities – drawn in by the constant rhythm of the ocean's roar and the consistent warmth of the people – where you'll find the Ireland you have always imagined.

Find out more at
www.wildatlanticway.com

For additional information:

-  waw@failteireland.ie
-  facebook.com/irelandswaw
-  youtube.com/wildatlanticway
-  instagram.com/thewildatlanticway
-  [@wildatlanticway](https://twitter.com/wildatlanticway)
[#wildatlanticway](https://twitter.com/wildatlanticway)



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Sheep at Coulagh Bay, Beara

1 SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: THAT EDGE-OF-THE-WORLD- FEELING

Memorable experiences on the Cork and Kerry coasts.

In Ireland's beautiful southwest - where the ancient Kingdom of Kerry meets the wilds of West Cork - five great peninsulas with mountainous spines stretch into the ocean. This is great walking country, with long distance trails and circular routes across the region. Hugging the coast, or crossing Ireland's highest mountains, breath-taking views unfold at every turn. This is as far west as Ireland gets: "next parish Manhattan", as they say. And there's a distinctly edge-of-the-world feel to the Southern Peninsulas, as both the mainland and everyday life are left far behind. You could find yourself paddle-boarding with dolphins, speaking Irish in the Gaeltacht, landing on a deserted island once home to Ireland's greatest born-storytellers, taking a cable-car with the ocean crashing below, crossing to a World Heritage Site of medieval pilgrimage, following a copper mine trail or star-gazing under Ireland's darkest skies. Memorable, sometimes life-changing experiences lie ahead.



Allihies, Co. Cork

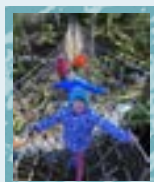
SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Dingle Cookery School

Dingle Cookery School, An Choill, Dingle, Co. Kerry
Tel: 086 8723521 info@dinglecookeryschool.com
www.dinglecookeryschool.com
GPS Lat 52.141172488682344, Long -10.281186101320827

Chowder - one of the most welcoming dishes known to man. Master the art of creating a superb creamy Irish chowder full of fresh Atlantic fish. The hands-on experience, if you want to get involved yourself, takes 3 hours and includes lunch while the demo option which includes tastings is just 1hr 30mins. All ingredients included.



The Skywalk @ Kells Bay Gardens

Kells Bay House, Kells, Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry
V23 EP48
Tel: 066 9477975 billy@kellsgardens.ie
www.kellsgardens.ie

Inspired by plant exploration expeditions to the jungles of south-east Asia, The Skywalk is Ireland's longest rope-bridge and is positioned as part of a looped walk through Kells Bay Gardens, which contains probably the largest collections of tree-ferns in the northern hemisphere (BBC Gardeners World 2016). The Skywalk, which may be omitted from the walk, spans the fast flowing Deligeenagh River at a height of circa 11m. It can be completed either as part of a guided tour, though most visitors prefer to explore the gardens alone. Guided tour must be booked in advance.

DURATION: 1 hour.



Walk & Whiskey Tour on Whiddy Island

Sheep's Head & Bantry Tourism Co-operative, Bridge House, Kealkill, Co. Cork
Tel: 086 3030991 info@livingthesheepsheadway.com
www.livingthesheepsheadway.com/walk-whiskey-island-tour

Get a real taste of Ireland on a walk and whiskey tour of Whiddy Island. Take the short ferry trip from historic Bantry, and islander Tim O'Leary will share the secrets of this West Cork island's past. On your guided walk, you'll encounter traces left by previous generations, from Martello towers to the old schoolhouse. Then head to Whiddy's Bank House pub to sample the distinctive flavours of Ireland's exciting new single malt, single cask whiskeys.

DURATION: 4hrs 15mins, incl. ferry journey.



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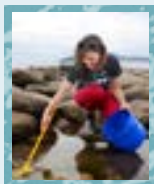
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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Discover What Lies Beneath the Wild Atlantic Way!

Sea Synergy, Main St., Waterville, Co. Kerry
Tel: 087 7850929 seasynergy@gmail.com
www.seasynergy.ie

Discover Ireland's amazing sea life in Sea Synergy Marine Awareness & Activity Centre. This quirky interactive sea life exhibition will immerse you in all that Irish waters have to offer. A personal guide will show you around the centre to help you get up close and personal with some of the live animals in the tanks and tell you all about the whale and dolphin skulls and bones and the leatherback turtle on display and what lies beneath the Wild Atlantic Way. View live lobsters, spider crabs, starfish and much more in our tanks and touch pool. Learn about Skellig Coast marine heritage and wildlife and ways to help protect the ocean. Memento postcard of humpback whale.

DURATION: 30 - 45 mins. Other guided experiences offered: coastal walks: 1hr 30mins - 3 hrs; snorkel: 2hrs; Ecotour SUP/kayaking on Lough Currane to Church Island: 2hrs 30mins; Wildlife Eco-tour boat trip: 3hrs



Bere Island Heritage Bus Tour

Bere Island, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 75099 / 086 3030991 info@westcorkislands.com
<http://westcorkislands.com/heritage-bus-tours-booking/>

Explore Bere Island to uncover the secrets of Ireland's maritime history and the stories of the island's fascinating military past.

Bere Island lies just off the coastline of the Beara peninsula at the entrance to the magnificent Bantry Bay, and over the centuries it has stood guard over the deep water harbour of Berehaven.

Take in views that stretch across the bay towards the Sheep's Head peninsula and the wide Atlantic as you visit sites like the island's Martello towers and gun battery. Delve deeper into island life at the Heritage Centre where you'll learn about island customs and the ring forts, standing stones, wedge tombs and burial sites that have weathered the elements here for thousands of years. Bere Island Heritage Bus Tours **run each Thursday throughout the summer** and alternate between the east and west ends of Bere Island.

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



Walk the Sheep's Head Way

Hillside Walks, Glenlough West, Bantry, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 61226 info@sheepshead.ie www.sheepshead.ie

The Sheep's Head Way walking route is renowned as one of the most spectacular in Europe. It skirts the coastline of the unspoilt Sheep's Head peninsula and, with 20 loop walks to choose from as well as the full trail, there's a walk to suit you there! With Charlie McCarthy from Hillside Walks as your guide, you'll discover the rich history of the Sheep's Head peninsula while you hike. This is a landscape rich in history, and Charlie will share its stories as you take in its rugged beauty and fine views across the neighbouring West Cork peninsulas and islands. The Sheep's Head is recognised as a European Destination of Excellence, and its welcoming pubs and cafés are great places to relax after your exploring!



Seashore Nature Walk Derrynane Historic Park

Derrynane House, Derrynane, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9475113 derrynanehouse@opw.ie
www.vincenthylandartist.com/look-inside (Seashore Nature Trail app)
<http://derrynanehouse.ie> (Derrynane House)
GPS 51.7628668, -10.1305571

Enjoy a 90 minute walk along the 'Seashore Nature Walk' at Derrynane Historic Park; a coastal walk with great views of Derrynane Bay. See the wild coastal flowers, the rare Kerry Slug, the Kerry Lily, the Natterjack Toad and you might also spot basking sharks, dolphins and the fin whale – all frequent visitors to Derrynane Bay. Sea-birds including the Puffin, Shearwaters and Gannets can also be seen in the Bay. This is a 1.2km looped walk with 20 points of interest.

Visitors can also visit nearby Derrynane House, ancestral home of one of Ireland's most famous historical figures, Daniel O'Connell (1775-1847). Derrynane National Historic Park, plantations and garden walks were laid out in the 18th & 19th centuries, principally north and west of the house.

Booklet on the Seashore Nature Walk available from Derrynane House reception desk for a nominal fee and downloadable from <http://www.vincenthylandartist.com/ourapps>



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



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Bantry House and Garden overlooking Bantry Bay

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Gallarus Oratory

Baile na nGall (Ballydavid), Dingle, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9155333 www.heritageireland.ie

The best example of an early Christian Oratory on the Dingle Peninsula. Facilities: Large coach and car park, Audio Visual 15 mins, Café, Toilets including facilities for persons of limited mobility. A local service charge is applicable. Heritage Card accepted.

OPEN: Access to the Oratory is available all year. However, please note that the Visitor Centre closes for the winter months. Please refer to website for updates.

ADMISSION: A local service charge applies.



Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne / Corca Dhuibhne Regional Museum

Baile an Fheirtéaraigh, Co. Kerry V92 HY83
Tel: 066 9156333 www.westkerrymuseum.com

We display the geology, archaeology and history of the area, in Irish and English, and also in German, French, Spanish, Polish and Norwegian. There is a bookshop, a café (home baking), and knowledgeable, friendly staff.

OPEN: Jun - Sep: Daily, 10.00 - 17.00. (Otherwise by request).

ADMISSION: Adult: €2.50, Child/Student/Senior: €1.50, Family: €7, Group rates available.



Riasc Monastic Settlement

Ballyferriter, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9151188 www.wildatlanticway.com

The remains of the ancient Riasc Monastic Settlement are thought to date from the 6th century and include a series of clochans. Visitors can also view the remains of a square oratory and 10 inscribed slabs, including the impressive Riasc Stone, which features spiral designs and carved initials.

OPEN: Daylight Hours

ADMISSION: Free of Charge.



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Louis Mulcahy Pottery

Clothar, Ballyferriter, Dingle, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9156229 www.louismulcahy.com

Try your hand at being a potter – it's great fun for all ages. See a professional potter at work. View our full range at workshop prices. Savour a taste of West Kerry in our Café.

OPEN: Shop & Café: Daily all year; Pottery Experience: Daily, Jul & Aug.

ADMISSION: €9.90 per person for Pottery Experience.

★ **OFFER:** 50% reduction for Pottery Experience on presentation of this guide (applies to one person only).



Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (The Basket Centre)

Dún Chaoin, (Dunquin), Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9156444 www.heritageireland.ie

Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (The Basket Centre) in Dún Chaoin, on the tip of the Dingle Peninsula, celebrates the story of the Basket Islanders, the unique literary achievements of the island writers and their native language, culture and tradition.

OPEN: 18th Mar - 1st Nov: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00. Last admission 45 mins before closing.

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



Dunbeg Fort Visitor Centre

Slea Head Drive, Fahan, Ventry, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9159070

Dunbeg Fort is an impressive example of a 500bc promontory fort. Built on a sheer cliff which projects south into Dingle Bay, it is one of the most dramatic archaeological sites on the Dingle Peninsula.

OPEN: Mar - Nov: 9.00 - 18.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €3, Child: €1.50



SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Beehive Huts (Fahan Group)

Fahan, Slea Head Drive, Dingle, Co. Kerry
Tel: 087 9254086 www.wildatlanticway.com

These Beehive Huts along Slea Head Drive may well date to the 12th century when the incoming Normans forced the Irish off the good land out to the periphery of the peninsula.

OPEN: Daily, All year.

ADMISSION: Adult: €3, Child: Free of charge. Group rates available.



Dingle Dolphin Boat Tours

Unit 2, The Tourist Office, The Pier, Dingle,
Co. Kerry V92 A6XT

Tel: 066 9152626 www.dingledolphin.com

Fungie, the Dingle Dolphin (Fungie, Deilf an Daingin) is a friendly Bottlenose Dolphin and Dingle's most famous resident! This year Fungie celebrates his 34th year in Dingle Harbour. Boats leave Dingle Pier at regular intervals during the day, all year round (weather permitting) on a 1 hour trip to see Fungie wild and free in his natural habitat. Up close & personal early morning RIB tour also available.

TOURS: For details of tour times and prices, call to the booking office on Dingle Pier.



Dingle Boat Tours

The Marina, Dingle, Co. Kerry V92 FW2P
Tel: 087 6726100 www.dingleboatours.com

We operate Fungie tours, Dingle Harbour tours, Basket Island ferry/eco tours, Sea fishing trips, Private boat charters.

OPEN: Apr, May, Jun, Sept, Oct: 9.00 - 17.00; Jul, Aug: 9.00 - 19.00

RATES: Harbour Tours: €10; Fungie Tour: €15; Basket Ferry: €40; Eco Tour: €60; 2 hour fishing trip: €30; Private charter: €100 (max 12 pax)



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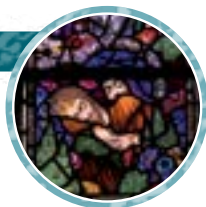
An Díseart

Green St, Dingle, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9152476 www.diseart.ie

See a series of Harry Clarke stained glass windows, murals, fresco and Nano Nagle room by Eleanor Yates; free access to Family Tree Garden designed by Mary Reynolds and Prayer Garden has been created.

OPEN: Mon - Fri: 9.00 - 17.00, Sat: 10.00 - 16.00. (Access on Sunday can be arranged by tel. 066 9152476).

ADMISSION: Adult: €3, Child under 10: Free of charge, Group (+10): €2 per person.



Dingle Oceanworld Aquarium

The Wood, Dingle, Co. Kerry V92 Y193
Tel: 066 9152111 www.dingle-oceanworld.ie

Oceanworld Aquarium, where the ocean comes to life! With over 1,000 species of marine life, our underwater world is there for you to explore. Adorable Otters & Reptile exhibits. Daily reptile encounter sessions & feeding displays.

OPEN: All Year: Jul, Aug: 10.00 - 19.00; Sep - Jun: 10.00 - 17.00. Last admission one hour before closing.

ADMISSION: Please check website for admission charges - www.dingle-oceanworld.ie

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



Dingle Brewing Company

Spa Road, Dingle, Co. Kerry
(At the foot of the Conor Pass Road)
Tel: 066 9153000 www.dinglebrewingcompany.com

Tour the brewery and learn how we make our beer. Discover the story of Tom Crean and enjoy a pint while sitting at our exact replica of The James Caird Lifeboat.

OPEN: Mon - Sat; Closed off-season

ADMISSION: Please see website for more information.



SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Tours at The Dingle Distillery

The Old Mill, Milltown, Dingle, Co. Kerry
V92 CX36
Tel: 066 4029011 www.dingledistillery.ie

The Dingle Distillery welcomes visitors to enjoy a tour of our facility where the entire production process, for all our products, is explained and a gin/vodka sample is provided.

OPEN: 1 Jun - 31 Aug: 12.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00, 16.00; 1 - 30 Sep: 12.00, 14.00, 16.00; 1 Oct - 28 Feb: 14.00 & 16.00; 1 Mar - 31 May: 12.00, 14.00, 16.00.

ADMISSION: Adult: €10; Child (accompanied by an adult): Free of charge. Group: €8 per person



Killarney National Park

Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

Internationally renowned for its scenic beauty and scientific interest Killarney National Park encompasses the three Lakes of Killarney and the mountains and woods which surround them.

OPEN: There is 24 hour pedestrian access to Killarney National Park.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



Muckross House

National Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6670144 www.muckross-house.ie

Muckross House is a magnificent Victorian Mansion, beautifully situated amidst the spectacular scenery of Killarney National Park. Its elegantly furnished rooms portray the lifestyles of those who lived in the house in Victorian times. Entry is by Guided Tour only and last admission is 1 hour before closing.

OPEN: Daily, 9.00 - 17.30; Jul & Aug, 9.00 - 19.00. (Closed: Christmas period)

ADMISSION: Adult: €9, Senior/Student: €7.50, Child (3 - 5yrs): Free of charge, Child (6 - 18 yrs): €6; Family (2+2): €28, Family (2+3): €32. (Joint discounted ticket to Muckross Farms available).



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Muckross Traditional Farms

National Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6630804 www.muckross-house.ie

Muckross Traditional Farms takes you for a stroll down memory lane to a time before the advent of electricity. Three separate working farms with animals and traditional machinery. Children will love our Farm petting area and playground. Last admission is 1 hour before closing.

OPEN: Jun - Aug: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00; May & Sep: Daily, 13.00 - 18.00. Mar, Apr & Oct: Sat/Sun & B/H, 13.00 - 18.00. See website for updates.

ADMISSION: Adult: €9, Senior/Student: €7.50, Child (3 - 18 yrs): €6, Family (2+2): €28, Family (2+3): €32. (Joint discounted ticket to Muckross House available).



Muckross Abbey

Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

Muckross Abbey is a major ecclesiastical site situated in Killarney National Park. It was founded in 1448 as a Franciscan friary by Donal McCarthy Mór and is in a remarkable state of preservation.

OPEN: All year

ADMISSION: Free of charge.

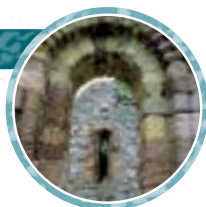


Innisfallen Island

Lough Lein, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

A monastery was founded on Innisfallen in the 7th century and it is said that King Brian Boru studied there. On the island are the remains of the extensive 12th century Augustinian priory and a small 11th century Romanesque church. The annals of Innisfallen, a major source of early Irish history were written there.

ACCESS: For details of boat trips to the island, contact: Killarney Discover Ireland Centre. Tel: 064 6631633.



SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

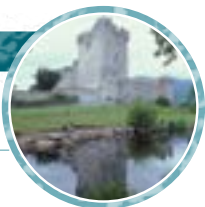
Ross Castle

Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6635851 www.heritageireland.ie

A restored 15th century castle which now houses a fine collection of 16th & 17th century oak furniture. The castle is surrounded by a fortified bawn, curtain wall and two circular flanking towers.

OPEN: 3rd Mar - 31st Oct: Daily, 9.30 - 17.45. Last admission 45 minutes before closing. Access is by guided tour only.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5.00, Group/Senior: €4, Child/Student: €3, Family €13.



Dinis Cottage

Killarney National Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6630085 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

The cottage dates back to the 1700s. It has been beautifully restored and operates as a tea room. The Old Weir Bridge and the Meeting of the Waters are within walking distance of the cottage.

OPEN: May - Sep: Daily, 9.00 - 18.00. Please see website for updates.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



Torc Waterfall

N71 Muckross / Kenmare Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry
Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

Where the Owengarriff River cascades through the wooded Friar's Glen into Muckross Lake, you will find Torc Waterfall. A pretty path winds to the top of this 18m high waterfall revealing views of Torc Mountain.

OPEN: All year.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Gap of Dunloe

Killarney, Co. Kerry

Tel: 064 6631633 www.discoverireland.ie

A breath-taking passage in the MacGillycuddy Reeks, the Gap of Dunloe was formed 2 million years ago by glacial movements. A popular and exciting form of transport through this narrow pass is by horse-drawn pony and trap.

ACCESS: All year.



Ladies View

Killarney National Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry

Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

This traditional and spectacular lookout in the heart of Killarney National Park takes its name from the admiration of the marvellous panoramic view given by Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting during their 1861 visit to the area.

ACCESS: All year.



Saint Mary's Cathedral

Cathedral Place, Killarney, Co. Kerry

Tel: 064 6631014 www.dioceseofkerry.ie

St. Mary's Cathedral was designed by Augustus Pugin and constructed in the gothic style. The overall plan was for a rugged exterior and a smooth light filled interior. It was consecrated in 1855 and extensively renovated in the 1970s.

OPEN: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00



SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Kennedys Pet Farm

Brewsterfield, Glenflesk, Killarney, Co. Kerry

Tel: 087 2310983 www.kennedyspetfarm.com

Come & meet pets from fur to feather indoors and outdoors, ready to be held & cuddled. Unique indoor & outdoor playgrounds provide added activities. Rain or shine you will have a great time!

OPEN: Apr - Sep: Daily, 10.00 - 17.00; Rest of Year: Please phone ahead.

ADMISSION: €8 per person; Family: €35 (2+3).



Toy Soldier Factory

Kilnamartyra, Macroom, Co. Cork P12 FN79

Tel: 026 40342 / 026 40222 www.toysoldierfactory.ie

Visit "The Battle of Waterloo" Exhibition: 26 x 13 feet with 15,000 handmade miniatures figures. **Make & Paint Workshops:** Make me! Paint me! Take me home! **Visit a real working Factory!** Watch a Tin Soldier being made, painted, labelled and packed right before your eyes. **This is a once in a lifetime experience.**

OPEN: Mon - Fri: 9.00 - 17.00, Sat, Sun & Irish Bank Hols: 10.00 - 17.00. Closed St. Patrick's Day and approx. 10 days over Christmas to New Year.

ADMISSION: Free for individuals & families. **Make & Paint Workshop:** €10 per person; **Battle of Waterloo exhibit:** €3 per person; Save 10% Book online.

★ **OFFER:** Half price workshops before 12 noon.



The Donkey Sanctuary

Liscarroll, Co. Cork

Tel: 022 48398 www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie

The Donkey Sanctuary Ireland has rescued over 5,300 donkeys from all over Ireland, many of which were abandoned and miss-treated and required expert care. Come visit us and meet our beautiful donkeys, foals and mules, enjoy our walkways & picnic area and relax in our Visitor Centre.

OPEN: Mon - Fri, 9.00 - 16.30. Weekends and B/H, 10.00 - 17.00

ADMISSION: Free of charge, all donations will be most gratefully received.



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

The Kerry Bog Village

Ballincleave, Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9769184 www.kerrybogvillage.ie

View a snapshot of Irish life during the 18th & 19th centuries. See our bog ponies, Irish wolfhounds and wild mountain goats in our Agri Tourism award winning centre on the Ring of Kerry road.

OPEN: All Year: Daily, 8.30 - 18.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €6.50, Child: €4.50, Student/Senior: €6; Group (10+): €5.45



Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church

Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9472210 www.cahersiveenparish.com

Opened in 1902, the Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church was built of Newry Granite and local black limestone. Pope Leo XIII sent a marble slab from the catacombs in Rome to be its corner stone.

OPEN: Daily, 9.00 - 20.00

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



The Old Barracks

Bridge Street, Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 4010430 www.oldbarrackscahersiveen.com

Situated in the imposing former Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks overlooking Cahersiveen Marina, the Old Barracks Heritage Centre features exhibits on local history, archaeology, flora and fauna, the Fenian Rising, Monsignor Hugh O' Flaherty (The Scarlet Pimpernel) and on local hero Daniel O'Connell.

OPEN: Mid Mar - Nov: Daily, 10.00 - 17.00. Guided talks and group talks provided on request.

ADMISSION: Adult: €4, Student/Senior: €2, Family: €10.



SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Kerry Cliffs

Skellig Ring, Portmagee, Co. Kerry V23 NV24
Tel: 087 2361098 www.kerrycliffs.com

Kerry Cliffs are the nearest viewing point to the famous Skellig Island and the Puffin Island. They are 300m (984ft) cliffs. Twitchers come here to observe the thriving colonies of cliff birds. Here too are replica stone beehive huts.

OPEN: All Year. Closed 23 Dec - 3 Jan

ADMISSION: €4 per person.

★ **OFFER:** Discount for large families.



The Skellig Experience Visitor Centre

Valentia Island, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 9476306 www.skelligexperience.com

The visitor centre tells the story of the Skellig Islands. Exhibits look at the Early Christian monastery, the seabirds, the lighthouses and underwater world. Facilities include Audio-Visual show, restaurant, craft shop and optional boat cruise.

OPEN: Mar, Apr, Oct, Nov: 10.00 - 17.00; May, Jun & Sep: 10.00 - 18.00; Jul & Aug: 10.00 - 19.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Child: €3, Senior/Student: €4, Family (2+4): €14



Geokaun Mountain and Fogher Cliffs

Feighmane, Valentia Island, Co. Kerry
Tel: 087 6493728 www.geokaun.com

Walk or drive to the peak, a spectacular deck stands on the edge of the cliffs. With views of all of Valentia, Skelligs, Blaskets and Dingle. History, mythology, flora and fauna are displayed on panels.

OPEN: All year, 6.00 - 23.00

ADMISSION: Car: €6, Motorcycle: €3, Pedestrian: €2.50, Cyclist: €2.50, Bus: €2 per person.



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Signature Point



Wild Atlantic Way

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Sceilg Mhichíl (Skellig Michael)

Co. Kerry

Tel: 01 6476000 www.heritageireland.ie

The magnificent Skellig Islands lie 12 km (8 miles) off the coast of Portmagee in South West Kerry. Rising majestically from the sea, Skellig Michael, a designated UNESCO World Heritage site towers 714ft (218 metres) above sea level. On the summit of this awe inspiring rock you will find a remarkably well-preserved sixth century monastic settlement.

OPEN: 14th May - 2nd October Weather Permitting. At all other times this site is unmanned and visits are prohibited. A visit to the monastery will entail a demanding climb on 618 steps – please exercise extreme caution and read safety signs and leaflets carefully – see www.heritageireland.ie

ADMISSION: Free of charge. Separate charge imposed by boat operator(s). A list of boat operators can be viewed on www.heritageireland.ie

Derrynane House

Caherdaniel, Co. Kerry

Tel: 066 9475113 www.heritageireland.ie

The ancestral home of Daniel O'Connell. Contains memorabilia from the life and career of the lawyer, politician and statesman. Situated in Derrynane National Historic Park on 120 hectares of parklands and 1.5 km of coastline.

OPEN: 17 March - 1 Apr: Wed - Sun & Bank Hols, 10.00 - 17.00; 2 Apr - 30 Sept: Daily 10.30 - 18.00; 1 Oct to 1 Nov: Wed to Sun & Bank Hols, 10.00 - 17.00; 2 Nov - 10 Dec: (Weekends only) 10.00 - 16.00. Last admission 45 mins before closing.

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

Staigue Fort

Castlecove, Co. Kerry

Tel: 064 6631633 (Killarney Discover Ireland Centre)
www.wildatlanticway.com

This is a superb example of a circular stone fort and is more than 2,500 years old. It is 27 metres in diameter with a square-headed doorway and there are two small chambers inside.

OPEN: Daily, all year.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Kenmare Heritage Centre

Kenmare, Co. Kerry

Tel: 064 6641233 www.kenmare.ie

This heritage centre examines Kenmare's history as a planned estate town, its historical sites, and its tradition of lace making. The centre also provides a Heritage Trail map guiding you around the town's most important sights.

OPEN: Mar - Oct. As opening times vary, please contact Centre directly.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.

Kilgarvan Motor Museum

Slaheny, Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry, V93 PW28

Tel: 064 6685346 www.kilgarvanmotormuseum.com

Come and view some of Ireland's motoring heritage in this family run museum consisting of cars, motorbikes and tractors from the 1920's to the 1970's. You can also enjoy tea or coffee in the museum or outside in the gardens.

OPEN: Tue - Sat: 9.30 - 12.45 & 13.45 - 17.30 (Sun, Mon & Nov - Mar by appointment).

ADMISSION: Adult: €6; Child: €3; Senior/Student: €5

Bonane Heritage Park

Bonane, Kenmare, Co. Kerry

Tel: 083 1060894 www.bonaneheritagepark.com

On this 3km-circular historical trail, discover some of the most ancient sites in Ireland's history; not least the stone circle dating back 5,000 years. Delight in the peaceful surroundings, flora and fauna with stunning views across the Bonane Valley.

OPEN: All year, Sunrise to Sunset.

ADMISSION: Adult: €4, Child under 12: Free of charge, Student/Senior: €3, Family: €10.

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



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Molly Gullivan's Cottage & Traditional Farm

Releigh, Bonane, Kenmare, Co. Kerry V93 HY26
Tel: 064 6640714 www.mollygullivans.com

Molly Gullivan's cottage & traditional farm invites you to take a step back in time to experience the simple country lifestyle in rural Ireland before the days of electricity and modern conveniences. Molly's enchanting cottage is over 200 years old and her farm is complete with animals, fowl and traditional farm machinery. Our Traditional Irish Evenings are nights of Irish food, music, song, dance and storytelling, re-enacting the old customs that took place in Irish homes.

OPEN: Mid Mar - Mid Nov: 9.30 - 18.00

ADMISSION: €4 per person. Guided tours available on request. (Advanced booking required for Traditional Irish Evenings – please contact for availability & prices).

Allihies Copper Mine Museum

Allihies Village, Beara, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 73218 www.acmm.ie

The museum tells the captivating story of 19th century copper-mining in Allihies. Artefacts, models and pictures feature in the exhibition as well as the original account books for the mines. Copper Café and Gallery also on site.

OPEN: Easter - Oct Mid-term Break: Daily, 10.00 - 17.30; Nov - Mar: Please phone to arrange visit.

ADMISSION: Adult: €6, Senior: €5, Student: €3, Child: €2, Family (2+2): €12

Dursey Island

Beara, Co. Cork
www.wildatlanticway.com

The most westerly of Cork's inhabited islands, Dursey is separated from the mainland by a narrow sound known for its strong tides. It is accessed by Ireland's only cable car, which runs about 250m above the sea. Without any shops, pubs or restaurants Dursey offers day-trippers an escape from the hustle and bustle of modern living. On the island's most westerly hill sits the 200-year-old Signal Tower, which boasts commanding views north to the Skellig Islands and south to Mizen Head.

OPEN: See www.durseyisland.ie for Cable Car operating times

ADMISSION: Adult: €10, Child (under 16 years): €5

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Dzogchen Beara Buddhist Meditation Centre

Allihies, Beara, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 73032 www.dzogchenbeara.org

Open to all, all year round. Visitors are welcome to enjoy ocean views from the meditation rooms or gardens, to browse in the bookshop or to enjoy a coffee or lunch in the café.

OPEN: Daily; See website for details of regular retreats and workshops.

ADMISSION: Free of charge. (Donations accepted).

Garinish Island (Il nacullin)

Glengarriff, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 63040 www.heritageireland.ie

Garinish is an Island garden of rare beauty situated in the sheltered harbour of Glengarriff in Bantry Bay, known to horticulturalists all around the world.

OPEN: 1st Apr - 31st Oct. Please refer to our website for more information. Last landing 1 hour before closing.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Group/Senior: €4, Child/Student: €3, Family: €13
Please note that a separate charge is imposed by boat operators.

The Ewe Experience

N71 Kenmare Road,
Glengarriff, Co. Cork
Tel: 027 63840 www.theewe.com

A journey like no other in Ireland's only interactive sculpture garden. Often described as 'Ireland's Eden' - a unique combination of nature, art & narrative on a one kilometre walk. Also riverside art shop.

OPEN: 1st Jun - 31st Aug: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00 (last entry 16.30).

ADMISSION: Adult: €7.50, Child: €6, Family (2+2): €25



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

St. Finbarr's Oratory (Gougane Barra)

Off the Macroom / Glengarriff road (R584),
Ballingeary, Co. Cork

Tel: 087 7842534 www.discoverireland.ie

There is a tiny island in the lake at Gougane Barra connected to the shore by a causeway. It was here that St. Finbarr, patron saint of Cork founded his early Christian monastery in the 6th century.

OPEN: 10.00 - 18.00

ADMISSION: Free of charge.



Bantry House & Garden

Bantry, Co. Cork

Tel: 027 50047 www.bantryhouse.com

Visit this beautiful private House and Garden, overlooking Bantry Bay on the Wild Atlantic Way with its stunning Garden, Tearoom and the House with its eclectic family treasures on display.

OPEN: 14th Apr - 30th Oct: Tue - Sun & Bank Hol Mon 10.00 - 17.00. Jun, Jul & Aug: Daily 10.00 - 17.00.

ADMISSION: Adult: €11, Child: €3, Concession: €8, Family (2+2): €26



Mizen Head

Goleen, Co. Cork

Tel: 028 35000/35115 www.mizenhead.ie

Mizen Head at Ireland's most south westerly point, signature Discovery Point on the Wild Atlantic Way is a dramatic place to visit. The path from the Visitor Centre at the Car Park (café and shop) goes down the cliffs and over the famous Bridge and out to the former Irish Lights Signal Station. Spectacular views, displays, the wild Atlantic – there is so much to do and see!

OPEN: Daily, Mar 17 - May: 10.30 - 17.00, June: 10.00 - 18.00, Jul & Aug: 10.00 - 19.00, Sept & Oct: 10.30 - 17.00, Nov - Feb: Weekends, 11.00 - 16.00, Mar 1 -16: Daily, 11.00 - 16.00.

ADMISSION: Adult: €7.50, Senior/Student: €6, Child (5 - 14 yrs): €4.50, Child (under 5 yrs): Free, Family (2a+up to 4c): €25. For groups 10+: Adult: €6.50, Senior/Student: €5, Child (5-14yrs): €3.50



Stone Carver, Ahakista, Sheep's Head Peninsula

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

A rich and diverse cultural heritage along with the work of talented artists and craftspeople is celebrated throughout the Southern Peninsulas. Delve into the rich world of Irish craft with a visit to one of the many craft studios and workshops or follow a Kerry Craft Trail – www.originalkerry.com or discover the work of the **West Kerry Craft Guild** – www.angailearaibeag.com The 17th century **Kerry Woollen Mills** has been creating fabrics and yarns from fine wool for over 300 years – www.kerrywoollenmills.ie At the traditional glassworks of **Kerry Crafted Glass** each piece is blown and finished by hand using traditional tools - www.kerrycraftedglass.com. Seán Daly of **Dingle Crystal** is one of a very few artisans who are handcrafting crystal in Ireland today and the factory is open for group demonstrations of up to 35 people and also smaller individual demos – www.dinglecrystal.ie Paint your own pottery from one of the hand thrown pots in store at **Faileán Pottery**, Ballyferriter West (Tel: 066 9156294). The **Beehive Theatre** at Cúilin, Dingle is Europe's most western theatre www.beehivetheatre.com **Cill Rialaig Arts Centre**, Ballinskelligs features a wide range of exhibitions. View the **"Seven Ages"** permanent exhibition of art works at Library building, Killorglin by world renowned artist, Pauline Bewick who has drawn much inspiration from her Kerry surroundings and from Irish life and mythology.

The **West Cork Craft and Design Guild** in West Cork is a group of 20 very talented craftspeople dedicated to craft work and keeping the craft industry "alive and kicking" in Ireland www.facebook.com/westcorkcraft

Meet the **Makers of The Sheep's Head Way** on a bespoke West Cork crafts tour. Visit the studios and workshops where the creative community of the Sheep's Head brings the very best of Irish design, traditional skills and contemporary talent to life www.livingthesheepsheadway.com.



For details of galleries, workshops, studios and more inspirational ideas, call into our **Tourist Offices** (listed on page 1 of this guide), see www.wildatlanticway.com or download the **FREE Wild Atlantic Way app**.



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HERITAGE

SPÁ ATLANTACH, BALLYDAVID

Tel: 083 4437322 www.spaatlantach.com

The seaweed is harvested from the shores of Ballydavid and is washed, cleaned and ready for your bath. It's like floating in the Wild Atlantic, just warmer!

CELTIC & PREHISTORIC MUSEUM, KILVICADOWNIG, VENTRY

Tel: 087 7703280

This local archaeological museum contains over 500 artefacts from the Stone, Bronze and Celtic Iron Ages as well as Viking, Roman and Saxon objects.

KNOCKREER HOUSE AND GARDENS, KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

The entrance to Knockreer Estate is just a short walk from Killarney town centre; the entrance is at the Deenagh Lodge gate, opposite St. Mary's Cathedral. The thatched Deenagh Lodge Tea Rooms are open in the Summer season.

KILLARNEY HOUSE GARDENS, KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

Tel: 064 6631440 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

The uniqueness of Killarney House Gardens is that they open from the centre of town to the stunning panorama of the National Park. Access to the gardens is via a new side entrance alongside the Monsignor O Flaherty statue on Mission Road.

COOLWOOD WILDLIFE PARK, COOLCASSLAGH, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 4141294 www.coolwoodwildlifepark.com

This Wildlife Park and sanctuary offers a unique opportunity to see rare and exotic animals up close. The area is heavily wooded and is a stronghold of the red squirrel, sparrow hawks, dippers and the more common native wildlife species. Pets corner, playground, picnic areas and coffee shop are on site.

IRISH WHISKEY EXPERIENCE, 93 NEW ST, KILLARNEY

Tel: 064 6635700 www.irishwhiskeyexperience.net

Guests will enjoy an interactive journey through the world of Ireland's native spirit. Blend your own Irish Whiskey, draw whiskey straight from authentic oak cask. Learn how Irish whiskey pairs perfectly with farmhouse cheese or artisan chocolate. This is just a taste of what is on offer at the Irish Whiskey Experience! Open: All Year: 7 classes daily starting at 12.00 and last class starting at 19.15. Please check website for updates. Pre-booking recommended but not essential. Admission: From €20 per person (includes 5 whiskey samples).

KILLARNEY BREWING COMPANY, MUCKROSS ROAD, KILLARNEY

Tel: 064 6636505 www.killarneybrewing.com

Killarney Brewing Company revives the age old art of craft beer production in the town for the first time since the 1800's. Knowledgeable and entertaining tour guides take you on an informative and exciting journey through the beer brewing operation.

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

HERITAGE

GORT NA CILLE HERITAGE OPEN FARM, CAHERDANIEL

Tel: 087 7095021 www.facebook.com/GortnaCilleHeritage

Step back in time with a visit to the original farm house museum, visit the farm animals and enjoy the range of gardens.

BLUEBERRY HILL FARM, SNEEM

Tel: 087 3647371 www.blueberryhillfarm.ie

Cows, pigs, chickens, lambs, ducklings, geese, rabbits and more, all want to meet you. What would be nicer than bottle-feeding a lamb, holding a baby chick or giving the calf a cuddle?

KERRY GEOPARK INFORMATION CENTRE, SNEEM

www.facebook.com/kerrygeopark/

The Centre exhibits geological heritage in the form of interactive panels on Archaeology, Geology & Glaciations.

KISSANE SHEEP FARM, MOLLS GAP, KENMARE

Tel: 087 2600410 www.adoptasheep.ie

Experience the life of traditional sheep farmers in the Kerry hills.

GLENINCHAQUIN PARK, TOUSIST, KENMARE

Tel: 087 7128553 www.gleninchaquin.com

Marvel at the view overlooking the lakes, delicate green meadows, a 140 metre waterfall, woodlands and Kenmare Bay.

GLENGARRIFF WOODS NATURE RESERVE, GLENGARRIFF

www.glenarriffnaturereserve.ie

Glengarriff Woods are situated in a deep rough glacial valley which opens out into the north side of Bantry Bay. There are a range of woodland trails through the reserve. The woods form one of the best examples of oceanic sessile oak woodland in Ireland.

GOUGANE BARRA FOREST PARK, GOUGANE BARRA

www.coillte.ie

Gougane Barra Forest Park is located in the Shehy Mountains, the river Lee flows from its source within the park to Gougane Lake. Facilities include a motor trail, hill walks, vista points and a nature trail. Parking fee applies: €5 (coins only.)

PLANETARIUM

SCHULL PLANETARIUM, SCHULL

Tel: 028 28315 www.discoverireland.ie

Located on the Grounds of Schull Community College.

Open: Mid May - Sep various shows, check locally for details.



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CHURCHES, ABBEYS & ANCIENT SITES

CATHAIR NA BHFIONNÚRACH, FEOHANAGH, DINGLE consists of a circular, stonewalled enclosure, approximately 29m in diameter.

CATHAIR DEARGAIN STONE FORT, BALLYDAVID, DINGLE typifies the homesteads of the people in ancient times.

DÚN AN ÓIR, BALLYFERRITER

Here on a rock promontory at the broad inlet of Swerwick Harbour is the old fortress of Dún an Óir (Fort of Gold).

DUNQUIN GRAVEYARD, DUNQUIN, DINGLE

Peig Sayers, an influential Irish author best known for her autobiography is buried here.

KILMALKEDAR CHURCH, BALLYDAVID, DINGLE

Kilmalkedar is a spectacular early-Christian and medieval ecclesiastical site.

PUICÍN AN CHAIRN WEDGE TOMB, LISPOLE

www.discoverireland.ie

Dating from Celtic times, it is one of the many archaeological sites which scatter the area.

DUNLOE OGHAM STONES, DUNLOE, KILLARNEY were originally the roof of a souterrain or underground passage.

BALLYCARBERY CASTLE, CAHERSIVEEN is the ruin of what was once a magnificent 15th century Castle of MacCarthy Mór.

LEACANABUAILE & CAHERGAL STONE FORTS, CAHERSIVEEN date to the 8th or 9th century. Inside are stone beehive houses, stone stairs and a souterrain which is believed to link Leacanabuaile Fort to Ballycarbery Castle.

KENMARE STONE CIRCLE is probably the largest one in the South West and is the only egg shaped stone circle in Munster.

DRISHANE CASTLE, MILLSTREET is an imposing five-story tower house.

KANTURK CASTLE, KANTURK was probably started at the end of the 16th century.

LISCARROLL CASTLE, LISCARROLL was built in the 13th century by the De Barrys.

CARRIGANASS CASTLE, KEALKILL is the impressive remains of an imposing 16th century tower and walled courtyard on the Ouvane River.

FRANCISCAN ABBEY, BANTRY The present graveyard was once the site of a Franciscan monastery which was built by the local O' Sullivan chieftain c. 1460 A.D.

KILNARUANE PILLAR STONE, BANTRY 3km outside Bantry town just off the N71 route is a monument of early Christian times.

ALTAR WEDGE TOMB, TOORMORE lies 7km west of Schull.



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

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TOURS

BUS TOURS

BEGLEY'S SLEA HEAD TOUR Tel: 087 2504767 www.dingleshuttlebus.com

BUAILTIN TOURS, DINGLE Tel: 086 3252996 www.dingletoours.com

COASTLINE TOURS, DINGLE Tel: 087 9982230 www.coastline-tours.com

DINGLE SLEA HEAD TOURS, DINGLE

Tel: 087 2189430 www.dinglesleaheadtours.com

SCIUIRD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, DINGLE Tel: 066 9151606

CORCORANS TOURS, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6636666 www.corcorantours.com

DEROS COACH TOURS, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6631251 www.derostours.com

O'CONNOR AUTOTOURS, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6631052 www.oconnorautotours.ie

J O'CALLAGHAN & SONS, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6631095 www.jocgroup.com

GHOST TOUR OF KILLARNEY, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 1610093 www.killarneyghosttour.com

HOP ON HOP OFF BIG RED KILLARNEY BUS TOUR, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 2508122 www.killarneytour.com

KILLARNEY SHUTTLE BUS, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 1384384 www.killarneyshuttlebus.com

KERRY EXPERIENCE TOURS, SNEEM Tel: 086 2554098 www.kerryexperiencetours.ie

IVERAGH HISTORICAL TOURS, SKELLIG COAST

Tel: 087 9921284 www.iveraghhistoricaltours.com

FINNEGAN'S COACH AND CAB TOURS, KENMARE

Tel: 064 6641491/087 2480800 www.kenmarecoachandcab.com

JAUNTING CAR/HORSE & CARRIAGE TOURS

KILLARNEY HORSE AND CARRIAGE TOURS, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 1505002/087 1505003 www.killarneyhorseandcarriagetours.com

KILLARNEY JAUNTING CARS/TANGNEY TOURS, KILLARNEY

Tel: 064 6633358 www.killarneyjauntingcars.com

CELTIC NATURE WALKING TOURS, DINGLE

Tel: 087 7903950 www.celticnature.com

EXPLORE KILLARNEY GUIDED WALKS, KILLARNEY

Tel: 086 3096675 www.explorekillarney.com

KILLARNEY GUIDED WALKS, KILLARNEY

Tel: 087 6394362 www.killarneyguidedwalks.com

KENMARE HERITAGE WALKS, KENMARE Tel: 087 3381358 info@tourbeara.com

MOTOR CYCLE TOURS

LEMON ROCK BIKE TOURS, THE BREHON, MUCKCROSS ROAD, KILLARNEY

Tel: 064 6694109 www.lemonrockbiketours.com



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Seals in Kenmare Bay



Great Blasket Island ©Chris Hill Tourism Ireland

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

TOURS ON THE WATER

DINGLE BAY TOURS Tel: 087 6726100 www.dinglebaycharters.com

DINGLE SEA SAFARI CRUISE Tel: 086 1937304 www.dingledolphin.com

O'DONOGHUES KILLARNEY DAY TOUR, OLD WEIR LODGE, MUCKROSS ROAD, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6631068 www.killarneydaytour.com

KILLARNEY LAKE TOURS, ROSS CASTLE, KILLARNEY
Tel: 064 6632638 www.killarneylaketours.ie

LILY OF KILLARNEY WATERCOACH, OLD WEIR LODGE, MUCKROSS ROAD, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6631068 www.killarneydaytour.com

GAP OF DUNLOE TOURS, 7 HIGH STREET, KILLARNEY
Tel: 064 6630200 www.gapofdunloetours.com

MUCKROSS LAKE BOAT TOURS, DUNDAG PIER, MUCKROSS, KILLARNEY
Tel: 087 2789335 / 087 1200420

SEA CRUISE AROUND SKELLIG ISLANDS

Tel: 066 9476306 www.skelligexperience.com

(For list of landing on Skellig Michael boat trips see www.heritageireland.ie/en/south-west/skelligmichael/)

VALENTIA HARBOUR TOURS, THAR AN UISCE, CASTLEQUIN, CAHERSIVEEN Tel: 087 1637959 www.vht.ie

SEAFARI ECO CRUISES, 3, THE PIER, KENMARE
Tel: 064 6642059 www.seafariireland.com

For Ferry Services to the islands of the Southern Peninsulas please see Islands section pages 31 - 35

KERRY INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY RESERVE www.kerrydarksky.com

Discover Kerry's Dark Side, the only internationally recognized Gold Tier Reserve in the whole of the Northern Hemisphere. An area of South West Kerry was awarded International recognition for its dark skies and lack of light pollution. The areas included in the Reserve are: Kells, Cahersiveen, Portmagee, Valentia Island, The Glen, Ballinskelligs, Waterville, Dromid and Derrynane/Caherdaniel.

KERRY DARK SKY TOURISM LTD. 087 4629959 www.kerrydarkskytourism.com
Guided Sky Tours

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ISLANDS

With each island boasting its own unique charm, you'll be sure to discover a little slice of paradise on these Southern Peninsula Islands –

Blasket Islands
Valentia Island
Skellig Islands

Dursey Island
Bere Island
Garinish Island

Whiddy Island
Long Island
Cape Clear Island

BLASKET ISLANDS

Na Blascaodaí lie some 6km beyond the most westerly tip of the Dingle Peninsula in County Kerry, large humps of sandstone with awesome cliffs rise from the Atlantic Ocean. Surrounded by smaller rocks and reefs, these are Na Blascaodaí. The largest of the nine islands An Blascaod Mór was finally abandoned in 1953 when the last twenty two people living on the island were moved to the mainland. No other island community of this size has yielded such a literary wealth, producing world renowned writers who documented island life in their beloved Irish language and whose works have been translated into many languages. An Blascaod Mór remains uninhabited today but the island is open to visitors.

GETTING THERE:

BÁDÓIRÍ AN BHLASCAOID TEO (BLASKET ISLAND FERRIES):

Apr - Sep from Dún Chaoin Tel: 086 7751045 www.blasketisland.com

STEPHEN/THOMAS KAVANAGH: Passenger boat to Great Blasket Island May – Sep from Dún Chaoin Tel: 087 7435442

BLASKET ISLANDS ECO MARINE TOURS/FERRY: Eco Marine Tour and land on the Island Apr - Sep from Ventry (Ceann Trá) Tel: 086 3353805 www.marinetours.ie

DINGLE BOAT TOURS: Apr - Sep from Dingle (Daingean Uí Chúis)
Tel: 066 9151344 www.dingleboattours.com

GREAT BLASKET ISLAND EXPERIENCE: on the "Peig Sayers" Daily, Apr – Sep from Dingle (Daingean Uí Chúis) Tel: 086 0572626 www.greatblasketisland.net

BLASKET ISLAND RIB SEA SAFARI CRUISE AND FAST BLASKET FERRY & ECO TOUR: Tel: 066 9152626 www.dingledolphin.com



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Valentia Island



Durse Island Cable Car

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

VALENTIA ISLAND

Valentia Island is one of great beauty and contrast. The western part of the island is dominated by the barren, dramatic cliffs of Bray Head which command spectacular views of the Kerry coastline while the mild effect of the Gulf Stream results in Valentia's balmy climate and lush, colourful vegetation. The island's main village, Knightstown, is reminiscent of an Anglo-Irish Village with its many stately buildings and refined ambience. Tetra pod footprints were found on the northern part of the island. An important quarry on the northern part of the island which opened in 1816 still flourishes today. The famous Valentia Slate has been used in many prominent buildings including the British House of Commons in London. Other highlights include Valentia Island Lighthouse, Skellig Experience Visitor Centre, Valentia Heritage Centre, Glanleam Estate & sub-tropical gardens and Geokaun Mountain & Fogher Cliffs.

GETTING THERE:

The island is linked to the mainland by a bridge at Portmagee, a car ferry also departs from Renard Point, (5km from Cahersiveen) daily Apr - Oct; Tel: 066 9476141

BEGINISH ISLAND

Beginish Island is a beautiful deserted island which is protected from the Atlantic by Valentia Island. With a ruined watch tower at its peak and some important archaeological remains, the island makes a fascinating place for a wander. A ruined monastery can be found on the eastern part of the island and circular stone huts and buildings on the island are remnants of a once vibrant maritime and religious community dating back to the Middle Ages.

GETTING THERE:

There is no scheduled ferry service to Beginish Island although local boatmen may provide a service on demand, please enquire locally for details.

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

SKELLIG ISLANDS

Na Scealga lie thirteen kilometres off the coast of South Kerry, like floating pyramids of sandstone. The most spectacular of these islands, Sceilg Mhichil - Skellig Michael - is a peaceful spiritual idyll and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. Over six hundred steps up a 1,000 year-old stone stairway leads you to one of the most magnificent monastic sites in Europe. Stone beehive huts where monks lived and prayed centuries ago cling to cliff edges alongside oratories, a cemetery, stone crosses, holy wells and the Church of St. Michael. An Sceilg Bheag is a seabird sanctuary and one of the world's greatest gannetries. It is home to more than 30,000 pairs of gannets among many other seabirds.

GETTING THERE:

Numerous local boat owners operate boat trips to the spectacular Skelligs UNESCO World Heritage Site. The site presents a unique landscape and visitors must take care at all times. The main departure points are Portmagee Harbour, Cé Bhaile an Sceilg (Ballinskelligs Pier) and Cé Bhun an Bhaile (Bunavalla Pier, near Caherdaniel) See www.heritageireland.ie/en/south-west/skelligmichael/ for list of boat operators.

DURSEY ISLAND

Durse Island is the most westerly of West Cork's inhabited islands; Dursey lies across a narrow sound and is a great getaway from the fray of modern living. This rugged island is accessed via Ireland's only cable-car, which runs about 250m above the sea and takes six people at a time.

The island is part of the Beara Way walking trail and having no shops, pubs or restaurants offers the day visitor a unique experience of calm with spectacular views of the Beara peninsula. It is also a bird watcher's paradise with rare birds from Siberia and America being spotted there. Monks from Skellig Rock are said to have founded the ancient church of Kilmichael on Dursey, now a ruin.

GETTING THERE:

Via Ireland's only island Cable Car, a 10 minute trip which departs daily from Ballaghboy on the tip of the Beara Peninsula. www.westcorkislands.com



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Garinish Island



View over Bantry Bay and Whiddy Island

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

BERE ISLAND

Bere Island is rich in archaeological sites dating from the Bronze Age through to Medieval times, including ring forts, standing stones, wedge tombs and burial sites. At various stages the British constructed Martello towers, a signal tower, military barracks and a military fortification, all of which can be seen today. Berehaven Harbour and Lawrence Cove are very safe and sheltered harbours for large and small boats and the marina has full facilities for visiting sailors. Bere Island is a charming island away from the hustle and bustle of modern life. With its friendly people and delightful walks, Bere Island's greatest asset is its unspoiled environment.

GETTING THERE: Bere Island Ferries, Daily service (car and passenger) from Castletownbere, Tel: 027 75009 / 086 2423140 www.bereislandferries.com

Murphy's Ferry Service: Daily service (car and passenger) from the Pontoon, 4.8km on the Glengarriff side of Castletownbere. Tel: 087 2386095 www.murphysferry.com

GARINISH ISLAND

Garinish Island (Innacullin), is a tiny island with a big reputation. Stashed away in Glengarriff harbour, known to horticulturists and lovers of trees and shrubs all around the world as an island garden of rare beauty. There is an island admission charge separate to that charged by ferry boats. For more information see page 23.

GETTING THERE:
Bluepool Ferry, Apr - Oct; from Glengarriff; Tel: 027 63333 www.bluepoolferry.com

Harbour Queen Ferry, Apr - Oct; from Glengarriff; Tel: 027 63116 www.harbourqueenferry.com

WHIDDY ISLAND

Whiddy Island lies in beautiful Bantry Bay. The island's climate is influenced by the Gulf Stream creating a unique ecology and wealth of wildlife. Beautiful red and purple fuchsias are abundant on the island throughout the summer and autumn and the common Butterwort is also found here - one of the few 'insect eating' plants found in Ireland. It's easy to spend a quiet afternoon rambling Whiddy's fields or bird-watching at the island's two lakes.

GETTING THERE:
Whiddy Island Ferries, Daily from Bantry; Tel: 086 8626734 www.whiddyferry.com

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

LONG ISLAND

Long Island is only ten minutes by small boat from the shore and offers a gentle escape from the buzz and pace of cosmopolitan Schull. Here you'll find some fine walks, shingle beaches, wild flora and fauna and ultimately, the chance to kick back and enjoy some beautiful nature and scenery. The island's most distinctive landmark is the White Tower Lighthouse at its eastern end, marking the entrance to Schull Harbour.

GETTING THERE:
Long Island Ferry Service departs from Colla Pier, 3 km west of Schull.
Tel: 086 1721254 www.longislandferry.org

OILEÁN CHLÉIRE, CAPE CLEAR ISLAND

See page 51 for details

AN GAELTACHT

There are areas within Cork and Kerry where the Irish language, (An Ghaeilge) is the primary spoken language and where Ireland's social, cultural and linguistic traditions are passionately maintained. These are known as the Gaeltacht areas where you will see signs and place names written in Irish (as Gaeilge). The names often provide a descriptive insight into the history and heritage of the area. For example, caisleán which translates as castle, abhainn a river or rath a fort.

There are two Gaeltacht areas in Co. Kerry, Corca Dhuibhne which is situated on the Dingle peninsula and Uíbh Ráthach which is situated in the Iveragh peninsula. County Cork is also fortunate to have two Gaeltacht areas - Gaeltacht Mhúscraí (Muskerry Gaeltacht) along the banks of the River Lee and Oileán Chléire, the lovely island of Cape Clear in West Cork. These areas possess enormous archaeological riches that are only matched by the unique culture, hospitality and humour of their inhabitants.



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MORE TO EXPERIENCE

BEACHES

Many beaches around the country have been awarded Blue Flag or Green Coast awards, attesting to their water quality, safety and environmental status. On the Southern Peninsulas you are never too far from a beach including:

	Blue Flag			
	Maheragbeg	Rossbeigh	Ballinskelligs	
	Ventry	Kells	Derrynane	
	Inch	White Strand	Barleycove	

	Green Coast			
	Béal Bán	Dooneen Pier	Ballyrisode	
	Garnish	Galley Cove		

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

LIGHTHOUSES

There are many wonderful lighthouses dotted along the Wild Atlantic Way providing wonderful photo opportunities including the following with visitor experience on the Southern Peninsulas:

Valentia Island Lighthouse
Cromwell Point, Valentia Island, Co. Kerry
www.greatlighthouses.com
The site of the Cromwell Point Lighthouse was originally home to Cromwell Fleetwood Fort believed to have been built in the 16th century which was one of two built on Valentia Island around this time.

Mizen Head Signal Station
at Ireland's most Southwesterly Point.
Mizen Head Signal Station, Mizen Head, Co. Cork
www.mizenhead.ie



Iconic Bridge at Mizen Head

HAVEN COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY

The southernmost stretch of the Wild Atlantic Way zigzags gently, from dreamy Roaringwater Bay through Skibbereen and on to Kinsale. Pass gardens lush with sub-tropical plants and hedgerows thick with fuchsia and monbretia. Explore the many inlets, coves, safe harbours and Blue Flag beaches just right for long days spent in the salty air. Go sailing, beachcombing, island-hopping, whale-watching, kayaking on a saltwater lake in the moonlight, or simply take a stroll on the quayside while the fishing boats land their catch. There's something restorative about the temperate Gulf Stream climate, the peaceful vibe and the lively, creative, arts and crafts scenes. Enjoy West Cork's wonderful artisan food, festivals, music, film and stories. There are centuries of history, echoing all along the coast: ancient sites, coastal forts, the hometown of the Irish revolutionary leader, Michael Collins, the wreck of the Lusitania, and – out on the horizon – 'Ireland's tear drop' the Fastnet Rock.



Drombeg Stone Circle, Glandore



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HAVEN COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



West Cork Garden Trail

West Cork, Co. Cork
Tel: 089 4352675 contact@westcorkgardentrail.com
www.westcorkgardentrail.com

Explore the West Cork Garden trail and marvel at the diverse plant life we are blessed with thanks to our position on the tropical Gulf Stream. Tour country houses, island garden paradises, meet the colourful garden owners, see our stunning coastline and picturesque villages and stay in historic family run country houses set on acres of picturesque gardens.



Whale Watch West Cork

Whale Watch West Cork, Baltimore Pier, Baltimore, Co. Cork
Tel: 086 1200027 nic@whale.ie www.whalewatchwestcork.com
GPS 51.4843° N, 9.3661° W

Multi award-winning responsible whale watching tours on board the catamarans, Voyager and Liscannor Star from Baltimore Harbour. Interaction is encouraged by guide, zoologist and conservationist, Nic Slocum. This boat-based, fully-guided, 4 hour responsible whale and dolphin watching tour departs Baltimore Harbour at 09:15 and 14:15 each day and stops at Cape Clear Island for refreshments half-way through the tour. Species that can be seen off West Cork include minke, humpback and fin whales, common and bottlenose dolphins, harbour porpoise as well as the stunning scenery of the West Cork coastline.

Advance booking essential.

DURATION: 4 hour tour including refreshment stop at Cape Clear Island.



Moonlight Kayaking

Atlantic Sea Kayaking, The Abbey, Skibbereen, Co. Cork
Tel: 028 21058 info@atlanticseakayaking.com
www.atlanticseakayaking.com

This most magical and popular kayaking experience, the moonlight paddle, starts 1 hour before darkness giving you time to get used to the kayak (singles/doubles) before setting off. There is always something to make you gasp on this trip, whether it be the silhouette of the seabirds on the bank, the red sunset, the whole panoply of stars overhead, the moonlight reflected on the water, or, at certain times of year, the astonishing bio-luminescence causing the water to light up around your paddle in 1,000 tiny lights. Our night time kayak is gentle and atmospheric, and takes place in the safety of either Castlehaven Bay or Lough Hyne – perfect for beginners and those more comfortable on the water. We encourage paddlers to slip silently into the night and take advantage of the increased awareness of sound and odours – a special element of paddling in the darkness!

DURATION: 2hrs 30mins

HAVEN COAST: EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY



West Cork Agri Tours

Rosscarbery, Co. Cork
Tel: 023 8848722
info@westcorkexperiences.com www.westcorkagritours.com

On this West Cork farm tour, you'll meet innovative farmers, creative food producers and their vibrant communities. In the farms of West Cork, there is a continuity of love for the land and farming is still very much a family affair. You will immerse yourself in a way of life that's connected to the seasons. The West Cork Farm Trail features six local farms where the owners are only too delighted to welcome you and give you a feel for what their farm is about and explain the intricacies of farming whether it's dairy, beef or pork. In addition, there may perhaps be a demonstration or two plus the possibility of getting the opportunity to pet a heifer!

DURATION: 1 hour.



Feel the Spirit of Kinsale

Kinsale Harbour Cruises, Kinsale, Co. Cork
Tel: 086 2505456 harbourcruises@gmail.com
www.kinsaleharbourcruises.com

They say the best way to see Kinsale is from the sea. And perhaps the best way to understand Kinsale is with a former fisherman at the helm. One who's studied Archaeology & Celtic Civilisations and has a Masters in Local History, that is. Jerome was born and grew up on the Old Head of Kinsale, and worked as a fisherman in these waters for 28 years. He'll share his local knowledge with you on a tour in his boat The Spirit of Kinsale – taking you out across the Harbour, past Charles Fort and right to the Atlantic's edge.

DURATION: 1 hour.



Farmhands Experience

Top of the Rock Pod Páirc, Drimoleague, Co. Cork
Tel: 086 1735134 david@topoftherock.ie
www.topoftherock.ie/farmhands

Get stuck in to life on the farm on a 'Farmhands Tour' in Drimoleague. The Ross family's farm in West Cork's rolling hills is an idyllic setting for a family adventure. You'll get to feed baby animals, gather eggs, and learn about the cattle, birds and wildlife. The highlight of your afternoon is sure to be the "hayride" in the farm's specially adapted trailer, and there'll be time for refreshments too after your thirsty work. Your young farmhands will receive a certificate to show for their contribution to West Cork farming!



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Baltimore Beacon

HAVEN COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Skibbereen Heritage Centre

Old Gasworks Building, Upper Bridge St,
Skibbereen, Co. Cork P81 WK06
Tel: 028 40900 www.skibbheritage.com

Skibbereen Heritage Centre tells the STORY OF THE GREAT FAMINE of the 1840s in one of the worst affected areas in all of Ireland. Also features exhibition on LOUGH HYNE MARINE NATURE RESERVE as well as offering a full GENEALOGY SERVICE for West Cork. Gift shop and hot/cold drinks. Indoor/all-weather activity.

OPEN: May - Sep: Mon - Sat, 10.00 - 18.00; Mar, Apr, Oct: Tue - Sat: 10.00 - 18.00. Last admission: 17.15.

ADMISSION: Adult: €6, Child: €3, Student/Senior: €4.50, Family: (2+4): €14



Dún na Séad Castle

Baltimore, Co. Cork P81 X968
Tel: 028 20735 www.baltimorecastle.ie

Visit the thirteenth century Dún na Séad Castle in Baltimore, a tour of the castle includes a pirate exhibition, which details the piratical history of Baltimore including the famous 'Sack of Baltimore' in 1631. Find us on Facebook: Baltimore Castle.

OPEN: 1st Mar - 31st Oct: Daily, 11.00 - 18.00.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5; Accompanied children: Free of charge



Michael Collins House

7 Emmet Square, Clonakilty, Co. Cork P85 D235
Tel: 023 8858676 www.michaelcollinshouse.ie

Michael Collins House, Clonakilty is a new museum dedicated to the "Big Fella", Michael Collins. Bringing the history of Irish independence to life for all the family.

OPEN: Summer: Tues - Sat, 10.00 - 17.00, Sun, 12.00 - 17.00; Winter: Wed - Sat: 10.00 - 17.00. Last admission: 16.00. Closed Bank Hols.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Student/Senior: €3, Child: €2; Family: €12.
Group rates available.



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HAVEN COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

West Cork Model Railway Village

Inchydoney Rd, Clonakilty, Co. Cork
Tel: 023 8833224 www.modelvillage.ie

Visit a world of hand made miniature towns, depicting Market Days when the trains still ran in West Cork. Tour Clonakilty on our Choo Choo Road Train, a fun day out for all of the family.

OPEN: Daily, 11.00 - 17.00. Extended opening hours Jul & Aug.

ADMISSION: Adult: €8, (€11 including train ride), Senior/Student: €5.50 (€8.00 including train ride), Child (6 - 17yrs): €4.50 (€6.50 including train ride), Child (2 - 5yrs): €3 (€4.50 including train ride), Family (2a+3c): €25, (€35 including train ride). 10% discount for groups of 12 or more.

★ **OFFER:** Child entry free with accompanying Adult on presentation of this guide book.

Michael Collins Centre - Memorial Park

Castlevew, Clonakilty, Co. Cork
Tel: 023 8846107 www.michaelcollinscentre.com

The Centre explores the life of the famous leader, his childhood in West Cork, the War of Independence and his death at Béal na Bláth with audio visuals, live talks, exhibitions and lifesize replica vehicles.

OPEN: Mid Jun - Mid Sep: Mon - Fri, 10.30 - 17.00, Sat, 11.00 - 14.00, Closed on Sun.

ADMISSION: Adult: €5, Senior: €5, Child u12: Free of charge, 12 - 18yrs €3.

Timoleague Abbey

Timoleague, Co. Cork
www.timoleague.ie

Timoleague Abbey was founded by the Franciscan order in 1240 and was built on the site of a monastic settlement founded by St. Molaga in the 6th century. In its day, it was one of the largest and most important of the religious houses in Ireland.

OPEN: Daylight Hours.

ADMISSION: Free of charge.

HAVEN COAST: VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Lusitania Museum / Old Head Signal Tower

Old Head of Kinsale, Co. Cork
Tel: 021 4191285 www.oldheadofkinsale.com

Restored Napoleonic era Signal Tower with flag and ball signalling system. Lusitania Museum, artefacts, information, memorial garden and monument. Rooftop walkway with wonderful all-round vistas. Binoculars available to borrow.

OPEN: Apr - Oct: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00

ADMISSION: Adult: €4, Concessions: €3, Child under 12: Free of charge. Group rates by request. Car Parking is free but please note gates are locked at 18.00

Desmond Castle

Cork Street, Kinsale, Co. Cork
Tel: 021 4774855 www.heritageireland.ie

Set near the heart of Old Kinsale, Desmond Castle is a fine example of an urban tower house. Built as a custom house in c. 1500, the castle now houses the International Museum of Wine.

OPEN: 12th Apr - 4th Oct: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00. Last admission 1hr before closing.

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

Charles Fort

Summer Cove, Kinsale, Co. Cork
Tel: 021 4772263 www.heritageireland.ie

A classic example of a 17th century star shaped fort, it is one of the largest and best preserved forts in the country. Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history including the Williamite War 1689-91 and the Irish Civil War 1922-23. Visitors are advised to wear footwear suitable for uneven terrain.

OPEN: All Year. Mid Mar - Oct: Daily, 10.00 - 18.00, Nov - Mid Mar: Daily, 10.00 - 17.00. Last admission 1hr before closing.

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



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Viewing crafts in Kinsale



Lough Hyne, Skibbereen

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ARTS, CRAFTS & CULTURE

The Haven Coast is home to a thriving arts and crafts scene. Among the many riches to be explored is a profusion of accomplished craft workers. Many of them draw inspiration from their surroundings, and relish the slower pace of life still found here.

The West Cork Craft & Design Guild brings together the pick of the crop to nurture creativity and to promote the best in craft. You may even be inspired to take a course or do a workshop - www.facebook.com/westcorkcraft

Green Wood Chairs, Skibbereen offers chair, stool and small table making courses using locally coppiced hazel – www.greenwoodchairs.com **West Cork Watercolour**, Castletownshend has courses designed to get the best from this stunning landscape and your own talent – www.westcorkwatercolour.ie **Kinsale Pottery and Arts Centre**, Kinsale provides arts and crafts courses for adults and children, specialising in pottery/ceramics, glass fusing, jewellery-making and mosaic-making - www.kinsaleceramics.com

Uillinn, West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen works to develop a programme of exhibitions that offer a broad and in-depth experience of contemporary visual arts - www.westcorkartscentre.com

There is a strong passion for **Gaelic Games** throughout the region. So, why not immerse yourself in some local culture and soak up the atmosphere at a Gaelic Football, Hurling or Camogie match. For local fixtures, visit www.gaacork.ie



For information about galleries, studios, craft shops along the Haven Coast and more inspirational ideas, call into one of our **Tourist Offices** (listed on page 1 of this guide), see www.wildatlanticway.com or download the **FREE Wild Atlantic Way app**.

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

HERITAGE

LOUGH HYNE

www.skibbheritage.com

A “must see”, Lough Hyne is Ireland’s first Marine Nature Reserve and nestles in a fold of hills just 5km southwest of Skibbereen.

CLONAKILTY MUSEUM, WESTERN ROAD, CLONAKILTY

Tel: 087 9985261

The Museum covers the political, social and folklife aspects of the area. Dedicated exhibition to Michael Collins and that period of Irish history. Check locally for updates on opening times.

WEST CORK HERITAGE CENTRE, BANDON

Tel: 023 8844193 www.westcorkheritagecentre.com

Housed in the former Christchurch on North Main Street, Bandon, this unique and charming exhibition transports visitors through time to experience Bandon town as it was in time’s past. Christchurch dates back to circa 1610 and is built on the site of a Danish Fort. It was one of the earliest Protestant churches in Ireland and was a church for 363 years.

KINSALE REGIONAL MUSEUM, KINSALE

Tel: 021 4777930 www.kinsale.ie

It was here in 1915, that the inquest into the sinking of the RMS Lusitania was held and even today sad reminders of this time echo about the walls. The museum houses a large number of local artefacts relating to Kinsale’s maritime, military and secular history from the Battle of Kinsale to the Kinsale Giant.

BLACKS BREWERY TOURS, KINSALE

Tel: 087 9180433 www.blacksbrewery.com

Take a tour of Blacks Brewery, a working Microbrewery and Distillery in Kinsale. Relax and enjoy time in the tap room, tasting a range of craft beers and spirits. Learn about the brewing and distilling process. Please see website for updates on tour times and prices.



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HERITAGE

LUSITANIA MEMORIAL GARDEN, OLD HEAD OF KINSALE

Circular in shape and centred on the signal mast, with a sunken inner space and two raised viewing points it also has seating for those who wish to enjoy a quiet contemplative space. The highlight is the 20 metre long "Wave" sculpture by Liam Lavery and Eithne Ring. Apart from including the names of all those on board the fated liner on its final voyage, it tells the story of RMS Lusitania from New York to Old Head on May 7th 1915.

THE CHAIR OF DESTINY, KINSALE www.kinsale.ie

Executed by the well-known Cork sculptor, Ken Thompson, the Chair of Destiny stands at the Millwater about 2km from Kinsale and was erected to commemorate the Battle of Kinsale.

THE KINSALE GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, RINGFINNAN, KINSALE

www.kinsale.ie

The Kinsale Garden of Remembrance was established as a memorial, with a tree in memory of each of the firemen who lost their lives in New York on 11th September 2001.

JAMES FORT, KINSALE www.kinsale.ie

Located opposite Charles Fort, it has a commanding position guarding the small harbour of Kinsale. This fort was built in 1607 and was captured in 1690 by Williamite forces. The fort remains a most interesting example of 17th century military architecture and offers wonderful views of the town, river, harbour and Charles Fort.

CHURCHES, ABBEYS & ANCIENT SITES

ABBEYSTREWRY ABBEY, SKIBBEREEN

Located 1.5km west of Skibbereen town on the N71, Abbeystewry Abbey is also the site of the Famine Burial Plot.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, SKIBBEREEN

This is built in the Grecian style and dates from 1826.

KNOCKDRUM STONE FORT, CASTLETOWNSHEND

Located just 1km east of Castletownshend, the round fortification has a wall that measures about 29m in diameter and stands 2m high. At the entry, there is a sentry chamber, while the interior features a pillar stone with a cross on it and the foundations of a square building.



Timoleague Abbey

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

CHURCHES, ABBEYS & ANCIENT SITES

ST. BARRAHANE'S CHURCH, CASTLETOWNSHEND

Lovely church with beautiful stained glass windows by Harry Clarke, in one of the most unique parts of West Cork.

DROMBEG STONE CIRCLE, GLANDORE

A circle of 17 standing stones which on excavation showed that there had been an urn burial in the centre. It has been dated to between 153 BC and 127AD. To the west of the stones is a hut site with fulacht-fia cooking place.

ST. FACHTNA'S CATHEDRAL, ROSSCARBERY

The present Cathedral of St. Fachtna dates from 1612, and was rebuilt in the aftermath of the 1641 rebellion.

CASTLE SALEM, ROSSCARBERY

Tel: 085 2415845 www.rosscarbery.ie

2km off main Rosscarbery/Skibbereen (N71) road, this 15th century castle is one of the best preserved castles in Ireland with massive walls and loop-holes, and the usual spiral stone stairway. William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania often stayed at Castle Salem. Guided Historic Tours available – please contact for details.

KILBRITTAIN CASTLE, KILBRITTAIN

Dating from 1035AD, the castle was built by the grandson of Brian Boru and was once the principal seat of the MacCarthy Reagh Clan.

SAINT MULTOSE CHURCH, KINSALE

Tel. 021 4772220

This historical church dates back to 1190, when it was built in the transitional Norman Early English style. Though the building has undergone changes since medieval times, many of its original features survive and it continues to be used as a house of worship today. Visitors won't want to miss the Norman French inscriptions, carved memorials and rearedos (ornamental screens) from the Galway chapel.



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Historic Kinsale Harbour



Whale watching with the Stag Rocks in the background

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

TOURS

DERMOT RYAN'S HERITAGE TOWN WALKS, KINSALE

Tel: 021 4772729 / 086 8267656 www.kinsaleheritage.com

Kinsale Heritage Town Walks will help you enjoy the Real Kinsale. Listen to the story of the 1601 Siege and Battle of Kinsale and walk in the footsteps of James II, Oliver Cromwell, William Penn and John Wesley. Enjoy the stories of the White lady, Pirates, Robinson Crusoe and Polar Explorers. Learn of the Wine Museum in the French prison, the Lusitania Inquest, the Great Famine and much more.

DON & BARRY'S HISTORIC STROLL, KINSALE

Tel: 021 4772873 / 087 2500731 www.historicstrollkinsale.com

The original daily historical walking tour of Kinsale - now celebrating 25 years! Enjoy a colourful story of Kinsale down the ages from medieval walled town to the sinking of the Lusitania. Beachhead for the last Spanish Armada, leading to The Battle of Kinsale in 1601. Star Forts stronghold described by Charles II as 'a place of Great resort for His Majesty's ships of War.'

KINSALE GHOST TOURS

Tel: 087 9480910 / 021 4772240

Lasting just over an hour this walking tour (which leaves from the Tap Tavern, Sun - Fri during high season) will entertain and educate you on the history of Kinsale and you might even get more than you bargained for!

TOURS ON THE WATER

AQUAVENTURES, BALTIMORE

Tel: 087 7961456 www.aquaventures.ie

Groups and individuals can book a whale or dolphin watching trip or eco tour on board the 'Wave Chieftain'.

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

TOURS ON THE WATER

BALTIMORE SEA SAFARI BOAT TRIPS

Tel: 028 20753 www.baltimoreseasafari.ie

Close-up coastal sightseeing boat trips with whale, dolphin, seal and wildlife watching in the waters around Baltimore and Carbery's Hundred Isles in West Cork, an area of exceptional unspoiled natural beauty.

CORK WHALE WATCH Tel: 086 3850568 www.corkwhalewatch.com

Cork Whale Watch with Colin Barnes is a wonderful opportunity to encounter marine wildlife. Trips on the thirty six-foot catamaran, the Holly Jo leave from Reen Pier on the eastern side of Castlehaven Harbour.

THE FASTNET TOUR (DEPARTS FROM BALTIMORE)

Tel: 028 39159 www.fastnettour.com

The Fastnet Rock Tour is a day trip that will first bring you to the Fastnet Exhibition and multimedia display in the Cape Clear & Fastnet Rock Heritage Centre on Cape Clear Island. This will allow time to see the Fastnet Rock Memorials on Cape Clear Island and to the view the Rock from the Island itself. The tour later circumnavigates the Rock to view it from all sides at close quarters.

WHALE WATCH WEST CORK, BALTIMORE

Tel: 086 1200027 www.whalewatchwestcork.com

Responsible dolphin & whale watching tours fully guided by zoologist and conservationist Nic Slocum leaving from Baltimore Harbour on board twin engine catamaran, Voyager. Advance booking recommended. Irish Responsible Tourism Award Winner.

KINSALE RIB TOURS, KINSALE Tel: 087 4510911 www.kinsaleribtours.com

Kinsale Rib Tours are an exciting way to see the sights of Kinsale from the water. It is your own unique Sea Safari and you may get a chance to glimpse seals, otters, herons, shags, cormorants, terns and other flora and fauna.

For Ferry Services to the islands of the Haven Coast see pages 50 - 51



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Sherkin Island



Cape Clear Island

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ISLANDS

With each island boasting its own unique charm, you're sure to discover a little slice of paradise on the Islands of the Haven Coast -

HEIR (HARE) ISLAND

Heir (Hare) Island is one of Carbery's Hundred Isles that lie scattered throughout Roaringwater Bay. The island is beautifully located, surrounded by a panorama of Sherkin Island, Cape Clear, the Calf Islands, the East and West Skeams, and Mount Gabriel to the North. The island is easily walked and cycled and there are lovely sandy beaches. The centre of the island has an extensive marsh with a vibrant reed bed where you'll find many unusual birds as well as over 200 varieties of wild flowers.

GETTING THERE: M.V Thresher: Daily; from Cunnamore Pier between Ballydehob and Skibbereen. Tel: 028 38511 / 086 8092447 www.heirislandsailingschool.com

Heir Island Ferries: from Cunnamore Pier. Tel: 086 8887799 www.heirlandferries.com

INISH BEG ISLAND

Inish Beg is a private island estate, the most northerly of the Carbery Hundred Islands. The Estate with its beautiful woodlands, parkland, farmland, gardens, foreshore and various activities including new Pirate and Fairy Trail will enchant all who visit. The gardens at Inish Beg Estate were listed in the Hundred Best Gardens in Ireland 2011.

GETTING THERE: The island is linked to the mainland by a bridge off the Skibbereen - Baltimore Road. Tel. 028 21745 www.inishbeg.com

SHERKIN ISLAND

Sherkin Island, one of Carbery's Hundred Isles, in Roaringwater Bay, is the ancestral home of the O'Driscoll clan whose castle lies just above the pier. Nearby, you can also see the ruins of a 15th century Franciscan abbey. Sherkin buzzes with activity during the summer months and locals are renowned for their warmth and hospitality. Come to hear great live traditional music or enjoy the activities of the Sherkin Family Regatta, a big splash in the island's social calendar. Sherkin's three sandy beaches make great secluded swimming areas and walking along the shore you may see seals, otters, schools of dolphins or the porpoises which gave the island its name.

GETTING THERE:

Sherkin Ferry: Daily, from Baltimore; Tel. 087 2447828 www.sherkinisland.eu

MORE TO EXPERIENCE

ISLANDS

OILEÁN CHLÉIRE - CAPE CLEAR ISLAND

This Gaeltacht Island is Ireland's southernmost inhabited island and is a paradise of solitude and inspiration. Megalithic standing stones, a 5,000 year old passage grave, a 12th Century church ruin and a 14th Century castle are testament to the island's rich cultural heritage. You'll be steeped in wildlife on the island: rare migratory birds, whale, leather-back turtles, sun fish and shark are spotted every year, as well as regular visitors, the dolphins.

The Islanders are a friendly bilingual community, whether you come to Cape Clear to get close to nature, learn a bit of 'an Ghaeilge', taste some goats milk ice cream or enjoy the island's famous hospitality, Oileán Chléire offers relaxation, nature and peace. Cape Clear Island Heritage Centre boasts a fascinating range of artefacts from the Island's history including a multimedia display on the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse. A highlight of the year is the annual Cape Clear Island International Storytelling Festival.

GETTING THERE:

Cailín Óir Ferry & Cruise Service; Daily service from Baltimore;

Seasonal from Schull Tel: 028 39159/41923/086 3465110 www.cailinoir.com



Top Tip: The West Cork Islands play host to a wonderful variety of events from art and cookery to storytelling, regattas to runs, musical and theatrical performances and much more. For calendar of events, check out www.westcorkislands.com



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BEACHES

Many beaches around the country have been awarded Blue Flag or Green Coast awards, attesting to their water quality, safety and environmental status. On the Haven Coast you're never very far from a beach whether your preference is for the panoramic view or the small inlet cove including –

	Blue Flag	
Owenahincha		Tragumna
Inchydoney		Garrylucas
	Green Coast	
Inchydoney East		Red Strand

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

LIGHTHOUSES

There are many wonderful lighthouses dotted along the Wild Atlantic Way providing excellent photo opportunities including the following on the Haven Coast:

Lighthouses without Visitor Experiences

Old Head of Kinsale	Galley Head
---------------------	-------------

www.greatlighthouses.com

Signal Tower Visitor Experience

Old Head Signal Tower
Old Head of Kinsale.
www.oldheadofkinsale.com
(see page 43 for details)



Inchydoney Beach, Clonakilty

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Go wild outside

The jaw-dropping natural beauty of Killarney National Park has long drawn adventure seekers keen to embrace the majesty of this wonderful resource. Whether it's marathon-running, cycling, hiking or kayaking, you are bound to fall in love with the former Muckross Estate - the very first place in Ireland to receive national park designation.

The Kingdom is justly famed for the magnificence of its mountains, valleys, lakes and rugged coast and even the most loquacious could be lost for words when gazing out to sea at the pyramidal Skellig Michael or looking up to Ireland's highest peak from the foothills of Carrauntoohil.

The Ring of Kerry needs little introduction - especially as it enjoyed a worldwide audience when featuring spectacularly on Top Gear in 2016 - but one of the best ways to fully experience this sensational touring route is on bike. Cycle a stretch of it - or all of its 179km distance, if you dare - and make sure to dismount at the top of Moll's Gap and drink in the magnificence of your surroundings.

Water sports have long been part of life in the Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast, and nowhere more so than West Cork where the inviting sea, and sheltered coves have proved a draw for sailors, kayakers, stand-up paddlers and anglers. The many islands have an allure all of their own and Dursey, off the Cork coast, is particularly special. Even getting here is an adventure in itself - you take a cable car, the only one in Ireland, from the mainland. The elevated ride offers an unforgettable bird's eye view of the waves rolling into shore.

It's a marvellous region to revive and reconnect - Pure Bliss.



Pod of Common Dolphins, West Cork



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Seaweed Discovery Walk with Atlantic Irish Seaweed on Ballinskelligs Beach



Schull Harbour

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ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BALLINSKELLIGS BOATS 086 4176612 www.skelligboats.com Diving

BARLEYCOVE SURF CAMP 087 6477855 www.barleycovesurfcamp.com Surf School

BEARA OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, BONANE, KENMARE
087 6678618 www.beara-outdoors.com Outdoor Adventures

CAHERSIVEEN MARINA 066 9472777 Marina & Water Activities

CAPPANALEA OUTDOOR CENTRE, KILLORGLIN 066 9769244 www.cappanalea.ie
Adventure Activities

CARRIG WATER SKI & WAKEBOARD, CARRIGADROHID
086 0757180 www.facebook.com/CarrigWaterski Water Ski & Wakeboard

CORK POWERBOAT & WATERSKI CLUB, LOWER DRIPSEY
086 3069202 www.waterskiireland.com Water Ski & Wakeboard

DERRYNANE SEA SPORTS, DERRYNANE
087 9081208 www.derrynaneseasports.com Water sports Centre

DINGLE ACTIVITIES CENTRE, BALLYDAVID, DINGLE
Tel: 087 2460507 www.dingleactivities.com

DINGLE MARINA DIVE CENTRE, DINGLE 087 9111643 www.divedingle.com Diving

DINGLE SURF, DINGLE 066 9150833 www.dinglesurf.com Surf School

ECLIPSE IRELAND ADVENTURE CENTRE, KENMARE 064 6682965
www.eclipseireland.com Adventure & Activity Centre

EXPLORERS WORLD, DINGLE 066 9152822 www.explorersworld.ie Climbing Wall

FASTNET MARINE & OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE, SCHULL
028 28515 www.schullsailing.ie Sailing School

FUNMANWAY, DUNMANWAY 085 8060020 www.funmanway.ie Zorbing/Paintball

GOLEEN HARBOUR ADVENTURES, GOLEEN
087 7990607 www.goleenharbour.ie Adventure activities

GSUP PADDLE BOARDING, WEST CORK 027 61970 SUP Boarding

ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

HIDDEN IRELAND TOURS, KILLARNEY 087 2214002 www.hiddenirelandtours.com
Mountaineering/Hiking/Climbing

IRISH ADVENTURES, DINGLE 087 4190318 www.irishadventures.net
Kayaking/Cycling/Mountaineering/Adventure

JAMIE KNOX WATERSPORTS, CASTLEGREGORY 066 7139411 www.jamieknox.com
Windsurfing/Surfing/SUP

KENMARE BAY DIVING 087 6993793 www.kenmarebaydiving.com Diving

KERRY CLIMBING, MUNSTER REGION 087 7440523 www.kerryclimbing.ie
Rock Climbing/Walking /Scrambling

KILLARNEY HIGH ROPES ADVENTURE CENTRE, KILLARNEY
064 6631240 www.killarneyhighropes.com High Ropes Adventure

KILLARNEY OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE, KILLARNEY
085 8204836 www.killarneyoutdoorexperience.com

KITE SURF IRELAND, BRANDON BAY 087 2229542 www.kitesurfireland.ie Kite Surfing

MARINE EDUCATION, DERRYNANE www.vincenthylandartist.com
Marine & Seashore Education

MÓR ACTIVE, KILLARNEY 086 3890171 www.moractivetours.ie Adventure Tours

OCEAN CREW, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, 021 6010706 www.oceancrew.ie SUP Adventure

OFF SHORE SURF SCHOOL, INCH BEACH 087 2946519 www.offshoresurfschool.ie
Surfing

OUTDOORS IRELAND, KILLARNEY 086 8604563 www.outdoorsireland.com
Mountaineering/Rock Climbing /Kayaking

SCHULL & FITBONES, SCHULL 086 2404709 www.fitbones.ie Outdoor Adventure

SCHULL WATERSPORTS CENTRE, SCHULL 028 28554 Water sports Centre

SEA SYNERGY, WATERVILLE 087 7850929 www.seasynergy.ie
Marine Awareness & Activity Centre

SPLASH SPORTS, CASTLEGREGORY 087 2778236 www.splashsports.ie
Activity Centre

SKELLIGS WATERSPORTS, BALLINSKELLIGS 087 9178808 www.skelligsurf.com
Windsurfing/Surfing/Kayaking



Inch Beach ©Stewart Duffy



Kayaking on Lough Hyne



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

STAR OUTDOORS, KENMARE 064 6641222 www.staroutdoors.ie
Water based activities

SUMMER SUP SCHOOL CORK, CROOKHAVEN 086 2597688 www.summersup.ie
SUP School

SUNFISH EXPLORER, CAHERDANIEL 087 9474616 www.sunfishexplorer.com
Motorised kayaking

VALENTIA ISLAND SEA SPORTS & ADVENTURES
087 2980199 www.valentiaislandseasports.com

WATERWORLD, CASTLEGREGORY 066 7139292 www.waterworld.ie
Dive Centre/Watersports

WILD ATLANTIC WILDLIFE, ADRIGOLE 083 1156672 www.westcorksailing.com
Sailing/Kayaking/Canoeing /Powerboat

WILD PLANT MEDICINE WALK, DERRYNANE CLINIC OF HERBAL MEDICINE, CAHERDANIEL 087 2187744 derrynaneherbalist@gmail.com

WILD SUP TOURS, DINGLE
Tel: 083 4766428 www.facebook.com/WildSUPtours SUP Tours

ZIPIT FOREST ADVENTURES, FARRAN WOOD
051 858008 www.zipit.ie Treetop Rope Adventure

BANTRY BLUEWAY

The Bantry Blueway offers a variety of water based looped trails giving kayakers, canoeists and paddlers the opportunity to explore the coastline in a fun way with picturesque Bantry Bay as the backdrop. The trails can be enjoyed by all ages and abilities from beginners to experienced water sports enthusiasts. For map of trails, safety advice and more information, visit www.bantrybayport.com/bantry_blue_way_trails



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ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS

HAVEN COAST

ACTIONPAK PAINTBALL, KINSALE 086 0760952 www.actionpak.ie Paintball

AQUAVENTURES, BALTIMORE 028 20511 www.aquaventures.ie Diving/Eco Tours

ATLANTIC BOATING SERVICES, SKIBBEREEN 028 22145 www.atlanticboat.ie
Boat Hire

ATLANTIC CHARTERS, KINSALE 021 4524451 www.atlanticcharters.ie
Boat Charter/Rental

ATLANTIC OFFSHORE ADVENTURES, KINSALE
087 9443796 www.atlanticoffshoreadventures.com Mobile Adventure Activities

ATLANTIC SEA KAYAKING, WEST CORK 028 21058 www.atlanticseakayaking.com
Sea Kayaking

BALTIMORE DIVING CENTRE 028 20300 www.baltimorediving.com
Diving/Coastal Tours

BALTIMORE YACHT CHARTERS 086 2738368 www.baltimoreyachtcharters.com
Sailing

CLONAKILTY PARK ADVENTURE CENTRE, CLONAKILTY 023 8836400
www.clonadventurecentre.ie High Ropes, Climbing Walls, Zip Line Adventure

GTOWN SURF SCHOOL, GARRETTSTOWN 087 8768549 www.surfgtown.com
Surf School / Coasteering

HEIR ISLAND SAILING SCHOOL 028 38511 www.heirislandsailingschool.com
Sailing School

INCHYDONEY SURF SCHOOL, CLONAKILTY
086 8695396 www.inchydoneysurfschool.com Surfing Lessons

KINSALE OUTDOORS, KINSALE 021 4772896 www.kinsaleoutdoors.com
Adventure Activities

KINSALE RIB TOURS, KINSALE 087 4510911 www.kinsaleribtours.com Rib Tours

KINSALE SURF ADVENTURES, KINSALE 083 1075757 www.surfkinsale.com
Surfing/Water Recreation



Surfing at Garrettstown Beach

3

ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS

HAVEN COAST

OCEAN ADDICTS, KINSALE 087 7903211 www.oceanaddicts.ie Dive Charter/Cruising

RUSSAGH MILL, SKIBBEREEN 028 22451 www.russaghamillhostel.com Adventure Centre

SMUGGLERS COVE, ROSSCARBERY 023 8848054 www.smugglerscove.ie Adventure Golf/Maze/Golf Range

SOVEREIGN SAILING, KINSALE 021 4774145 www.sovereignsailing.com Sailing

TEAM BUILD, BANDON 023 8843998 www.teambuild.ie Team Building

THE LAGOON ACTIVITY CENTRE, ROSSCARBERY 087 7462720 www.lagoonactivitycentre.ie Kayak/Pedal boats/Windsurfing/SUP

THE OYSTERHAVEN CENTRE, OYSTERHAVEN 021 4770738 www.oysterhaven.com Activity Centre

WEST CORK SECRET, KILBRITTAIN 087 8331206 www.westcorksecret.ie Activity Centre & Gardens

RIVER ILEN BLUEWAY

The Ilen River Blue Way is a water activity trail from Skibbereen to Baltimore. The trail is divided into three sections. Skibbereen to Deelish Pier is 2.7km and is considered a beginner trail. Deelish Pier to Glebe Graveyard is 6.0km and considered an intermediate trail while the 8.6km Glebe Graveyard to Baltimore trail is categorised as an advanced trail. For more information and safety tips visit www.skibbereen.ie



Top Tip: For more family fun activities, see pages 70 - 72. Create your own beach adventure - see pages 36 & 52.



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

WALKING & CYCLING

WALKING

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BEARA WAY This 196km route uses minor roads, tracks and paths, passing a number of small towns and delightful villages, with history and heritage often to the fore. The trail both starts and ends in Glengarriff, Co. Cork.

DINGLE WAY This 162km, circular walking trail is divided into 15 sections each representing a half day walking. The trail both starts and ends in Tralee, Co. Kerry.

KERRY WAY This 215km circular walking trail is divided into 21 sections each representing a half day walking. The trail both starts and ends in Killarney, Co. Kerry.

SHEEP'S HEAD WAY This 88km route combines low rugged hills and a splendid cliff coastline with quieter roads, paths and tracks to make a complete circuit around the Sheep's Head Peninsula. The trail both starts and ends in Bantry, Co. Cork.

SLÍ GAELTACHT MHÚSCRAÍ is a section of the famous Beara-Breifne Way, the trail starts in Kealkill and ends in Millstreet. The trail is divided into 5 sections and covers approximately 50km.

The trails can be walked from beginning to end or in sections. Looped walks are also on offer ranging from gentle strolls to more challenging hikes, forest trails and historic town walks. Highlights include Killarney National Park and the oak forest at Glengarriff Nature Reserve. The islands off the coast have some lovely walks with beautiful scenery. You can follow Allihies Copper Mine Trail or explore the Mizen Peninsula with the Fastnet Trails. Walk in the footsteps of St. Brendan on the Kerry Camino or follow St. Finbarr's Pilgrim Way to Gougane Barra.

CYCLING

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BEARA WAY CYCLE ROUTE

SHEEP'S HEAD CYCLE ROUTE

THE CORK CITY – GOUGANE BARRA – BEARA CYCLE ROUTE

GAP OF DUNLOE CYCLE ROUTE

KILLARNEY CYCLE TRAIL

KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

THE DINGLE PENINSULA CYCLE ROUTE

THE RING OF KERRY CYCLE ROUTE

For a list of bike rental outlets, please see page 87.



For information about trails, guides, operators and more call into one of our **Tourist Offices**, see www.wildatlanticway.com, www.irishtrails.ie, www.coillteoutdoors.ie, www.irishheart.ie or download the **Wild Atlantic Way app**.



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The Sheep's Head Way



Exploring the wild and wonderful landscape of the Killarney Lake district

WALKING & CYCLING

WALKING

HAVEN COAST

FASTNET TRAILS, Ballydehob with beautiful views of Roaringwater Bay to be admired and historical features including the 12 Arch Bridge.

BALTIMORE HERITAGE TRAIL - walk through the historic village of Baltimore including walk to the Beacon.

ISLANDS - Explore the unspoiled natural landscape of the islands off the coast.

Use **SKIBBEREEN THE FAMINE STORY APP** to complete an historical walking tour of Skibbereen giving an insight into the Great Famine through stories about local people and places. Visit www.skibberheritage.com/faminestory.htm for further details.

SEVEN HEADS WALK embraces a very interesting and varied territory in the course of its entire distance of approx. 42.5km around the peninsula in the Timoleague, Barryroe, Courtmacsherry area of West Cork. The walkway leads through a variety of different types of scenery, rocky coastlines with magnificent marine life, sandy beaches, extensive rich farm land, picturesque villages and farm yards and prolific bird life.

Stroll on one of the magnificent **beaches** along the Haven Coast, follow a historic town walk trail such as those in Clonakilty and Kinsale, take a Drimoleague Heritage Walk or enjoy a forest adventure - the choice is yours.

CYCLING

HAVEN COAST

SKIBBEREEN CYCLING HUB There are three main cycle routes in the surrounding area as follows -

LOOP 1: Atlantic Route. 3 hours. 24 km. This is a coastal tour along headlands and promontories with fine views out to the Atlantic.

LOOP 2: Baltimore: 3½ hours. 35km Start: Skibbereen Heritage Centre This is a trip out to the fishing village of Baltimore, taking in the challenging Lough Hyne along the way.

LOOP 3: 4 hours. Mount Kid. 46 km This challenging trip will take cyclists up to the wild mountain terrain around Mount Kid, climbing from sea level up over a mountain pass at an altitude of 225 metres. Here a magnificent ocean vista awaits with views of Roaringwater Bay and out to the islands.

CLONAKILTY COMMUNITY CYCLE SCHEME is a rural Bike Rental Scheme in Clonakilty, Co. Cork. For scheme details together with suggested tours for cycling adventures or leisurely family cycle days out visit www.clonbike.com

For a list of bike hire agents, see page 87 of this guide.



For more information on trails, routes, local guides, operators and more, call into our **Tourist Offices**, visit www.wildatlanticway.com, www.irishtrails.ie, www.coillteoutdoors.ie or download the **FREE Wild Atlantic Way app**.



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Castletownbere Harbour



Fishing boats at Dingle

ANGLING

Thanks to the warm waters of the Gulf Stream which caress its shores, the south west corner of Ireland is reported to have the greatest variety of fish in Europe. A very sociable form of angling, get a group together and take a chartered boat out into the ocean for a day's fishing. Deep sea angling is popular all around the coast at angling centres such as Baltimore, Union Hall, Courtmacsherry, Kinsale, Castletownbere and Dingle.

As for shore angling you'll be spoiled for choice along Kerry's magnificent coastline as well as the beautiful Beara Peninsula. The River Blackwater, River Lee, Inniscarra Lake and Inchigeelagh Lake are popular coarse fishing areas. River Laune in Kerry is perfect if you wish to take in both river and lake angling, as it takes you up to the nearby Lakes of Killarney.

Waterville's Lough Currane is one of Ireland's great game fishing loughs renowned for the quality of its sea trout fishing. Lough Leane is a unique and truly spectacular setting, situated within Killarney National Park, it has an excellent stock of wild brown trout. Rivers such as the Ilan and River Bandon are hotspots for spring salmon and large sea trout.



Top Tip: Before you go angling for that big catch visit www.fishinginireland.info with information about fisheries, fishing hotspots, permits, regulations and more.



Fishing Boats at Glandore

ANGLING

Coastal, off-shore, river or lake? Whatever your fishing preference, check out the variety of options the Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast have to offer.

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BALLINSKELLIGS BOATS 086 4176612 www.skelligboats.com Sea Angling

CASEY'S BOAT TRIPS, PORTMAGEE 087 2395470 www.skelligislands.com Sea Angling

DEEP SEA DINGLE 087 2213900 www.deepseadingle.com Sea Angling

DINGLE BOAT TOURS 066 9151344 www.dingleboatours.com Sea Angling

DINGLE DOLPHIN BOATS 066 9152626 www.dingledolphin.com Sea Angling

EUREKA LODGE, WATERVILLE 087 2074882 www.salmonandseatrout.com Angling

GARVEY'S SPORTS SHOP, DINGLE 066 9151248 www.garveygroup.ie
Tackle & Frozen Bait

IAIN O' DRISCOLL, SCHULL 086 3862876 www.fishinginireland.info Sea Angling

INNISCARRA LAKE 021 7334023 www.fishinginireland.info Coarse Angling

JACK O'SHEA, SNEEM 087 6329950 www.fishinginireland.info Sea Angling

JOHN O'SHEA, CAHERDANIEL 087 6898431 skelligtours@gmail.com Sea Angling

KENMARE FISHING TOURS 086 0598558 www.fishwithus.ie Angling

KERRY SEA ANGLING, CAHERSIVEEN
087 2843283 www.kerryseaanglingcharters.com Sea Angling

KILLARNEY LAKE LAND TOURS 064 6620865 Angling

LEE VALLEY HARBOUR, INNISCARRA LAKE 021 7434818 www.leevalleyharbour.ie
Coarse Angling

O'NEILL'S, KILLARNEY 064 6631970 www.fishinginireland.info Permits / Tackle

SHEEN FALLS RIVER, KENMARE 064 6641600 www.sheenfallsdodge.ie Permits

VALENTIA FISHING, VALENTIA ISLAND 066 9476420 www.valentiafishing.com
Sea Angling

VALENTIA ISLAND SEA ANGLING 066 9476300 www.valentiaangling.com Sea Angling

WATERVILLE ANGLING CENTRE 066 9474942 www.fishinginireland.info Permits

WATERVILLE BOATS 087 2202355 www.discoverireland.ie Angling



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Kinsale Harbour



Horses Galloping on Rossbeigh Beach

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ANGLING

HAVEN COAST

ARGIDEEN RIVER, TIMOLEAGUE 026 41222 www.fishinginireland.info Game Angling

KINSALE CHARTERS 087 2425685 www.kinsalecharters.com Sea Angling

KINSALE DEEP SEA ANGLING 021 4774946 www.kinsaleangling.com Sea Angling

NICK DENT, BALTIMORE 086 8240642 www.wreckfish.com Sea Angling

RIVER ILEN, SKIBBEREEN 026 41221 www.riverilenanglersclub.ie Game Angling

ROD 'N' REEL, UNION HALL 087 7613171 www.irishdeepseacharter.com Sea Angling

SEA ANGLING CHARTERS, REEN PIER, UNION HALL
087 2792983 www.seaanglingcharters.ie Sea Angling

SEA BREEZE ANGLING, KINSALE 086 2311672 www.fishinginireland.info Sea Angling

BALTIMORE ANGLING & WILDLIFE TOURS 086 3014971 www.facebook.com/Baltimore-Angling-Wildlife-Tours-498647080307169/ Sea Angling

BANDON ANGLING ASSOCIATION 086 3724358 www.bandonangling.com Game Angling

CLONAKILTY CHARTERS, RING, CLONAKILTY
083 4491403 www.irelandseaangling.com Sea Angling

CLONTACKLE & LEISURE, CLONAKILTY 023 8835580 Bait/Tackle

COURTMACSHERRY SEA ANGLING CENTRE
023 8846427 www.courtmacsherryangling.ie Sea Angling

FISH IRELAND 087 2353885 www.fishireland.ie Angling

GLANDORE HARBOUR CHARTERS 086 3314224 www.sea-angling.ie Sea Angling

ANGLING BANDON RIVER www.bandonriver.com Angling



Top Tip: Before you reel in that catch, visit www.fishinginireland.info where you will find a list of ghillies, instructors, licenced boat operators and more.

EQUESTRIAN

Imagine galloping along a golden sandy beach with the Atlantic waters lapping at your horse's feet or trekking through the mountains and valleys of stunning peninsulas jutting defiantly out into the great Atlantic Ocean.

So why not saddle up at one of the many riding centres across the Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast -

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BANTRY BAY PONY TREKKING, BANTRY
Tel: 087 7765539 www.bantrybayponytrekking.com

BLACKWATER STABLES, BLACKWATER BRIDGE, KENMARE
Tel: 087 6203627 www.blackwaterstables.com

CASTLEMORE RIDING SCHOOL, KNOCKSHANAVEE, FARNANES
Tel: 086 4013001 www.aire.ie

DINGLE HORSE RIDING, BALLINABOOLA, DINGLE
Tel: 086 8211225 www.dinglehorseriding.com

EAGLE ROCK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, CAHERDANIEL
Tel: 066 9475145 www.eaglerockcentre.com

KILLARNEY RIDING STABLES, BALLYDOWNEY, KILLARNEY
Tel: 064 6631686 www.kerrytrailride.com

LONGS HORSE RIDING, KILCOLMAN, VENTRY Tel: 087 2250286 www.longsriding.com

MUCKROSS PONY TREKKING CENTRE, MUCKROSS, KILLARNEY
Tel: 087 0576703 www.aire.ie

MUCKROSS RIDING STABLES, MUCKROSS, KILLARNEY
Tel: 064 6632238 www.muckross-stables.com

RING OF KERRY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, WATERVILLE Tel: 087 6353999

RIVER VALLEY STABLES, LOUNIHAN, KILGARVAN Tel: 087 9585895 www.aire.ie

ROSSBEIGH BEACH RIDING CENTRE, ROSSBEIGH BEACH
Tel: 087 2379110 www.beachtrek.ie



Killarney Racecourse

EQUESTRIAN

HAVEN COAST

FOLLYFOOT RIDING FARM, SHANBALLY, RIVERSTICK, NEAR KINSALE
Tel: 086 8322795 www.aire.ie

HAWTHORN VILLA STUD & RIDING CENTRE, INNISHANNON
Tel: 086 8525795 www.hawthornvillaequestriancenter.com

KINSALE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, CAPPAGH, KINSALE
Tel: 086 8530894 www.kinsale-equestrian.com

SKEVANISH EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, INNISHANNON
Tel: 085 1326225 www.skevanish.com

TULLIGMORE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE, BALLINHASSIG
Tel: 086 2597664 www.tulligmoreequestrian.com

HORSE RACING

Check out your favourite horse and enjoy great racing, superb entertainment and a wonderful atmosphere at a race meeting at the picturesque setting of **Killarney Racecourse** – www.killarneyraces.ie

The Dingle Racing Festival (11 - 13 August 2017) is a highlight of the Dingle events calendar with 3 days packed with exciting horse and pony races and entertainment for the whole family - www.dingleraces.ie



For local horse racing fixtures and information, call into our **Tourist Offices** (listed on page 1 of this guide).

GOLF

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BANTRY BAY GOLF CLUB, BANTRY 027 50579 www.bantrygolf.com 18

BEAUFORT GOLF CLUB, KILLARNEY 064 6644440 www.beaufortgc.com 18

BEREHAVEN GOLF CLUB, CASTLETOWNBERE 027 70700 www.berehavengolf.com 9

CASTLEGREGORY GOLF & FISHING CLUB, CASTLEGREGORY
066 7139444 www.castlegregorygolfclinks.com 9

CASTLEROSSE GOLF COURSE, KILLARNEY 064 6631144 www.castlerosse.ie 9

CEANN SIBÉAL/DINGLE GOLF LINKS, BALLYFERRITER
066 9156255 www.dinglelinks.com 18

DOOKS GOLF CLUB, GLENBEIGH 066 9768205 www.dooks.com 18

GLENGARRIFF GOLF CLUB, GLENGARRIFF 027 63150 www.glengarriffgolfclub.com 9

KANTURK GOLF CLUB, KANTURK 029 50534 www.kanturkgolf.com 18

KENMARE GOLF CLUB, KENMARE 064 6641291 www.kenmaregolfclub.com 18

KILLARNEY GOLF & FISHING CLUB, KILLARNEY
064 6631034 www.killarneygolfclub.ie 18

KILLORGLIN GOLF CLUB, KILLORGLIN 066 9761979 www.killorglingolf.ie 18

LEE VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, OVENS 021 7331721 www.leevalleygcc.ie 18

MACROOM GOLF CLUB, MACROOM 026 41072 www.macroomgolfclub.com 18

PARKNASILLA GOLF CLUB, SNEEM 064 6675600 www.parknasillaresort.com 12

RING OF KERRY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, KENMARE
064 6642000 www.ringofkerrygolf.com 18

ROSS GOLF COURSE, KILLARNEY 064 6631125 www.rossgolfcourse.com 9

WATERVILLE GOLF LINKS, WATERVILLE
066 9474102 www.watervillegolfclinks.ie 18

HAVEN COAST

BANDON GOLF CLUB, BANDON 023 8841111 www.bandongolfclub.com 18

DUNMORE GOLF CLUB, CLONAKILTY 023 8834644 www.dunmoregolfclub.com 9

FERNHILL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, CARRIGALINE
021 4372226 www.fernhillcountryclub.com 18

KINSALE GOLF CLUB, KINSALE 021 4774722 www.kinsalegolf.ie 18

LISSELAN GOLF CLUB, CLONAKILTY 023 8833249 www.lisselan.com 9

OLD HEAD GOLF LINKS, KINSALE 021 4778444 www.oldhead.com 18

SKIBBEREEN & WEST CARBERY GOLF CLUB, SKIBBEREEN
028 21227 www.skibbgolf.com 18



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Skywalk Rope Bridge, Kells Bay Gardens



Garinish Island, Glengarriff



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GARDENS

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

AGHARINAGH INSPIRATIONAL GARDENS, DRIPSEY

021 7334286 www.griffinsgardencentre.ie

BANTRY HOUSE & GARDEN, BANTRY 027 50047 www.bantryhouse.com

CARRAIG ABHAINN GARDENS, DURRUS VILLAGE, BANTRY

027 61070 www.westcorkgardentrail.com

DERREEN GARDENS, LAURAGH 064 6683588 www.westcorkgardentrail.com

DERRYNANE HOUSE, CAHERDANIEL 066 9475113 www.heritageireland.ie

DHU VARREN GARDEN, MILLTOWN 087 7596414 www.dhuvarrengarden.com

EWE SCULPTURE GARDEN & GALLERY, GLENGARRIFF 027 63840 www.theewe.com

GARRA FADÓ GARDEN, EYERIES, BEARA 086 8397149 www.garrafadogarden.com

GLANLEAM GARDENS, VALENTIA ISLAND 066 9476176 www.wildatlanticway.com

GLENGARRIFF BAMBOO PARK, GLENGARRIFF 027 63007 www.bamboo-park.com

HERON GALLERY GARDENS, AHAKISTA, DURRUS 027 67278 www.herongallery.ie

KELLS BAY HOUSE & GARDENS, KELLS 087 7776666 www.kellsgardens.ie

KILLARNEY HOUSE GARDEN 064 6635960 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

KNOCKREER HOUSE & GARDENS, KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

064 6635960 www.killarneynationalpark.ie

ILNACULLIN, GARINISH ISLAND, GLENGARRIFF 027 63040 www.heritageireland.ie

MILL COVE SCULPTURE GARDENS, CASTLETOWNBERE

027 70393 www.millcovegallery.com

MUCKROSS HOUSE GARDENS, KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK

064 6670144 www.muckross-house.ie

PIP'S VIEW GARDEN, AHAKISTA, DURRUS

027 67263 www.westcorkgardentrail.com

GARDENS

HAVEN COAST

DRISHANE HOUSE, CASTLETOWNSHEND 028 36126 www.drishane.com

GLEBE GARDENS, BALTIMORE 028 20579 www.glebegardens.com

GLENVIEW GARDENS, DESERT, ENNISKEANE 023 8847230

www.glenviewgardenswestcork.com

INISH BEG GARDENS, BALTIMORE 028 21745 www.inishbeg.com

LASSANROE GARDEN, LASSANROE, SKIBBEREEN 028 22563

LISS ARD GARDENS, LISS ARD ESTATE, SKIBBEREEN

028 40000 www.lissardestate.com



Top Tip: The West Cork Garden Trail comprises 20 beautiful open gardens. For participating gardens and details of The Mizen Wildflower Trail, visit www.westcorkgardentrail.com (See page 38 of this guide for more information).



West Cork Garden Trail – The Ewe Experience

FAMILY FUN

Experience magical family adventures

Rossbeigh Beach is a glorious 10km stretch of sand jutting out to sea on the Iveragh Peninsula. It's a Blue Flag beach that provides a perfect Ring of Kerry stop-off and one of the very best ways to explore it is on horseback, galloping along at the end of the water that laps to shore.

The Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast are full of such brilliant family experiences. Whether it's taking a boat cruise around Dingle Harbour - with the prospect of glimpsing the country's most famous dolphin, Fungie, in its natural habitat - tackling the 99 steps to the Signal Station at the stunningly located Mizen Head Visitor Centre or taking a stroll along the gorgeous golden sand on Sherkin Island, off the Cork coast, this is a part of Ireland that feels very different from the norm.

The pace of life here is such that you'll be inspired to slow down, absorb your surrounds and connect with those people who mean most. Explore the incredible windswept Inch Strand - beautifully filmed in Ryan's Daughter, and just as unspoilt today. Enjoy an al fresco meal in the pretty village of Summercove, just outside the gourmet gem of Kinsale, spend time among the mature trees and exotic plants at Killarney National Park or wandering around Daniel O'Connell's ancestral home at Derrynane House and Park.

With some of the best driving routes in Ireland to be found in Cork and Kerry, there is a lot of spectacular landscape to be enjoyed on a short break, but you will want to stop time and again at the Wild Atlantic Way's Signature Discovery Points. These breathtaking vistas - like that at Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (The Blasket Centre), and the Old Head of Kinsale are perfect for those family selfies. Wish you were here, indeed.



Coomeenooole Beach, Sleah Head

FAMILY FUN

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

BUDDIES, KILLARNEY Tel: 064 6639080 www.buddies.ie Play Centre

COOLWOOD PARK, KILLARNEY Tel: 087 4141294 www.coolwoodwildlifepark.com Wildlife Park

DINGLE BOAT TOURS, DINGLE Tel: 087 6726100 www.dingleboatours.com

DINGLE DOLPHIN BOAT TOURS, Dingle Tel: 066 9152626 www.dingledolphin.com Boat Trip

EXPLORERS WORLD, DINGLE Tel: 066 9152822 <http://explorersworld.ie/> Climbing Wall & Soft Play

FAIRY TRAILS, DERRYNANE www.irishfairytrails.com

KENNEDY'S PET FARM, Killarney Tel: 087 2310983 www.kennedypetfarm.com Visitor Farm

KERRY BOG VILLAGE, GLENBEIGH Tel: 066 9769184 www.kerrybogvillage.ie Bog Village Museum

LOUIS MULCAHY POTTERY, DINGLE Tel: 066 9156229 www.louismulcahy.com Pottery

OCEANWORLD AQUARIUM, DINGLE Tel: 066 9152111 www.dingle-oceanworld.ie Aquarium

SCANLON'S PET FARM, DINGLE Tel: 066 9155135 www.wildatlanticway.com Visitor Farm

SEAFARI, KENMARE Tel: 064 6642059 www.seafariireland.com Eco Cruises

SKELLIG EXPERIENCE, VALENTIA ISLAND Tel: 066 9476306 www.skelligexperience.com Heritage Centre

THE DONKEY SANCTUARY, LISCARROLL Tel: 022 48398 www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie Donkey Sanctuary

THE EWE EXPERIENCE, GLENGARRIFF Tel: 027 63840 www.theewe.com

THE FARM, GRENAGH Tel: 021 4629816 www.visitthefarm.ie Visitor Farm

TOY SOLDIER FACTORY, KILNAMARTYRA Tel: 026 40342 www.toysoldierfactory.ie Toy Soldier Factory

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All website & email links are live.



Molly Gullivan's Cottage & Traditional Farm



West Cork Model Railway Village Clonakilty Credit: Luke Myers

FAMILY FUN

HAVEN COAST

INISH BEG FAIRY TRAIL, INISH BEG ESTATE, BALTIMORE
Tel: 028 21745 www.inishbeg.com

LOUGHBEG FARM, SCHULL Tel: 086 8197188 www.localcampus.com Visitor Farm

SMUGGLERS COVE ADVENTURE GOLF, ROSSCARBERY
Tel: 023 8848054 www.smugglerscove.ie Adventure Golf, Maze & Golf Range.

THE TREEHOUSE, SKIBBEREEN Tel: 028 51699 www.thetreehouse.ie Play Centre

WEST CORK MODEL RAILWAY VILLAGE, CLONAKILTY Tel: 023 8833224
www.modelvillage.ie Railway Exhibition & Choo Choo Road Train



Top Tip: For fun-filled adventure activities, see pages 54 – 58. Have fun on the beach! – see pages 36 & 52.



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

FOOD

The beating heart of Ireland's fabulous food scene

It is the town at the southern extremity of the Wild Atlantic Way that has long been a byword for all that is great about Irish food. The very mention of Kinsale puts foodies in mind of sensational seafood, exquisitely presented dishes and superb service.

There's a huge range of restaurants and gastro-pubs to appeal to all tastes and budgets in the Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast and the area's superb food heritage truly comes alive in lip-smackingly great events like A Taste of West Cork Food Festival, where superb local and seasonal produce is celebrated.

They're proud of their epicurean tradition here and competition is intense: memorable meals can be savoured the length and breadth of Cork and Kerry. With some of the finest seafood to be found anywhere in the world and artisanal industries like cheese-making and craft beer brewing in the ascendancy, it's little surprise that the Wild Atlantic Way has become a culinary destination in its own right.

Great farmers markets - like those in Clonakilty and Kenmare - and well-seasoned events such as the annual Dingle Food Festival epitomise the importance of its marvellously vibrant food scene and give you the opportunity to meet people whose passion for their produce is matched only by their love of their locality.

And there's great fun to be had in getting acquainted with the bounty of land and ocean, whether it's foraging for seaweed on the Kerry shoreline (while being constantly distracted by the stunning natural beauty), partaking in a family-friendly farm visit in West Cork or immersing yourself in any of the lively, food festivals that dot the annual calendar. Memories are bound to be made here - one mouthful at a time.



Dining in Kinsale



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FOOD

FOODIE WORKSHOPS, TOURS AND TASTINGS

Chocolate Heaven awaits you at –

CLONAKILTY CHOCOLATE, ASSUMPTION PLACE, CLONAKILTY, CO. CORK

Tel: 085 7574338 www.clonakiltychocolate.com

Proud to be one of a small handful of from-the-bean chocolate producers in Ireland, group visits, tastings and workshops are on offer by advance booking.

LORGE CHOCOLATIER, BONANE, KENMARE, CO. KERRY

Tel: 064 6679994 www.lorge.ie

where specialist courses are available for aspiring chocolate makers as well as workshops for children.

SKELLIGS CHOCOLATE COMPANY, THE GLEN, BALLINSKELLIGS, CO. KERRY

Tel: 066 9479119 www.skelligschocolate.com

Family run business where you can see the chocolate being made, ask questions, taste the freshly made treats and view the new mural based on the Willy Wonka factory.

Or for something completely different why not experience Guided Seaweed Discovery Tours, Workshops and Tastings of delicious seaweed dishes at:

ATLANTIC IRISH SEAWEED, CAHERDANIEL, CO. KERRY

Tel: 086 1062110 www.atlanticirishseaweed.com

Or why not indulge yourself in the delights of a food themed walking tour –

FLAVOUR.IE, CLONAKILTY, CO. CORK

Tel: 086 2059360 www.flavour.ie

The Walking Food Tour of Clonakilty connects participants with the stories, history, skills and people behind wonderful local produce.

KINSALE FOOD TOURS, KINSALE, CO. CORK

Tel: 085 1076113 www.kinsalefoodtours.com

Sharing the stories, scenery, seafood and other tasty treats is what Kinsale Food Tours is all about. The tour is light and playful and the producers friendly and fascinating.

Experience the flavour of the famous Lee river basin on a small group tour with –

LEE VALLEY TASTE TRAILS, BALLINGEARY, MACROOM, CO. CORK

Tel: 086 8539744 www.leevalleytastetrails.ie

Meet award winning Artisan producers and be amazed by its rich heritage and cultural environments.



Top Tip: For details of farmers' markets, artisan producers, cookery schools and more gourmet delights, call in to our Tourist Offices (listed on page 1 of this guide) or visit www.wildatlanticway.com

WHAT'S ON

Find a new favourite festival

The Southern Peninsulas and Haven Coast boast stunning, elemental landscapes dotted with colourful towns and villages, but there are areas of remarkable cultural and historical riches too that is reflected in the vibrant and diverse festivals and events that take place throughout the year.

The 300-year-old Bantry House is an emblematic, much loved building in Bantry and every summer it takes on a whole new lease of life. The stately home is among the locations for the West Cork Chamber Music Festival - one of the country's great cultural events, which sees musicians from Ireland and overseas descend on the coastal town to perform afternoon and evening alongside Coffee concerts and a diverse programme of master classes, workshops and performances.

From the West Cork Literary Festival - the week-long celebration of books and writers - to the highly regarded Dingle International Film Festival, now justly acclaimed by movie aficionados outside Ireland, there's something for everyone.

How about soul-stirring traditional music in the Cahersiveen Festival of Music and Arts or family-friendly activities in the Sneem Summer Festival? Or maybe you want to try out water sports at the Castletownbere June Festival or get acquainted with off-shore pleasures on the West Cork Islands Festival, which takes in such special places as Bere and Cape Clear Islands.

There are wonderful food events too such as the world-renowned Kinsale Gourmet Festival, now in its 41st year, and A Taste of West Cork Food Festival which brings together a unique mix of food markets, demonstrations and so much more. Puck Fair, which has been held in Killorglin, Co Kerry, for 400 years, and - as custom dictates - centres around a very special wild mountain goat. The origins of this unique festival are subject to debate but it's one for the list!

These great events provide much pleasure themselves and capture something of that seductive Wild Atlantic Way of life, but their picturesque locations are begging to be explored too. You'll be glad you made the time.



Puck Fair, Killorglin



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: WHAT'S ON

JUNE

SUMMER ON THE WEST CORK ISLANDS
1 June - 30 September West Cork Islands www.westcorkislands.com

K-FEST MUSIC & THE ARTS
2 - 5 June Killorglin, Co. Kerry www.kfest.ie

IRELAND BIKEFEST KILLARNEY
2 - 5 June Killarney, Co. Kerry www.irelandbikefest.com

BANTRY WALKING FESTIVAL
2 - 4 June Bantry, Sheep's Head & Beara, Co. Cork www.bantrywalkingfestival.com

DINGLE ADVENTURE RACE
10 June Dingle, Co. Kerry www.dingleadventurerace.com

JIM DOWLING UILLEANN PIPE AND TRAD FESTIVAL
15 - 18 June Glengarriff, Co. Cork www.jimdowlingfestival.eu

WEST CORK GARDEN TRAIL
On-going event West Cork www.westcorkgardentrail.com

WEST CORK CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
30 June - 8 July Bantry, Co. Cork www.westcorkmusic.ie

JULY

THE RING OF KERRY CHARITY CYCLE
1 July Killarney, Co. Kerry www.ringofkerrycycle.ie

DUNMANWAY AGRICULTURAL SHOW
2 July Dunmanway, Co. Cork www.dunmanwayshow.com

IRELAND FOLKFEST
7 - 9 July Killarney, Co. Kerry www.folkfestkillarney.com

WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL
14 - 21 July Bantry, Co. Cork www.westcorkmusic.ie

FÉILE AN PHRÁTA
16 July Baile na nGall, Dingle, Co. Kerry www.facebook.com/FeileAnPhrata

KILLARNEY'S JULY RACING FESTIVAL
17 - 20 July Killarney, Co. Kerry www.killarneyraces.ie

SNEEM SUMMER FESTIVAL
19 - 23 July Sneem, Co. Kerry www.facebook.com/Sneemsummerfestival/

EYERIES FAMILY FESTIVAL
21 - 23 July Eyeries, Co. Cork www.eyeries.ie

RUN KILLARNEY
22 July Killarney, Co. Kerry www.runkillarney.com

VENTRY REGATTA
22 - 23 July Ventry, Co. Kerry www.regattafiontra.org

SCHULL AGRICULTURAL SHOW
23 July Schull, Co. Cork www.facebook.com/Schullshow

2017 GLANDORE CLASSIC REGATTA
23 - 28 July Glandore, Co. Cork www.glandoreyc.com

FÉILE LUGHNASA
27 - 31 July Cloghane & Brandon, Co. Kerry www.cloghanebrandon.com

RING OF THE REEKS CYCLE
29 July Beaufort, Killarney, Co. Kerry www.ringofthereekscycle.com

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: WHAT'S ON

AUGUST

CAHERSIVEEN FESTIVAL OF MUSIC & THE ARTS
4 - 6 August Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry www.celticmusicfestival.com

CASTLETOWNBERE FESTIVAL OF THE SEA
4 - 12 August Castletownbere, Co. Cork www.castletownbere.ie

GAS CALVES WEEK 2017
8 - 11 August Schull, Co. Cork www.shsc.ie

PUCK FAIR
10 - 12 August Killorglin, Co. Kerry www.puckfair.ie

SCHULL REGATTA
12 - 13 August Schull, Co. Cork www.schull.ie

VALENTIA ISLAND CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
18 - 20 August Valentia Island, Co. Kerry www.chambermusicvalentia.com

VALENTIA ISLAND KING SCALLOP FESTIVAL
19 - 20 August Valentia Island, Co. Kerry www.valentiaisland.ie

ELLEN HUTCHINS FESTIVAL
19 - 27 August Bantry & Glengarriff, Co. Cork www.ellenhutchins.com

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK
19 - 27 August Nationwide www.heritageweek.ie

KILLARNEY AUGUST RACING FESTIVAL
23 - 26 August Killarney, Co. Kerry www.killarneyraces.ie

MASTERS OF TRADITION
23 - 27 August Bantry, Co. Cork www.westcorkmusic.ie

CHARLIE CHAPLIN COMEDY FILM FESTIVAL
24 - 27 August Waterville, Co. Kerry www.chaplinfilmfestival.com

THE DANIEL O' CONNELL SUMMER SCHOOL
25 - 26 August Cahersiveen & Derrynane, Co. Kerry www.oconnellsummerschool.com

KILLARNEY CYCLING FESTIVAL
26 August Killarney, Co. Kerry www.killarneycyclingfestival.com

SEPTEMBER

THE KERRY WAY ULTRA
1 - 2 September The Kerry Way, Co. Kerry www.kerrywayultra.com

CAPE CLEAR ISLAND INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL
1 - 3 September Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork www.capeclearstorytelling.com

DINGLE MARATHON
2 September Dingle, Co. Kerry www.dinglemarathon.ie

BANTRY AGRICULTURAL SHOW
3 September Bantry, Co. Cork www.bantryshow.com

A TASTE OF WEST CORK FOOD FESTIVAL
8 - 17 September Various West Cork locations www.atasteofwestcork.com

DINGLE TRADFEST
8 - 10 September Dingle, Co. Kerry www.dingletradfest.ie

CHIEF O' NEILL TRADITIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
Dates TBC Bantry, Co. Cork www.chiefoneillfestival.com



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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS: WHAT'S ON

CULTURE NIGHT
22 September Nationwide
www.culturenight.ie

MACROOM FOOD FESTIVAL
22 - 24 September Macroom, Co. Cork
www.macroomfoodfestival.com

DINGLE FOOD FESTIVAL
29 September - 1 October Dingle,
Co. Kerry www.dinglefood.com

OCTOBER

**SMALL ROADS FESTIVAL OF
THEATRE & DINING**
5 - 16 October Kenmare, Co. Kerry
www.kenmare.ie

QUEST KILLARNEY OCTOBER
7 October Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.questadventureseries.com

KERRY FILM FESTIVAL
19 - 22 October Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.kerryfilmfestival.com

KENMARE HALLOWEEN HOWL
28 October - 3 November Kenmare,
Co. Kerry www.kenmare.ie

NOVEMBER

**HUGH O' FLAHERTY MEMORIAL
WEEKEND & INTERNATIONAL
HUMANITARIAN AWARD**
4 - 5 November Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.hughoflaherty.com

**AN FÉILE BHEAG FILÍOCHTA – THE
LITTLE POETRY FESTIVAL**
10 - 12 November Ballyferriter, Co. Kerry
www.feilebheagfiliochta.com

**SNEEM INTERNATIONAL
STORYTELLING & FOLKLORE
FESTIVAL**
10 - 12 November Sneem, Co. Kerry
www.sneemstorytellingfestival.com

LISTOWEL FOOD FAIR
16 - 19 November Listowel, Co. Kerry
www.listowelfoodfair.ie

RUN THE GAUNTLET
19 November Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.runthegauntlet.ie

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS IN KILLARNEY
Dates TBC Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.christmasinkillarney.com

OTHER VOICES
1 - 3 December Dingle, Co. Kerry
www.othervoices.ie

NOLLAIG NEIDÍN
8 December 2017 - 1 January 2018
Kenmare, Co. Kerry www.kenmare.ie

TRADITIONAL OLD YEAR FESTIVAL
31 December Portmagee, Co. Kerry
www.moorings.ie

HAVEN COAST: WHAT'S ON

JUNE

**SUMMER ON THE WEST CORK
ISLANDS**
1 June - 30 September West Cork
Islands www.westcorkislands.com

**INNISHANNON STEAM & VINTAGE
RALLY**
4 - 5 June Innishannon, Co. Cork
www.isvrally.com

**THE FASTNET MARITIME & FOLK
FEST**
16 - 18 June Ballydehob, Co. Cork
www.fastnetmaritime.com

BALTIMORE PIRATE FESTIVAL
16 - 18 June Baltimore, Co. Cork
www.baltimore.ie

WEST CORK GARDEN TRAIL
On-going event West Cork
www.westcorkgardentrail.com

O' DRISCOLL CLAN GATHERING
22 - 25 June Baltimore, Co. Cork
www.baltimore.ie

JULY

**SOUTH OF IRELAND BAND
CHAMPIONSHIPS**
1 July Clonakilty, Co. Cork
www.soibandchampionships.ie

CARBERY AGRICULTURAL SHOW
20 July Skibbereen, Co. Cork
www.carberyshow.com

**ST. BARRAHANE'S CHURCH
FESTIVAL OF MUSIC**
20 July - 19 August (Selected Dates)
Castletownshend, Co. Cork
www.barrahanemusic.ie

KINSALE REGATTA FESTIVAL
26 July - 7 August Kinsale, Co. Cork
www.kinsale.ie

WEST CORK HISTORY FESTIVAL
28 - 30 July Skibbereen, Co. Cork
www.westcorkhistoryfestival.org

SKIBBEREEN ARTS FESTIVAL
28 July - 6 August Skibbereen, Co. Cork
www.skibbereenartsfestival.com

AUGUST

CORK CRAFT MONTH
1 August - 3 September Various Venues
www.corkcraftanddesign.com

BALTIMORE REGATTA
7 August Baltimore, Co. Cork
www.baltimore.ie

HEIR ISLAND REGATTA
10 August Heir Island, Co. Cork
www.heirislandsailingschool.com

ROSSCARBERY FAMILY FESTIVAL
12 - 20 August Rosscarbery, Co. Cork
www.rosscarbery.ie



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HAVEN COAST: WHAT'S ON

TRI NA MÓNA SPRINT TRIATHLON
19 August Tragumna, Skibbereen,
Co. Cork www.westcorktri.wordpress.com

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK
19 - 27 August Nationwide
www.heritageweek.ie

BALTIMORE DEEP SEA ANGLING FESTIVAL
24 - 27 August Baltimore, Co. Cork
www.baltimore.ie

WHALE WATCH IRELAND
26 August www.iwdg.ie

SEPTEMBER

CAPE CLEAR ISLAND INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL
1 - 3 September Cape Clear Island,
Co. Cork www.capedclearstorytelling.com

A TASTE OF WEST CORK FOOD FESTIVAL
8 - 17 September Various West Cork
locations www.atasteofwestcork.com

CLONAKILTY INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL
20 - 24 September Clonakilty, Co. Cork
www.clonguitarfest.com

CULTURE NIGHT
22 September Nationwide
www.culturenight.ie

OCTOBER

BALTIMORE WALKING WEEKEND
6 - 8 October Baltimore, Co. Cork
www.baltimore.ie

KINSALE LITERARY WEEKEND
6 - 8 October Kinsale, Co. Cork
www.kinsale.ie

41ST KINSALE GOURMET FESTIVAL
14 - 15 October Kinsale, Co. Cork
www.kinsalerestaurants.com

KINSALE LIONS ANNUAL WALKING FESTIVAL
21 - 22 October Kinsale, Co. Cork
www.kinsalewalkingfestival.com

KINSALE FRINGE JAZZ FESTIVAL
27 - 30 October Kinsale, Co. Cork
www.kinsale.ie

SKIBBEREEN VINTAGE DAY
30 October Skibbereen, Co. Cork
www.skibbereen.ie

DECEMBER

CLONAKILTY WATERFRONT MARATHON
9 December Clonakilty, Co. Cork
www.runclon.ie

ITINERARIES

Rugged and undeniably exciting, the south-westerly edges of the Wild Atlantic Way are a goldmine of breath-taking bays, sweeping cliffs and sprawling headlands. From the picturesque heritage town of Kinsale make your way around the Cork and Kerry coastline to Blennerville. Not averse to the contrasting seasons, the relaxed but invigorating Wild Atlantic Way of life maintains a year-round presence here!

DAY 1

KINSALE - OLD HEAD OF KINSALE - CLONAKILTY

STAGE 1: KINSALE, COUNTY CORK

Begin in the Haven Coast's bustling town of Kinsale, a must-visit for those passionate about food and boasting some of Ireland's finest restaurants. Kinsale is home to the impressive 17th century Charles Fort; one of the best preserved star forts in the country, spectacularly situated on the water's edge. The town has two highly-regarded walking tours, both run by experienced historians and offering wonderful insights into this diverse heritage town.

STAGE 2: KINSALE TO CLONAKILTY (46.6KM VIA R600 & R604)

Depart for Clonakilty, stopping off at The Old Head of Kinsale, a Signature Discovery Point, jutting over three kilometres into the sea. This iconic lighthouse is sure to leave you awestruck as will the Signal Tower's fantastic views of the coastline. In Timoleague, if time and weather permits, stroll along the old railway line to Courtmacsherry with lovely views of the Argideen River estuary. Clonakilty has much to offer; from quirky shops to equally delectable cuisine. Rest here, in preparation for another day of exploration.

DAY 2

CLONAKILTY – ROSSCARBERY – SKIBBEREEN

STAGE 1: CLONAKILTY TO ROSSCARBERY (34.6KM VIA INCHYDONEY ROAD & R598 FROM OWENAHINCHA)

Clonakilty is the birthplace of heroic revolutionary, Michael Collins, whose legacy has left a lasting impression. Discover more at the Michael Collins Museum before striking out eastwards to Rosscarbery. Stop and stretch your legs on one of Ireland's most splendid beaches, Inchydoney, before winding your way along the coast, past stunning Galley Head and Owenahincha beach. Nestled on the tip of Rosscarbery Bay, Rosscarbery has an attractive central square with pubs, eateries and a selection of interesting shops and galleries.



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Top Tip: Keep your finger on the pulse of what's happening in the local area by calling into one of our **Tourist Offices**.

ITINERARIES

STAGE 2: ROSSCARBERY TO SKIBBEREEN (38.7KM VIA R597, N71 AND R596)

Leaving Rosscarbery for Skibbereen, take a diversion to Drombeg Stone Circle. Situated just 10 minutes from Rosscarbery, the seventeen 2,000 year old standing stones mark an ancient urn burial site. Just to the west are the remains of a 'fulacht fiadh', a Bronze Age cooking site. Stop for lunch in any of the quaint pubs in Glandore or Union Hall, then on through Leap and along the coast by Toe Head Bay, before taking the R596 to Skibbereen.

STAGE 3: SKIBBEREEN

On arrival at the buzzing town of Skibbereen, check out the Skibbereen Heritage Centre, in the restored Old Gasworks Building and, after dinner, consider a magical moonlight kayak trip on Lough Hyne. This unique experience offers the chance to enjoy wildlife and landscape in silhouette and, if you're lucky, fascinating bioluminescence twinkling in the water. Overnight in Skibbereen.

DAY 3:

SKIBBEREEN – BALTIMORE

STAGE 1: SKIBBEREEN TO BALTIMORE (13.1KM VIA R595)

Baltimore is a short drive from Skibbereen, and a hub for water-based activities including whale and dolphin watching. Whale Watch West Cork report regular sightings of humpback whales, basking sharks and risso dolphins and usually include a stop-off on Cape Clear Island, Ireland's southernmost inhabited Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) island. Sherkin and Heir Islands in Roaringwater Bay, are also accessible from Baltimore.

STAGE 2 (OPTIONAL): INISH BEG ESTATE AND/OR GLEBE GARDENS (6.4KM VIA R595)

If you prefer dry land, visit Inish Beg Gardens, a private island estate just 10 minutes from Baltimore. In the picturesque gardens, woodlands, and foreshore, visitors can walk, birdwatch, fish, or simply relax in the landscape. Nearby Glebe Gardens, is an award-winning café and restaurant just outside the town offering mouth-watering dishes sourced both from its garden produce and local artisans.

STAGE 3: BALTIMORE (6.4KM VIA R595)

Baltimore Beacon is a "must see". This large, white-painted stone beacon at the entrance to the harbour was built at the order of the British government following the 1798 Rebellion. With spectacular views of the surrounding islands - Cape Clear, Sherkin and Fastnet – dusk brings an awesome display of colour as the sun sets over the Atlantic. Overnight in one of Baltimore's many accommodation options.

ITINERARIES

DAY 4

BALTIMORE – MIZEN HEAD/SHEEP'S HEAD PENINSULA – BANTRY

Today you venture into the Southern Peninsulas. If time is an issue, you may have to choose between either the Mizen Head or Sheep's Head Peninsula.

STAGE 1 (OPTION 1): MIZEN HEAD PENINSULA (67.1KM VIA R595, N71 & R592)

Travel to Skibbereen and then the bohemian village of Ballydehob, home to many artists, writers and craftspeople. On to Mizen Head, mainland Ireland's most southerly point and another Signature Discovery Point. Mesmerising views of the mighty Atlantic await while the visitor centre, in an old signal station at land's end, houses an award-winning maritime museum and heritage attraction. En route to Mizen Head, is Barleycove, a beautiful beach tucked into an inlet close to Mizen and the picturesque village of Crookhaven, with its pretty harbour, is also well worth a visit.

STAGE 1 (OPTION 2): SHEEP'S HEAD PENINSULA (83.6KM VIA R595, N71, R592, R591 AND L4704)

Sheep's Head Peninsula is an outdoor paradise, with a variety of looped walks on offer. From Baltimore, travel to Ballydehob and then to Schull taking the R592 to the Altar Wedge Tomb megalithic structure. Continue to Durrus from where it's a relatively direct drive to Sheep's Head lighthouse at the tip of the peninsula. Pass through Kilcrohane en route, where the market in the Creamery Yard is well worth a visit. The Sheep's Head Way walking route (115km) is a wonderful way to explore this wild and ancient landscape with splendid views all along the Way. Of course, there are also plenty of shorter routes – perfect for day or evening walks.

STAGE 2: MIZEN HEAD/SHEEP'S HEAD TO BANTRY (42.2KM VIA R591/34.3KM VIA N71)

Whichever headland you choose to explore, you'll need a good meal and some rest afterwards so make your way to Bantry (less than an hour from both peninsulas). This vibrant market town is the perfect place to recharge before the next leg of your Wild Atlantic Way adventure.



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DAY 5

BANTRY – DURSEY ISLAND – KENMARE – WATERVILLE

STAGE 1: BANTRY TO KENMARE (141KM VIA N71, R571 & R572)

Travel north around Bantry Bay to Glengarriff. From here, you can go directly north to Kenmare or spend the morning getting to grips with the untamed landscape of the Beara Peninsula. Dursey Island at the tip is accessible only via its iconic cable car, suspended 250 metres above the sea. With no shops, pubs or restaurants Dursey is the perfect place to switch off from the bustle of modern life. Other Beara highlights include the welcoming town of Castletownbere and Allihies, a lively village with a captivating story about Europe's most westerly copper mines!

STAGE 2: KENMARE TO WATERVILLE (60.7KM VIA N70)

On arrival in Kenmare, stretch the legs by embarking on the Kenmare Heritage Trail. From Kenmare head west towards Sneem. Sneem Sculpture Park makes for an interesting pit-stop; a treasure trove of international sculptures including a carving donated by the People's Republic of China. In pretty Waterville, teeming with culture, you may be lucky enough to catch the Waterville Craft Market, a showcase for Irish design and artisan produce. The town also boasts a statue of Hollywood icon Charlie Chaplin, who loved this tranquil part of the world! Relax over dinner and drinks, and be sure to seek out a traditional music session.

DAY 6

WATERVILLE – VALENTIA ISLAND – DINGLE – BLENNEVILLE

STAGE 1: WATERVILLE TO VALENTIA ISLAND (30KM VIA R567 & R566)

Take the Skelligs Ring around Ballinskelligs Bay with views of The Skellig Islands before arriving in colourful Portmagee. On Valentia Island, just north of Portmagee, the Skellig Experience Centre explores the history and archaeology of Skellig Michael's Early Christian monastery; the lives of the island's sea birds; the lighthouses which have given 161 years of service and the colour and magic of Underwater Skellig. Well worth a visit if you can't make the trip to Skellig Michael itself.

ITINERARIES

STAGE 2: VALENTIA ISLAND TO DINGLE (109KM VIA N70, R561 & N86)

From Valentia journey to Dingle with stunning coastal and mountain scenery along the north shore of the Iveragh Peninsula and the southern of the Dingle Peninsula. Stop at Rossbeigh Beach with the iconic remains of the century-old sailing vessel, 'Sunbeam'. According to old Irish folklore, this beach is also the gateway to legendary Tír na nÓg, the land of eternal youth!

Dingle's winding streets are perfect for daytime meandering! Endearing craft stores exhibit the works of local artists and there's food and drink aplenty. Dingle is famed for high quality seafood, with talented chefs rustling up delicious dishes using fresh, daily hauls from local fishing boats. An ideal lunch stop!

STAGE 3: DINGLE TO BLENNEVILLE VIA BLASKETS VIEW (100KM VIA R559, R560 & N86)

Leaving Dingle travel westward to Sleat Head and Blaskets View. The Blasket Centre at Dunquin tells the story of the unique community who inhabited the Blasket Islands until 1953; subsistence fishing and farming, traditional life including modes of work and transport, home life, housing and entertainment.

From Dunquin return to Dingle directly or loop back via the R559. Take the Conor Pass, with its stunning views, to the north shore of the Dingle Peninsula then eastward via Castlegregory Beach to Blennerville and journey's end.



Now that you've explored these two magical regions, why not explore further afield? Our Wild Atlantic Way itineraries cover all manner of attractions and activities. Find more at www.wildatlanticway.com or download the FREE app.



Glandore on the Haven Coast Credit: Lukasz Warzecha



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The Healy Pass



Dingle Electric Bike Experience

GETTING AROUND

BUS

Bus Éireann (National Bus Company) Tel: 01 8366111 www.buseireann.ie providing services to all main towns and cities. For maximum choice and flexibility choose a hop-on/hop-off 'Open-Road' Travel Pass, which allows you unlimited travel on all Bus Éireann scheduled services for a period of 3 days out of 6 consecutive days. It is possible to purchase extra days to extend the pass. For more information see www.buseireann.ie

Other Bus Operators: A number of other private bus companies operate other routes both locally and nationally. Please check with your nearest Tourist Office for more information.

RAIL

Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail Network Tel: 1850 366 222 www.irishrail.ie
For more information on travelling through Ireland including rail tours and for the best online fares go to www.irishrail.ie.

CAR HIRE

Please contact your nearest Tourist Office for a full list of car hire companies or visit www.carrentalcouncil.ie

TAXIS

For information about local taxi companies and taxi tours, call into your nearest Tourist Office or visit www.wildatlanticway.com For details of taxis that provide a service to wheelchair users visit www.goaccessible365.com

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

GETTING AROUND

BIKE HIRE

SOUTHERN PENINSULAS

Bike 'n Beara, Castletownbere Tel: 086 1280307 www.bikenbeara.ie

Casey's Cycles, Cahersiveen Tel: 066 9472474 www.bikehirekerry.com

Dingle Electric Bike Experience, Dingle Tel: 086 0848378 www.dinglebikes.com

Finnegan's Bicycle Hire, Kenmare Tel: 064 6641083 www.facebook.com/finneganscorner/

Foxy John Moriarty's Bicycle Hire, Dingle Tel: 066 9151316

Killarney National Park Rent a Bike, Killarney Tel: 087 2363044

Nigel's Bicycle Shop, Bantry Tel: 027 52657

O' Sullivan's Bike Hire, Killarney
Tel: 064 6622389/064 6631282 www.killarneyrentabike.com

Paddy's Rent-a-Bike, Dingle Tel: 066 9152311 www.paddysbikes.com

Pedals & Boots, Lauragh Tel: 064 6683101 www.pedalsandboots.ie

The Mountain Man Outdoor Shop, Dingle Tel: 066 9152400 www.themountainmanshop.com

HAVEN COAST

Cycle West Cork, Skibbereen Tel: 087 3921894 www.cyclewestcork.com

MTM Cycles, Clonakilty Tel: 023 8833584 www.mtmcycles.ie

Mylie Murphy's, Kinsale Tel: 021 4772703

Roycroft Cycles, Skibbereen Tel: 028 21235 www.westcorkcycles.ie

Wild Atlantic Sports, Garrettstown, Kinsale Tel: 087 1032317 www.wildatlanticsports.com



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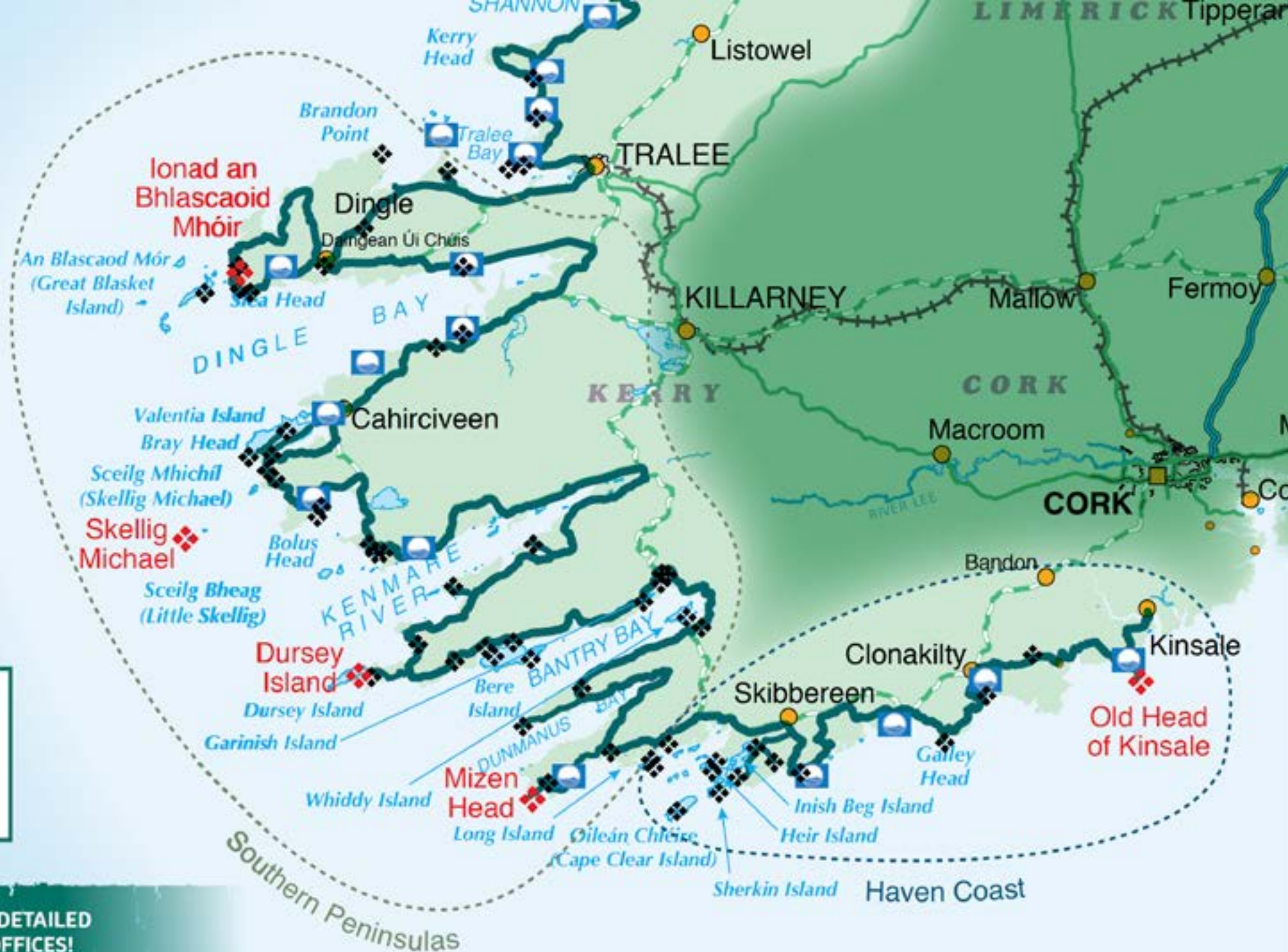
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SOUTHERN PENINSULAS & HAVEN COAST



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