**GLANCE** 

Ireland's

# Your Daily CVENTURE

## **FREE** Visitor Guide

Best Visitor Attractions

Historic Landmarks

Amazing Natural Wonders

Fun Outdoor Activities

Great Entertainment & Experiences

and much more...



The Fun Starts Here

Ireland's West is a place to get away from it all. There are places in Ireland's Western Regions where you can face into the breeze and listen to nothing but the Atlantic Ocean crashing, places where you can hear the actual sound of silence....

### Cead Mile Fáilte a Hundred Thousand Welcomes – to

**Ireland's West** 

With a backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean to its west and the mighty River Shannon to its east, Ireland's West is renowned for its great beauty, activity, history and for its wealth of great visitor attractions and entertainments.

This free publication aims to enhance your visitor experience.

### Plenty of choice

Variety is the essence of a good holiday. The contents panel gives you a sense of the range of attractions available from historic houses and museums, adventure centres and island boat trips, mines and gardens, through to folk parks and medieval castle banquets.

Detailed information is included on each attraction / entertainment and shopping experience including location details, opening times, admission rates, sat nav co-ordinates, facilities, parking etc.

### **Enjoy**!

Finally, we do hope that you take the time to explore the rich heritage and delights of Ireland's West and that your 'Daily Adventure' is a rewarding and enjoyable one.



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Please pass on or recycle when finished



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#### **Opening Dates and Times**

Opening Dates and Times are subject to change and may vary throughout the seasons and by day of week. Establishments indicating 'open year-round' may still close, for instance, on Christmas Day. We recommend you verify dates and times directly with each featured establishment, particularly if travelling distances. Entertainments operate subject to demand and pre-booking is normally required.

#### Admission Rates

**Tourist Information Offices** 

The admission rates quoted in this publication are the normal rates for individual adult admissions, children and families. Many of the featured attractions and entertainments do offer special rates for groups, students and seniors. The rates quoted are the 2016 rates as submitted by the individual businesses.

#### Errors and Omissions

Every care has been taken in the compilation of this guide to ensure its accuracy and compliance with the consumer protection laws of Ireland. Glance Promotions cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, but where such are brought to our attention future editions will be amended accordingly.

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### **Glebe House & Gallery** (The Derek Hill Collection)

Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 14 million and a

A Regency House dated 1828, set in woodland gardens, decorated with William Morris textiles, as well as Islamic and Japanese art. The collection includes 300 works by leading 20th century artists; Picasso, Kokoshka and also Irish and Italian artists. Exhibitions are shown in the adjoining gallery. Access to ground floor of the Gallery for people with disabilities



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

#### Contact

Glebe House and Gallery Churchill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal Tel: 074-913 7071 glebegallery@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Lonaitude 54.9520, -7.7308

**Opening Times** 28th May to 1st Oct June & Sept: Sat-Thurs Daily 11:00-18:30h (closed Fri) July & Aug: Daily 11:00-18:30h Gallery Only: 26th Mar to 3rd Apr 11:00-18:30h

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2, Family €10 Gallery Free of charge

Parking Car & coach parking available

## **Newmills Corn &** Flax Mills

Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 1 As an I was a

With the oldest surviving building said to be 400 years old this whole complex is an interesting reminder of a stage in the industrial development of Ireland, which has given way to a more sophisticated, but far less fascinating technology. Experience the pleasure of seeing one of the largest waterwheels in Ireland in action as it drives the machinery of the corn mill.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

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Contact Newmills Corn and Flax Mills Churchill Road, Letterkenny Co. Donegal Tel: 074-912 5115 newmills@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.9292, -7.8082

**Opening Times** 26th May to 28th Sept Daily 10:00-18:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Free of Charge

Parking Parking available

### **Donegal Castle**

#### Donegal Town, Co. Donegal As we have the

Built by the O'Donnell chieftain in the 15th century this Castle has extensive 17th century additions. It is furnished throughout and includes Persian rugs and French tapestries. Information panels chronicle the history of the Castle owners from the O'Donnell chieftains to the Brooke family. Limited access for people with disabilities.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

# Contact

Donegal Castle Donegal Town, Co. Donegal Tel: 074-972 2405 donegalcastle@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.6559, -8.1092

**Opening Times** Easter to mid-Sept, Daily 10:00-18:00h Mid-Sept to Easter, Thurs to Mon 09:30-16:30h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4 Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2. Family €10

Parking Car & coach parking available close to site

All co-ordinates in Decimal Degrees

## **Sligo Abbey**

### Abbey Street, Sligo

Known locally as the Abbey, this Dominican Friary was founded in the 13th century. The site contains a wealth of carvings including Gothic and Renaissance tomb sculptures, well preserved cloister and the only sculptured 15th century high altar to survive in any Irish monastic church. It will inspire and enlighten it's visitors. Access is by stone stairway.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

# Visiting

Contact Sligo Abbey Abbey Street, Sligo Tel: 071-914 6406 sligoabbey@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.2710, -8.4700

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 12th Oct Daily 10:00–18:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

**Parking** Public car park close to site

### Parke's Castle

### Fivemile Bourne, Co.Leitrim

A restored plantation castle of the early 17th century, once the home of Robert Parke.The Courtyard grounds contain evidence of an earlier 16th century Tower House structure once owned by Sir Brian O'Rourke who was executed at Tyburn, London in 1591. The Castle has been restored using Irish oak and craftsmenship. Ground floor access for visitors with disabilities.



# Visiting

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Contact Parke's Castle Fivemile Bourne, Co.Leitrim Tel: 071-916 4149 parkescastle@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.2649, -8.3342

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 28th Sept Daily 10:00–18:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

Parking Car & coach parking available close to site

### Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery Carrowmore, Sligo

The largest cemetery of megalithic tombs in Ireland, with monuments ranging from 5000 to 5800 years old. Archaeologists have recorded over 60 tombs of which 30 are visible. A restored cottage houses an exhibition relating to the site. Access to the tombs may be difficult for people with disabilities. Visitors are advised to wear shoes suitable for uneven terrain.



# Visiting

Contact Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery Carrowmore, Sligo Tel: 071-916 1534 carrowmoretomb@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.2509, -8.5193

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 12th Oct Daily 10:00-18:00h Last admission at 17:00h

Admission Rates Adult €4 Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

**Parking** Parking available

### Eagles Flying Irish Raptor Research Centre

Ballymote, Co. Sligo

#### Get up close to the masters of the sky

An attraction for all the family– excitement, fun, photo opportunities and much more at affordable prices.

Ireland's largest Bird of Prey Centre offers the incomparable experience of being up close to eagles, falcons, owls and vultures.

More than 100 Birds of Prey, some of them with a wingspan of 3 metres, and many other animals are waiting for you.

The interactive and highly entertaining **Bird Shows start** at 11:00h and 15:00h, every day.



Some members of the audience have the chance to have a bird landing on their own hand.

Before and after the show enjoy guided tours through the centre, watch birds in aviaries, cuddle animals in the Pet-Zoo or walk the park lands. In case of rain the show is available in the purpose built Indoor Arena.

# Visiting

Contact Eagles Flying Ballymote, Co. Sligo Tel: 071–918 9310 eagles.flying@hotmail.com www.eaglesflying.com



#### Location

From Dublin / Sligo (N4), take the N17 for Galway at Collooney, after having crossed Ballinacarrow, take 1st official road left. Follow the signs for Eagles Flying From Galway, take N17 to Sligo Having passed Achonry, drive

another 6 km and turn right as soon as the old walls of Temple House end. Follow the signs for Eagles Flying

#### SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.1021, -8.5728

Opening Times Mar 19 to Nov 7: 10:30–12:30h and 14:30–16:30h everyday Shows start at 11:00 and 15:00h (lasting 1 hour approx.)

Information Fully wheelchair accessible



# **Fenagh Heritage Centre**

### Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim

### Steeped in history

Heritage Area: Fenagh is steeped in history, with two abbeys and significant archaeological sites complete with descriptions, maps and photographs which depict these local treasures beautifully.

Travel back in time to around the year 400 when Fenagh became the abode of the then High King of Ireland. With the arrival of St. Caillin and the founding of the monastic settlement, Fenagh became a great centre of learning and study on Christianity. Its monks would spread the faith all over Ireland and also to Europe.



The Little Monks Den-Kids Play Area: Indoor soft play area which is based on a monastery theme over three tiers.

The Dolmen Cafe: offers a selection of refreshments and tasty snacks.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Fenagh, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim Tel: 071–964 5590 fenaghvisitorcentre@gmail.com www.fenagh.com

Location 5 mins drive from Ballinamore, 10 mins drive from Mohill, 20 mins drive from Carrick-on-Shannon

#### SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.0207, -7.8413

**Opening Times** Mon to Fri 10:00–17:30h Sat and Sun 12:00–17:30h Closed B/Hols

Information The Dolmen Cafe serves refreshments and snacks

Parking Ample parking is available

## **Arigna Mining Experience**

### Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Roscommon

#### One of Ireland's unique attractions

The Arigna Mining Experience will certainly appeal to those looking for a day out with a difference.

Now a popular tourist spot, the visitor centre preserves the energy heritage of this area, and allows visitors an insight into coal mining life as it was in the Arigna Valley for centuries.

#### With an ex-Miner

as your tour-guide, the visit to the museum includes a DVD presentation, a photographic exhibition, an exhibit area and an underground tour to the mine's coal face where lighting



and sound effects add to the reality of the experience. The centre is fully accessible and is an all-weather facility.

The Arigna Mining Experience and its world class tour is close to the borders of Sligo and Leitrim.

### King House & Úna Bhán Tourism Centre

Boyle, Co. Roscommon

#### **Traditional Craft Shop & Farmers Market**



Explore King House–a magnificently restored 18th century Georgian mansion and delve into the dramatic episodes of its history, depicted in interactive displays. Visit Connaught Rangers Museum, historic home of the Special Reserve Battalions, map the regimental history from the Regiments great achievements,

#### visit the Room of Remembrance or avail of the facility for tracing soldiers. Former President Mary McAleese has kindly donated state gifts from her time as President of Ireland to the nation, now on display at King House.

Úna Bhán provides tourist information & an accommodation booking service. The craft shop showcases a treasure trove of locally produced traditional crafts & gifts, maps, local interest books, fishing accessories & office services. Award winning Boyle Farmers Market provide an excellent range of local wholesome produce from fruit & vegetables to fresh fish, artisan foods, organic meat & poultry.

# Visiting

#### Contact

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Arigna Mining Experience Carrick-on-Shannon Co. Roscommon Tel: 071–964 6466 tours@arignaminingexperience.ie www.arignaminingexperience.ie

#### Location

19 km from Carrick-on-Shannon (R280), 40 km from Sligo (R284), 55 km from Enniskillen, 145 km from Galway (via Boyle)

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.0771, -8.1202

Opening Times Open 7 days a week all year 10:00–17:00h

Admission Rates Adult €10. Child €6 Senior / Student €8 Family  $(2 + 3) \in 33$ Groups 20+ €7pp

#### Information

Gift shop & Coffee shop serving hot and cold Lunches / Snacks, Tea / Coffee

Parking 200 cars / 7

200 cars / 70 coaches

# Visiting

King House Military Road Boyle, Co. Roscommon Tel: 071-966 3242 kinghouse@roscommoncoco.ie www.kinghouse.ie

#### Location

Boyle

Úna Bhán Tourism Grounds of King House Boyle, Co. Roscommon Tel: 071-966 3033 patricia@unabhan.ie www.unabhan.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.9730, - 8.3019

#### **Opening Times**

King House: Tue to Sat 11:00–17:00h Apr to Sept Úna Bhán Tourism: Mon to Sat 09:00–18:00h year round Farmers Market: every Sat 10:00–14:00h

#### **Admission Rates**

King House Guided Tour: Groups, Seniors & Students €3, Adults €5

Úna Bhán & Farmers Market Free Parking

Free





### Lough Key Forest & Activity Park

Boyle, Co. Roscommon

### Enter a world of Adventure–Fun activities for all

Younger children will enjoy hours of fun on the stimulating play equipment in the Adventure Play Kingdom. Go back in time as you are guided through the 19th century servant tunnels on the Lough Key Experience and get lost among the foliage as the Tree Canopy Walk gently rises 9m above the woodland floor.

**New for 2016:** 2 new Boda Borg Quests with 7 challenges, a unique weather independent activity with innovative challenges, requiring countless skills, teamwork, trial and error to survive the quests. Boda Borg is suitable for adults and children alike from age 7 to the young at heart! Take in the spectacular vistas of Castle



Island from the Lakeside Café, while indulging in homemade delights, confectionery, tea and coffee. Reacquaint yourself with nature on the many trails along the water's edge and throughout the 350 hectares of parkland. Caravan and Camping Park on-site. Also on site is a 50 Berth Marina, Bike Hire and Segway Tours.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Lough Key Forest & Activity Park Rockingham, Boyle, Co. Roscommon Tel: 071–967 3122 info@loughkey.ie www.loughkey.ie

#### Location

Boyle

Just off the N4 (Dublin–Sligo Road) 5 mins from Boyle town and 10 mins from Carrick–on–Shannon

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.9814, -8.2387

#### **Opening Times**

Jan, Feb, Nov & Dec: Fri, Sat & Sun, 10:00–17:00h Open outside of these hours for School mid-Term Breaks & Pre-Booked Groups

Mar, Sept & Oct: Thur, Fri, Sat & Sun, 10:00–18:00h. Open outside of these hours for School mid-Term Breaks & Pre-Booked Groups

Apr, May, Jun, Jul & Aug: Mon to Sun, 10:00–18:00h. Late opening Jul & Aug, Sat & Sun. Please check website

Admission Rates Call for details

Information

Lakeside café and gift shop on-site

Parking Parking for cars and coaches

# Zipit Forest Adventures

### Boyle, Co. Roscommon

#### Unique, exciting and fun adventure challenge



Zipit Forest Adventures is a great day out for all the family or anyone looking for an exhilarating and challenging outdoor activity in a natural setting. Ireland's first High Wire Aerial Forest Adventure with 1.5 km of activities and over 850 metres of Ziplines. Climb high into cargo nets, surf with a difference, or try cycling over a tree top bridge on a BMX before zipping down one of the many ziplines.

Qualified instructors will give you a short initiation course to explain the features of the course and equipment. There are five circuits suitable for different heights, ages and abilities and if you need any help or encouragement the

instructors are never far away.

You can also avail of the Café within the Visitor's Centre together with other activities that will ensure a great days entertainment.

Other courses: Tibradden Woods – Dublin 16 Farran Forest Park – Cork Telephone 051-858 008

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Zipit Forest Adventures Lough Key Forest Park, Boyle Co. Roscommon Tel: 051-858 008 info@zipit.ie www.zipit.ie

#### Location

Boyle.

Just off the N4 (Dublin–Sligo Road) 5 mins from Boyle town and 10 mins from Carrick-on-Shannon

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.9840, -8.2397

#### **Opening Times**

Feb to May, Sept to Nov: Sat & Sun Mon to Fri, open for group bookings only, booking required. Jun to Aug: 7 days Open School Mid-term breaks, Easter and B/Hols. Closed Dec & Jan Booking Online at www.zipit.ie Booking required

#### **Admission Rates**

7–8 yrs €15. 9–11 yrs €22 12–14 yrs €24. 15yrs+ €29. Group discounts available. Min Height Restriction of 1 metre. Min. age 7 yrs

Information Lakeside Café

All co-ordinates in Decimal Degrees



### **Boyle Abbey**

### Boyle, Co. Roscommon

A well preserved Cistercian Monastery founded in the 12th century. Though mutilated in the 17th & 18th centuries when it was used to accommodate a military garrison, Boyle Abbey retains its ability to impress visitors as one of the most formidable of the early Cistercian foundations in Ireland. Restricted access for people with disabilities.



### Visiting

Contact Boyle Abbey Boyle, Co. Roscommon Tel: 071-966 2604 ceidefields@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.9737, -8.2969

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 21st Sept Daily 10:00–18:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

Parking Car & coach parking available close to site

## **Céide Fields**

### Ballycastle, Co. Mayo

Céide Fields - the most extensive Stone Age monument in the world with field systems, dwelling areas & megalithic tombs. The walled fields are almost 6,000 years old. The Visitor Centre, located beside breathtaking cliffs and rock formations, has won several awards, including the Gold Medal for architecture. Weather protective clothing and footwear advised.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

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Céide Fields Ballycastle, Co. Mayo Tel: 096-43325 ceidefields@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.3051, -9.4569

Opening Times 24th Mar to End of May Daily 10:00-17:00h Jun to Sept, Daily 10:00-18:00h 1st Oct to 2nd Nov, Daily 10:00-17:00h Last tour 1 hr before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

Parking Parking available

### **The Jackie Clarke Collection**

### Ballina, Co. Mayo

The award winning Jackie Clarke Collection—one man, 100,000 items —spanning 400 years of Irish history. Located in a restored 19th century bank in the centre of Ballina with a newly designed walled garden. Special features of the attraction include a memory booth where you can record your own memories and interactive touch-screens throughout. Suitable for all ages.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

# **Visiting**

#### Contact

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The Jackie Clarke Collection Pearse Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo Tel: 096–73508 clarkecollection@mayococo.ie www.clarkecollection.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 54.1150, -9.1531

**Opening Times** Tues-Sat, 10:00-17:00h Specialist tours can be booked in advance

Information Entrance is located at the side of the building on Walsh Street

Parking Street parking pay & display Coach parking available

### **Belleek** Castle

#### Ballina, Co. Mayo and the second

Tour 19th Century Belleek Castle, centered around the eclectic collection of Marshall Doran an attraction not to be missed. Stories of the Spanish Armada and the Knox-Gore Family: the original occupants. Tours include the Fossil Room "Granuailes Bedroom" and the weapons and armor in the Dudgeon Armory!



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

# Achill Island

### Achill Island, Co. Mayo

### Activities. Festivals & Events for all the family

in Ireland from Achill to Westport. Achill's activities include: surfing, kayaking, sailing, horse riding, scuba diving, kite surfing, abseiling, climbing, hillwalking, swimming, fishing/ angling, golf, cycling and much more.

If you want relaxation, this is the place for painting, photography, garden tours and island trips, craft and art centres/galleries, spiritual/health and sport workshops.

Visit www.achilltourism.com for information for all festivals and events throughout the year.

## Contact

Belleek Castle, Ballina, Co. Mayo Tel: 096–22400 Info@belleekcastle.com www.belleekcastle.com SatNav: Latitude/Longitude

54.13307. -9.14513

**Opening Times** Winter Oct to April 14:00-16:00h Summer May to Sept 11:00-16:00h Or by appointment

Admission Rates

Adult €10. Children €8 Family €30

Parkina

Free parking facilities for coaches and cars





Achill, on the West Coast of Ireland offers the visitor spectacular views, natural landscapes and several Blue Flag beaches.

The Great Western Greenway offers cyclists and walkers amazing scenery on this fantastic new route, 42km the longest off-road walking and cycling trail

ill Island

Contact Achill Tourism Achill Island, Co. Mayo Tel: 098-20400 info@achilltourism.com www.achilltourism.com

l ocation N59 into Mulranny, R319 onto Achill Island

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.9521, -9.9961

**Opening Times** Year round 9:00-17:00h

Information A range of accommodation, restaurants, cafés & bars

Parkina Free on-site parking for cars & coaches

Adventure **f y Y** 



### **TopAttractionsIreland.com**

**Buy your Tickets OnLine** to Ireland's Top Attractions—see back cover

TopAttractionsIreland.com





# **Clewbay Cruises**

Westport, Co. Mayo

### The unspoilt beauty of Clew Bay awaits

Clewbay Cruises welcomes you to the unspoilt beauty of Clew Bay with it's unrivalled beauty and secluded beaches.

No visit to Westport, or Mayo would be complete without a cruise on Clew Bay. The bay is home to a thriving seal colony, beautiful secluded beaches, breathtaking views of Croagh Patrick, Murrisk Abbey and Bertra Beach (with its untouched sand dunes).

You'll enjoy sailing past the many sheltered islands, Inishgort Lighthouse and finish the cruise a few metres from the shore of Dorinish Island; which John Lennon owned and stayed on. The remains of the huts and dwellings used by the hippies that called the island home can be clearly seen.

Onboard commentary will guide you through the history of Clew Bay, from battles to tragedies, from the Ice Age to modern day.

### John Lennon's Clew Bay Island Paradise

Bought in 1967 for the sum of  $\pounds$ 1,700, John Lennon planned to turn the remote island of Dorinish in Clew Bay into a hideaway retreat, shortly before he was shot dead. Described by Yoko Ono as " a place where we thought we could escape the pressures and spend some undisturbed time together ".

Join the cruise and sail right by the shores of the island, and you can see for yourself the beauty and serenity.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Clewbay Cruises The Quay (Westport Horbour) Westport, Co. Mayo Tel: 087-606 6146 info@clewbaycruises.com www.clewbaycruises.com

#### Westport Location

Departing from Westport Harbour, 5 minute drive from Westport Town Centre. Take the Quay Road (R335). Located opposite the Clewbay Heritage Centre

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.8021, -9.5548

#### Opening Times

Daily Sailings from May to September. Find departure times online or in your local hotel/tourist office. (Sailing times vary each day due to tides)

#### **Admission Rates**

Adult  $\in 18$ . Senior/Student  $\in 15$ Child (Under 15's)  $\in 10$ . Under 3's FREE Family (2+2)  $\in 45$ . Family (2+3)  $\in 50$ Book online at www.clewbaycruises.com

#### Information

On-board: hot & cold refreshments, wide variety of snacks, fully stocked bar and free binoculars

#### Parking

On-site parking available for both cars & coaches







# **Great Western Greenway**

### Westport to Achill, Co. Mayo

#### Idyllic countryside, walking & cycling trails

Escape the bustle of urban life on the 42km Great Western Greenway, the longest off-road walking and cycling trail in Ireland.

The World Class Great Western Greenway is a traffic free cycling and walking trail which follows the route of the renowned Westport

to Achill railway which closed in 1937.

The Greenway traverses Ireland's Atlantic coast between Westport town and Achill Island and visits the picturesque villages of Newport and Mulranny. It passes



by some of the West of Irelands most dramatic landscapes and offers magnificent views of Clew Bay and its many islands.

A variety of outdoor activities and iconic visitor attractions are all located within easy range of the Greenway.

# Visiting

Great Western Greenway Westport to Achill, Co. Mayo info@mayotrails.ie www.greenway.ie

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

#### Location

chill

Westport

Achill to Mulranny section Distance 13km

Official access point at Achill Island Hotel, Mulranny Park Hotel and in Mulranny just off N59 travelling to Bangor

Mulranny to Newport section Distance 18km

Official access point in Mulranny just off the N59 travelling to Bangor and in Newport just off the N59 travelling to Mulranny

#### Newport to Westport section Distance 11km

Offical access point in Newport just off the N59 travelling to Westport and in Westport just off the N59 travelling to Newport



# **Mayo Leisure Point**

### Castlebar, Co. Mayo

#### Offering something for all the family



Offering 10 Pin Bowling, 7 Screen Cinema, Nokey's Adventure Land, O-2000 Laser, Video Games and Snack Bar.

Mayo Leisure Point is an ideal destination for all the family catering for all ages, from the very young to grandparents. Rollerbowl - Experience 8 bowling lanes with A.M.F. fully computerised graphic scoring system and automatic bumpers on all lanes. This makes the game more enjoyable for the younger bowler!

Nokey's Adventure Land is an indoor adventure play area for children aged from 2 - 10 years. It is built over 3 floors of ball ponds, slides and loads of fun.

Q-2000 Laser Games for ages 7 + where you enter an arena and play combat style adventure's with your friends and a laser gun.

Striker's Diner offers a wide range of snacks including hot food. Hogs Heaven Bar, Castle Leisure Club and Kachina Natural Spa also located on-site.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Castlehar

Mayo Leisure Point Castlebar, Co. Mayo Tel: 094–902 5473 info@mayoleisurepoint.ie www.mayoleisurepoint.ie

Location Located in Moneen in Castlebar

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.8575, -9.2848

Opening Times Open year round 10:00–22:00h Sunday 12:00–20:00h

Admission Rates Free admission. Pay as you go Special group rates available

Information Full snack bar facilities available with private party room for children

Parking Spacious free parking with coach parking available



All co-ordinates in Decimal Degrees

# National Museum of Ireland – Country Life

Castlebar, Co. Mayo



The Museum's permanent collection has several elements: **Romanticism & Reality** tells the true story of country life as a struggle where survival depended on a detailed knowledge of the landscape, environment, craft, skill and ingenuity.

The Natural Environment and how the way of life in rural Ireland was influenced by the landscape and its resources.

The Times covering the changes in Ireland from 1850 to 1950 while **Trades and Crafts** contains the objects relating to the various skills practiced in rural Ireland between 1850 and 1950, displaying the methods, tools and produce of many craftspeople.

Activities in the Home deals with building, maintaining and furnishing a house, feeding and clothing the family and various associated activities. Working on the Land and Water deals with the life and challenges faced by farmers and Life in the Community looks at a year in the life of a community.

**Programme of events:** The Museum runs a constantly changing programme of temporary exhibitions, events

and activities. Visit www.museum.ie for further details.

**Cycling to the Museum** Cycle along the Great Western Greenway cycle route from Castlebar to the Museum.

Bicycle parking facilities available in the Museum grounds.



### **Families**

The National Museum of Ireland–Country Life is an ideal place for a family visit with plenty to see and do. As well as the Museum Galleries and 19<sup>th</sup> Century House, the extensive grounds of Turlough Park feature gardens, woodland walks, a river and lake all overlooked by an ancient Round Tower.

# /isiting



Castleba

#### Contact

National Museum of Ireland – Country Life, Turlough Park Castlebar, Co. Mayo Tel: 094–903 1755 tpark@museum.ie www.museum.ie/country-life

Location Located in Turlough village, off the N5. Just 8 km from Castlebar

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.8840, -9.2125

Opening Times

Tues to Sat: 10:00–17:00h Sunday: 14:00–17:00h Closed Mondays, Christmas Day and Good Friday

Admission Rates Free admission

Information Museum shop selling books, gifts,

craftware and locally produced products Museum Café offering meals, snacks, hot \$ cold drinks and free wi-fi

Parking

Free car parking is available on-site





### Kiltimagh Wildlife Park & Pet Farm

Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo

### A fun day out for all the family



Kiltimagh Wildlife Park & Pet Farm is located in the heart of the West of Ireland with excellent views and surroundings.

Probably the largest range of pets and exotic animals on any pet farm in Ireland can be seen. These include Asian Palm Civet. Coati Mundi, Maras, Rhea Llamas, Wallabies as well as lots of furry friends, all waiting to be cuddled.

There is also a reptile house with an extensive range of animals and visitors are given the opportunity to get up close and personal with the reptiles making it a truly hands-on experience.

Relax in peaceful surroundings, enjoy a picnic or get a snack from the coffee shop, while the young ones can explore the adventure play area or enjoy a pony ride.

Special events are held at Halloween.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Kiltimagh Wildlife Park & Pet Farm Develeash, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo Tel: 087–761 8630 info@kiltimaghpetfarm.com www.kiltimaghpetfarm.com

#### Location

Kiltimagh

Located on the R322 between the N17 and Kiltimagh

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.8594, -8.9357

#### **Opening Times**

Apr to Oct: open daily 10:00–18:00h Oct to Apr: Sat & Sun 12:00–16:00h Other times by appointment

Admission Rates €8 for adults and children

Information Tea shop selling snacks and refreshments



Parking Large free carpark on-site

### Connemara National Park

Letterfrack, Co. Galway





Connemara National Park is situated in the West of Ireland in County Galway and covers some 2,700 hectares of scenic mountains, expanses of bogs, heaths, grasslands and woodlands. The Park was established and opened to the public in 1980. It is one of six National Parks in Ireland managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Park facilities include a 3-D

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

exhibition, Diamond Hill walks, AV Theatre, playground, tea rooms, picnic area and toilets. The Park entrance is on the Clifden side of Letterfrack Village on the N59. The grounds are open all year and the visitor centre is open from March to October.

#### Contact

Connemara National Park Letterfrack, Co. Galway Tel: 095–41054 cnp@ahg.gov.ie www.connemaranationalpark.ie

Location

Letterfrack

Connemara National Park is situated on the N59 Clifden to Westport on the Clifden side of Letterfrack Village

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5506, -9.9456

#### Opening Times

Visitor Centre Open daily Mar to Oct 09:00-17:30h The park grounds are open all year

Admission Rates Free admission

Information Tea room open Sat & Sun (Limited hours)

Parking Free car and coach parking available

# **Clare Island Fast Ferries**

Clare Island, Co. Mayo

#### Offering a warm welcome



Clare Island Fast Ferries is a family-run business operating to Clare Island and Inishturk Island for generations.

#### **Clare Island:**

The trip takes 10 minutes on a fast ferry, the True Light. The island has much to offer with its natural beauty, majestic cliffs, scenic walks and its beautiful

golden beach. The island boasts many historical buildings including the castle of Grace O' Malley (Granuaile), Cistercian Abbey.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

#### Inishturk:

The trip to Inishturk takes 45mins on a 97 passenger ferry, Naomh Ciaran II, allowing sufficient

time to capture the panoramic views of the coastline. Inishturk is a haven of peace and beauty steeped in history. The varied terrain, endangered flora and traditional ways make it the perfect getaway from everyday stress and hustle.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Clare Island Fast Ferries, Clare Is., Co. Mayo Tel: 098–25045, 086–887 0814, 087–660 0409 info@clareislandfastferries.com www.clareislandfastferries.com

#### Location

onagh Pt

Ferry departs from Roonagh Pier, 30 mins from Westport. 1 km from Louisburgh turn right and continue to the end of the pier

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.7618, -9.9037

#### **Sailing Times**

Call or check online for sailing times. All sailings are subject to weather and other conditions

#### Ferry Rates (Single / Return) Tickets from office at Roonagh Pier Family and group rates available Book online @ www.clareislandfastferries.com for

10% discount

#### Parking

Large car park at Roonagh Pier. Free of charge and protected by CCTV



### Glen Keen Sheep Farm Restaurant & Craft Shop

### Louisburgh, Co.Mayo



Glen Keen, one of Ireland's largest working sheep farms is located on the heart of the Wild Altantic Way. Situated in an EU designated special area of conservation beside the Carrowniskey River, the beautiful Mweelrea and Sheaffrey Mountain ranges provide a stunning backdrop to the Glen Keen Farm, Restaurant & Craft Shop. This idyllic setting offers



the visitor the opportunity to immerse themselves in an un-spoilt natural beauty and take a stroll around the farm visiting sites such as an old Cilin (an ancient burial site), or a ring fort dating back to the 5th century. Relax and unwind in the beautiful traditional tearooms and enjoy some of the many homecooked delights, savoury lunches, delicious cakes and

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

you may also be in for a musical treat!

On-farm demonstrations for group bookings of 10+ include sheep dog herding where visitors can enjoy a display of professional sheep herding by the trained farm border collies, advance booking only.

# 

Glen Keen Farm, Restaurant & Craft Shop Glen Keen, Louisburgh Co.Mayo Tel: 087-616 7396 glenkeenfarm@gmail.com www.glenkeenfarm.com

#### Location

Louisburgh

Situated on the R335 just 6.2 miles from Louisburgh Town in the direction of Delphi/Leenane

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.6887, -9.7869

Opening Times Apr to Jun & Sept Thurs to Sun 10:30-17:30h Jul to Aug Wed to Sun 10:00- 17:30h Closed Oct to Mar

#### Admission Rates Sheep Herding Demonstrations are for Groups 10+. Adult €10, Child 5-12yrs €5 Child (U5) Free

#### Information

Sheep herding for groups of 10+ booking essential Restaurant, Café, Craft shop, Selfguided farm walks Visitor Centre is wheelchair accessible

Parking Large free car-park onsite

# **Delphi Resort**

Leenane, Co. Galway



### There is nowhere quite like it!

Delphi Resort, Ireland's leading resort for adventure, is located in Connemara along the Wild Atlantic Way, Western Way and Blueway, 30 minutes from Westport and 80 minutes from Galway. Available daily are up to 20 water and land based activities suitable for adults, children, families and groups. Day visitors and resort guests can enjoy adventures scheduled for 1.5 hours, half day sessions or full day sessions. Resort residents can also enjoy complimentary access to Delphi Spa, where you can unwind in the thermal suite after a day's adventure and enjoy the stunning scenery of the Mweelrea mountains.

#### Most popular activities:

- Wild Atlantic Kayaking on Killary Fjord
- Zip n' Trek tree top adventure
- Bog Challenge through Delphi's 300 acre forests
- Coasteering at Old Head swim, climb and jump into the wild Atlantic

### **Delphi's Go Zip Forest Park**

There are lots of child friendly & soft adventure activities including free Kids Club, bike hire, walking trails through the woodlands, indoor wall climbing, indoor/ outdoor tunnelling and more!

#### Choose from up to 20 daily adventure activities with fully qualified instructors:

- Abseiling
- Archery
- Bog Challenge
- Bridge Swing
- Bush Craft Survival
- Canoeing
- Coasteering
- Cycle Tour
- Hill Walking
- Kayaking
- Mountain Bike Lesson & Trail Ride
- Orienteerina
- Raft Building
- Rock Climbing
- Sea Kayaking
- Skyfall
- Snorkelling
- SUP
- Surfing
- Tunnelling
- Zip'n'Trek



Hidden within the trees of the resort's 300 acres, Go Zip Forest Park is packed with a multitude of fun-filled challenges suitable for both adults and children. Go Zip Forest Park offers 7 exciting elements including the Zip'n'Trek aerial adventure, climbing and abseiling walls, adventure tunnelling, the Bridge Swing and the new adrenalin pumping SkyFall. Great value family passes are available!

#### Contact

Delphi Resort Leenane, Connemara, Co. Galway Tel: 095-42208 bookings@delphiresort.com www.delphiresort.com

#### Location

10mins from Leenane, along the Wild Atlantic Way (N) route to Louisburgh 30mins from Westport, 80mins from Galway

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.6218, -9.7544

#### **Opening Times**

**Resort** Open year round Adventure Hub Open Daily 09:00-18:00h throughout the year 09:00-21:00h in July and August

#### **Admission Rates**

1.5hrs: €17.50/Child €25/Adult 1/2 Day: €35/Child €50/Adult Full Day: €59/Child €89/Adult Go Zip Forest Park Family Pass: €99 (2A+2C)

Family & group discounts available

#### Information

Accommodation 4\* Hotel, Wild Atlantic Hostel, Self-Catering Cottages, Agsleggh Lodge Dining 4 dining experiences including The Chef's Table by Stefan Matz Other Delphi Spa, equipment rental services, Wild Atlantic Café and shop

#### Parkina

Free Car & Coach parking at resort Adventure COM f) 🗲 🔚 🛜



All co-ordinates in Decimal Degrees

# **Clare Island Ferry**

Louisburgh, Co. Mayo

#### Journey to the beautiful Clare Island



The O'Grady Family have been operating a service to Clare Island since 1880.

The "**Pirate Oueen**" named after the infamous 16th century Grace O'Malley(Granuaile), who lived on Clare Island during the course of her life as a "chief commander and director of thieves and murderers at sea".

The "Clew Bay Queen" licensed to carry 96 passengers takes 20 minutes to make the crossing and is the largest ferry on the Clare Island service. The **"Sea Sprinter**" is licensed to carry 35 passengers and takes 10 minutes to make the crossing.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

The journey gives enough time to view and photograph a most spectacular coastline

which includes Achill Island, the Nephin Mountains, Clew Bay, Croagh Patrick, Killary Harbour, Renvyle and Inishbofin.

Special trips to and from Inishturk and Achill Island can be arranged for groups.

For group activities on the island contact Louise at www.clareislandadventures.ie or call 087-346 7713

# Visiting

#### Contact

Clare Island Ferry Roonagh Point, Louisburgh Co. Mayo Tel: 098–23737, 086–851 5003 bookings@clareislandferry.com www.clareislandferry.com

#### Location

Roonagh Quay is located on the R335, 8 km west of Louisburgh

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.7617, -9.9038

#### **Opening Times**

Regular daily services year round from Roonagh Quay to Clare Island Times vary and are subject to weather conditions. Please visit our website for details or call us

#### **Admission Rates**

Purchase your tickets online to avail of online discount or book your tickets at bookings@clareislandferry.com

Parking There is a large car park at Roonagh Point

### Killary Adventure Company

Leenane, Co. Galway

#### **Outdoor activity centre**



Killary Adventure Company is located on one of the most stunning parts of the Wild Atlantic Way overlooking Killary Fjord, and is also on the Blueway Trail for water activities.

Offering over 20 different adventure activities suitable for all those aged 8 and over, this is a fantastic stop to make on your trip to Connemara in Ireland's west. You can stay for anything from 3 hours to a week or more!

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

Choose to do activities as a family or drop the kids off for a fun-filled day as part of the daily

summer camps. Join on your own or with a group of friends and try the high ropes course, the daredevil jump (NEW 2016), our famous turf challenge course or skim along the deep blue waters of Killary Fjord on a wakeboard.

# Visiting

#### Contact

10

Leenane

Killary Adventure Company Leenane, Connemara, Co. Galway Tel: 095–43411 adventure@killary.com www.killary.adventure.com

#### Location

Located in Leenane on the Clifden, Road, 60 mins from Galway 35 mins from Westport and 30 mins from Clifden

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5942 – 9.7675

**Opening Times** Activities start at 10:00 and 14:00h daily throughout the year

#### Admission Rates

1/2 Day: Child €31 Adult €46 Full Day: Child €49 Adult €87 Special prices available for groups and families. Call for details

#### Information

Facilities include: Café on-site Double/Twin/Dorm rooms, Campsite Restaurant for guests staying in the centre

Parking

Coach and car parking available



Roonagh Pt



### Leenane, Co. Galway

#### Soak. Relax. Detox. Revive

Situated on the shores of Ireland's only fjord, these baths are the only salt water seaweed baths in the West of Ireland (Galway, Mayo & Roscommon).

Seaweed is hand cut daily and fresh with essential nutrients and minerals. Bathing in salt water is essential for the release of minerals and nutrients found in seaweed and is Ireland's oldest spa treatment.

As well as relaxing tired muscles, saltwater seaweed baths provide a natural cure for skin ailments from psoriasis to eczema and also helps to relieve associated pain of arthritis and rheumatism.

Single bathing rooms are available, with spectacular fjord views and double rooms for



couples that provide a quiet serene haven from the hustle & bustle of everyday life. Seaweed baths are not suitable for pregnant women and persons with overactive thyroid and high blood pressure.

Swim suits available.

Special Offer €20 with this guide.

# The Sheep & Wool Centre

Leenane, Co. Galway

#### Learn about the sheep and woollen industry



The Sheep & Wool Centre is a visitor attraction situated in the heart of Connemara on the breathtaking Killary Harbour. The Centres mission is to foster awareness of the traditional sheep and wool-craft industry in the west of Ireland.

The museums focus is on the history of sheep and

wool handcrafts with daily demonstrations in carding, spinning and weaving. A short introductory DVD is also available in English, Irish, French, German & Italian. A visit to the museum will answer all your

woolly or sheepish questions! Please contact for demonstration times.

The Sheep and Wool Gift Shop stocks everything from knitting yarn and ceramics to woollens and souvenirs, with prices to suit most pockets. The café on site, Bia Blas specializes in home cooked food and baking.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Connemara Seaweed Baths Leenane, Connemara, Co. Galway Tel: 095–42408 info@connemaraseaweedbaths.com www.connemaraseaweedbaths.com

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

#### Location

Leenane

Beside Leenane Hotel overlooking Ireland's only fjord on the N59

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5946, -9.7047

**Opening Times** Mar to Nov, 7 days 11:00–18:00h (Group bookings available outside these hours)

Admission Rates €25 which includes seaweed bath and steam room Special Offer €20 with this guide

Parking



# Visiting

#### Contact

10

Leenan

The Sheep and Wool Centre Leenane, Connemara, Co. Galway Tel: 095-42323 info@sheepandwoolcentre.com www.sheepandwoolcentre.com

#### Location

Leenane lies on the N59, Connemara's coastal scenic route The village is roughly half-way between Clifden and Westport. The museum is located in the centre of the village

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5971, -9.6937

#### **Opening Times**

Mid Mar to Sept 09:30–18:00h Oct 09:30–17:30h Nov to Mid Mar Closed

#### Admission Rates

Adult €5 Student/Senior €4 Child €3 Family €13

Information Gift shop, Café on-site

Parking Free parking

### **Kylemore Abbey** and Victorian Walled Garden

Connemara, Co. Galway 14 million and and

#### Ideal destination for a day out

Originally built as a castle in 1867 and now home to the Benedictine order of nuns. this Abbey and 1,000 acre Estate is steeped in history with tales of tragedy and romance, engineering initiatives, model farm, royal visits, spirituality and education.

Experience the Victorian atmosphere of the Abbey, Gothic Church and Head Gardener's House. Enjoy the beautiful tree lined avenues, nature trails and lakeshore walks.

Explore the magical 6 acre Victorian walled garden where only Victorian varieties of flowers and vegetables



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WILD ATLANTIC WAY

are grown. Vegetables and

in the café where traditional

home cooked food is made to

the recipes of the Benedictine

The tea house by the walled

garden is the perfect place

breathtaking views over the

Connemara National Park.

to relax and enjoy the

nuns

herbs from the garden are used

#### Contact

Kylemore

Kylemore Abbey Kylemore, Connemara, Co. Galway Tel: 095-52001 bookings@kylemoretourism.ie www.kylemoreabbey.com

Location Just 1 hour from Galway City

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5618, -9.8880

#### **Opening Times**

Estate: Jan 11:00-16:00h Feb 11:00-17:00h Mar & Apr, & Nov 10:00-17:00h May & Jun 09:00-18:00h July & Aug 09:00-19:00h Sep & Oct 09:30-17:30h Dec 10:00-16:30h

#### Admission Rates

Adult €13. Senior €10. Student €9 Family with children aged >10  $\in$  26 with children aged 11-17  $\in$  35

#### Information

Mitchell's Café and Garden Tea House Contemporary and traditional home cooking and baking Craft and Design Shop Crafts, gifts, handmade chocolates and Kylemore notterv

#### Parking



# **Aran Island Ferries**

Connemara, Co. Galway 



**Passenger Ferry to the Aran Islands** 

Immerse yourself in traditional Irish history, culture and heritage on the beautiful Aran Islands with Aran Island Ferries. a company with 34 years of experience sailing the



waters of Galway Bay. The award-winning family run ferry company offer daily sailings to each of the islands from Ros a Mhil Port, with an average sailing time of 40 minutes. The company have established a strong relationship with the service providers on the islands that enable them to offer a more all-inclusive package to visitors. These include bus transfers from Galway City to the port for all sailings, minibus tours, jaunting carts and bike hire, entrance to the heritage centres, a range of accommodation, and lunch or evening meals on the Islands.

# isiting

#### Contact

Aran Island Ferries Ros A' Mhíl Pier Connemara, Co. Galway City Office located at 37-39 Forster St, Galway City Tel: 091-568 903 info@aranislandferries.com www.aranislandferries.com

os A' Mhíl Pier Location

Ferry is located at Ros A' Mhíl Pier 38 km from Galway. City Office is on Forster Street in Galway City Centre

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.2655, -9.5592

#### Sailing Times

Daily sailings all year round Office open 08:30 - 17:30h Please contact office for sailing times

Admission Rates Excellent individual, family and group rates available

Information Tea / Coffee / Bar Facilities onboard

Parkina Parking available at port Adventure **f** 

Map of attractions / entertainments, see pages 30 and 31



### **Patrick Pearse's Cottage**

### Near Rosmuc Village, Co. Galway

A restored cottage overlooking the breathtaking lakes and mountains of Connemara, used by Patrick Pearse leader of the 1916 Rising, as a summer residence and summer school. The interior, although burned during the War of Independence has been reconstructed and contains an exhibition. Restricted access for visitors with disabilities.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

# Visiting

Contact Patrick Pearse's Cottage Inbhear, near Rosmuc Village Co. Galway Tel: 091-574 292 tanphiarsaigh@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.3863, -9.6200

**Opening Times** 17th Mar to 1st Dec Daily 10:00-17:00h

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

Parking Small public car park close to site

### **Aughnanure Castle**

### Oughterard, Co. Galway

Aughnanure Castle lies in picturesque surroundings close to the shores of Lough Corrib. The castle is a particularly well-preserved example of an Irish tower house. Visitors will find the remains of a banqueting hall, a watch tower, an unusual double bawn, bastions and a dry harbour. Restricted access to castle grounds for visitors with disabilities.



Visiting

Contact Aughnanure Castle Ougherard, Co. Galway Tel: 091-552 214 aughnanurecastle@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.4188, -9.2754

Opening Times Castle closed at present due to works however, guided tours of castle grounds still available 16th Mar to 2nd Nov Daily 09:30-18:00h

Admission Rates Free admission to the castle grounds Parking Car & coach parking

### Quiet Man Museum Tours & Gift Shop

### Cong, Co. Mayo

The Ouiet Man Cottage Museum is a novel concept which will give the visitor a total Ouiet Man experience as if they were actually 'on-set'.

Visited by the Wayne family and Maureen O'Hara. Guided tours of the film locations from the museum daily at 11am. Stay at Michaeleen's Manor B&B themed on the movie. Gift shop on-site. A must for any Quiet Man enthusiast. Ghost Tours available.



Rates quoted are for 2016

# Visiting

10

Contact Quiet Man Museum Cong Village, Co. Mayo Tel: 094–954 6089 info@quietman-cong.com www.quietman-cong.com

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.5407, -9.2853

Opening Times Daily 10:00–16:00h from Easter to end Oct

Admission Rates Museum €5. Tour and Museum €15

**Parking** Car parking available

### Glengowla Mines & Working Farm Experience

Oughterard, Co. Galway





### Discover the Hidden History of Connemara

Buried beneath the Connemara Mountain lies a way of life long abandoned and almost forgotten...

Let the team at Glengowla Mines lead you on a journey of discovery of how lead and silver were mined from the roots of the Connemara Mountains in the 1800's. The constant dripping of water, the 'miners breath' and if you are brave enough - a moment of darkness will set the scene! Learn of the miners working conditions before the mines closed in 1865. Pan for gold at our gold panning station and keep any gems you find! Glengowla Museum has artifacts collected during the mines excavation & history on the area.

On the surface, the Powder Magazine, Blacksmith's Workshop and the Agent's Cottage have been restored and contain items rescued from the mine. A hand windlass and a horse-gin have been constructed.

Take the opportunity to enjoy a leisurely stroll through the working farm along the old Connemara railway line and discover some of the local flora and fauna. Make a day of it and bring your own picnic! Afterwards visit the gift shop which offers all sorts of gifts with a focus on minerals and gems.

Discount on presentation of this booklet. 20% off Adult Ticket to mines only in 2016. T&C apply.

# Visiting

Contact

Glengowla Mines Oughterard, Co. Galway Tel: 091-552 021 Mob: 087-252 9850 glengowlamines@eircom.net www.glengowlamines.ie

#### Dughterard 3 km west of Oughterard village 300 metres off the N59 Galway/Clifden Road (20 mins drive from Galway, 40 mins from Clifden)

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.4184, -9.3744

**Opening Times** Mid Mar to Mid Nov 10:00–18:00h

### Admission Rates

Adult €10. Senior/Student €9 Child €4. Family €25 Cater for school tours and groups Additional charge applies for turf cutting and sheep dog herding demonstrations

Information Gift Shop

**Parking** Free Coach & Car Parking at the Visitor Centre

### **Glengowla Farm**

Glengowla is also a working farm where you can see Connemara ponies, meet Bob the sheep dog, pet the lambs and for advanced group bookings sheep dog herding demonstrations and turf cutting demonstrations are available.

Advanced bookings are required. Contact Keith 087-252 9850.



# **Pure Skill**

Galway City

#### **Fusion of sport**



Pure Skill, is a 25,000 sq ft indoor sport and leisure destination located in Knocknacarra Galway, only minutes from the city centre. Using advanced automated and electronic technologies, Pure Skill is the first of its kind in the world and a must visit family attraction.

In the Pure Skill Circuit you complete 10 sports from around the world including, Gaelic, Soccer, Hurling, Rugby, Tennis, Cricket, Baseball, Basketball, Golf Putting and Golf Chipping. Everybody completes a scorecard out of 100 points and it takes 2 hours to complete the circuit.

All sports are independent cages with automatic ball collection systems and are activated by time card

technology. It is fully floodlit with astroturf flooring and music surround sound for an amazing experience.

Suitable for ages 9 to adult.

There is also a section for interactive sports where you can enjoy the unique Visual Sports System.

It is weather independent, non contact, gender neutral and great fun.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

### /isiting

#### Contact

Pure Skill Knocknacarra, Galway City Tel: 091–515 510 info@pureskill.ie www.pureskill.ie

#### Location

Galway

Knocknacarra, Galway City, 3 mins from Leisureland and 10 mins from City Centre

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.2709, -9.1005

**Opening Times** Summer 11:00–20:00h daily Winter 12:00–19:00h Pre booking essential

Admission Rates Please visit the website

Information 50 seater coffee shop on-site, adjacent to Dunnes Stores and B&Q

Parking Extensive parking for cars and coaches



### Galway Atlantaquaria National Aquarium of Ireland

Salthill, Galway City

#### Fishy Fun at Galway Atlantaquaria

Situated in Salthill just outside Galway City, Atlantaquaria is a unique and fun visitor experience. It is home to the country's largest display of aquatic life. With over 150 species of fish and invertebrates in five hundred tonnes of water, exhibits

provide an insight into native marine and freshwater habitats.

The Ocean Tank is currently home to Valentine, the only White Skate on public display in the world.

Galway Atlantaquaria is a unique and interesting experience for people of all ages. Children love the



chance to touch spider crabs and starfish, get up close and personal with the friendly rays and have the chance to get involved with feeding the fish.

The Aquarium offers a series of fun science summer camps for children from the age of 5 along with various aquatic themed events throughout the year.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Galway Atlantaquaria The Promenade, Salthill, Galway City Tel: 091–585 100 info@nationalaquarium.ie www.nationalaquarium.ie

Location Located on the seafront at Salthill overlooking Galway Bay

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.2599, -9.0737

**Opening Times** Mar to Oct: Open Daily from 10:00h Nov to Feb: Wed to Sun from 10:00h

#### Admission Rates

Adult €11.50. Family (2+2) €33 Senior/Student €8. Child €7.50, extra child €4.50 under 3 Free Group Rates Available

#### Information

Arabica Coffee House, Lighthouse Gift Shop, The Royal Villa Restaurant, Home Aquariums

Parking Free car parking

# Trad on the Prom

Salthill, Galway





# Ireland's Number 1 Music, Song & Dance Experience

Performers who have captivated audiences in extraordinary and groundbreaking productions such as 'Riverdance', 'The Chieftains' and 'Lord of the Dance' have gathered together on ONE STAGE to present an unforgettable entertainment experience in Galway, the City of the Tribes.

The music will touch your soul and the dancing will take your breath away. It's a truly remarkable experience suitable for all ages and nationalities.

Music: Trad on the Prom showcases the amazing talents of legendary trad musician Máirín Fahy, the featured soloist with Riverdance and The Chieftains. Máirín is joined on stage by her world class band featuring the haunting music of the uilleann pipes, whistles and bouzouki performed by Gerard Fahy (musical director and composer of 'Lord of the Dance'), multi-instrumentalist Yvonne Fahy on accordion and bodhrán (Irish hand drum), producer and host Chris Kelly on guitar, the electrifying Benny Hayes (keyboard and vocals) and concertina supremo Padraig Rynne.

Dance: The show features a stunning line-up of world champion Irish dancers led by Cian Nolan (four-time World Champion, lead dancer - 'Lord of the Dance') and Clare Greaney (six-time World Champion). The cast includes **3 current World Champions** - Colm Conneely and brothers Michael & Matthew Gardiner, Siobhán Manson (lead dancer - 'Riverdance') and champions Mary McDonagh, Anne Marie Keaney and Emer Finnerty.

Song: Guest singers include Eurovision star Marc Roberts, 'The Chieftains' vocalist Yvonne McMahon, multi-AIMS winner Sean Costello and 'Women of Ireland' vocalist Nicola McGuire. Book online at www.fradontheorom.com

### Simply the Best Irish Show of the Year

Ranked by TripAdvisor as the #1 attraction in Galway, Trad on the Prom returns for its twelfth consecutive season. Having performed to an audience of 60,000 at the Volvo Ocean Race, this iconic show features a world class blend of Irish Music, Song and Dance and consistently proves to be a unique and unforgettable experience for tens of thousands of visitors to Ireland.

# Visiting

Contact Trad on the Prom Galway Bay Hotel Salthill, Galway Tel: 091–582 860 info@tradontheprom.com www.tradontheprom.com

#### Location

Salthill

The Galway Bay Hotel, The Promenade, Salthill, overlooking Galway Bay, just 2 km from Galway city centre

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.2575, -9.0841

**Opening Times** 10th May to 29th September 21:00h Tues, Thurs & Sun

Admission Rates Adult €30 Student €25 Children (0-12yrs) €10 Family (2+2) €75

#### Information

Dinner/Show option also available. Features a 3 course, pre-show dinner (with glass of wine or soft drink) in the award-winning Lobster Pot Restaurant, overlooking Galway Bay Adult menu \$ show €60

Kids menu £ show €23

Parking Free Parking





### Burren Nature Sanctuary Kinvara, Co. Galway

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

#### Interpretive centre for the natural history of the Burren



The award winning Burren Nature Sanctuary is the interpretive centre for the natural history of the Burren.

The mile long Burren walk takes you through karst limestone pavement, hazel and ash woodland, past wildflowers and orchids in season, the magical disappearing lake and Burren Botany Bubble exhibit.

Facilities include a state of the art adventure playground, sand building site, indoor play zone, farm pets and fairy woodland.

The Sanctuary café offers delicious, freshly cooked, local produce; scones, cakes, savoury tarts, fishcakes, and fresh salads from the organic polytunnel.

Try the hazelnut, cheddar and spinach savoury scone with local nettle & garlic cheese with a delicious seaweed salad. Also serving Tom Tom artisan coffee.

# Visiting

Contact Burren Nature Sanctuary Cloonasee, Kinvara Co. Galway Tel: 091-637 444 info@bns.ie www.bns.ie

Location Driving Directions: Turn left at Sextons bar in Kinvara take the right hand fork I km on the left

> SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.1288, -8.9278

**Opening Times** Open daily 10:00–18:00h Check website in low season

#### Admission Rates

Sept to May, Children <3 €4, Children >3 €8, Adults €4 Family day pass (2 + 3) €28 May to Aug, Children <3 €5 Children >3 €10 Adults €5 Family day pass €35 Groups and yearly membership discounts available

Information

Fully wheelchair accessible building, café, gift shop parties and groups

Parking Free on-site parking



# **Dunguaire Castle**

Kinvara, Co. Galway

#### Be inspired on the shores of Galway Bay



Dunguaire Castle and its history lies at the heart of Ireland's literary revival in the early 20th century. It was built in 1520 by the O'Hynes clan on the picturesque shores of Galway Bay. In 1924, the castle was bought and repaired by Oliver St. John Gogarty, the famous surgeon and literary figure. It became the venue for meetings of literary revivalists such as W.B. Yeats, his patron Lady Gregory, George Bernard Shaw, Edward Martin and J.M. Synge. The castle gives an insight into the lifestyle of the people who lived from 1520 to modern times.

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

From April to October you can experience the banqueting style of the medieval era at the

renowned castle banquet. Savour a goblet of mead in the inner quarter while mingling with the Ladies of the Castle. In the tradition of the medieval 'King Guaire' enjoy a delicious four course dinner with fine wines, stories and excerpts selected to lift the soul and lighten the heart.

# Visiting

#### Contact

Shannon Heritage Tel: 061–360 788 reservations@shannonheritage.com www.shannonheritage.com

Location

Located on the N67, near Kinvara

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.1418, -8.9253

#### **Opening Times**

30th Mar to 4th Oct 10:00–17:00h Last admission 16:30h Opening times may be subject to change Dunguaire Castle Banquet at 17:30 & 20:45h (reservations necessary) For further details call 061–360 788 Book online at www.shannonheritage.com

#### Admission Rates

Varying categories including Family, Senior, Child rates etc

Parking Free, for coaches and cars A Shannon Heritage Attraction



### Portumna Castle & Gardens

Portumna, Co. Galway 51.

Portumna Castle and Demesne occupy a magnificent location on the shores of Lough Derg on the River Shannon. Although gutted by fire in 1826, the Castle is still an imposing example of Irish architecture in the early 17th Century. The ground floor of the castle is open to the public and houses an exhibition on the history and restoration of the building.



# Contact

Portumna Castle & Gardens Portumna, Co. Galway Tel: 090-947 1658 portumnacastle@opw.ie . www.heritageireland.ie

#### SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.0929, -8.2185

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 15th Oct Daily 09:30-18:00h 16th Oct to 31st Oct Weekends Only 09:30-17:00h. Groups on Wed & Thurs by prior booking. Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2, Family €10

Parkina Car & coach parking close to site

### **Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre**

Kenagh, Co. Longford 12 may 1 march

The centre interprets an Iron Age bog road that was built in the year 148 B.C. The oak road is the largest of its kind to have been uncovered in Europe. Inside the interpretive centre, an 18m stretch of the preserved trackway is on permanent display in a hall specially designed to preserve the ancient wooden structure.



Contact Corlea Trackway Centre Kenagh, Co.Lonaford Tel: 043-332 2386 ctrackwayvisitorcentre@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.6127, -7.8454

**Opening Times** 5th May to 28th Sept Daily 10:00-18:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Free of Charge

Parking Car & coach parking available

## **Athenry Castle**

Athenry, Co. Galway 

Athenry - the most notable medieval walled town surviving in Ireland, owing its foundation to Meiler de Bermingham who built his castle there c.1250. The castle consists of a three storev tower with parts of the original enclosure wall still surviving today. The interior now contains an audio-visual room and exhibition with guided tours available on request.





Athenry Castle Athenry, Co. Galway Tel: 091-844 797 athenrycastle@opw.ie www.heritageireland.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.3001, -8.7446

**Opening Times** 24th Mar to 1st Oct, Daily 09:30-18:00h 2nd Oct to 26th Oct, Mon to Thurs only, 09:30-17:00h Last admission 45 mins before closing

Admission Rates Adult €4, Senior/Group €3 Child/Student €2 Family €10

Parkina Car & coach parking available close to site



### **Athenry Heritage Centre**

### Athenry, Co. Galway

#### Discover history through a unique experience



The award winning Heritage Centre is the ideal place to discover history the fun way. The 'Medieval Experience' provides visitors of all ages the opportunity to be part of Athenry's Anglo-Norman history. Dress up in medieval costume



and become a Knight, a Lord or a Lady of the Manor.

Discover your inner Robin Hood with the centres "Have-A-Go Archery" and engage with medieval history using interactive exhibits including weapons and armour from the Middle Ages.

Other exhibits include the Medieval Dungeon, the Market Street and models of the ancient walled town of Athenry. Tour guides are available for all visitors to the centre.

Relax in the picnic area and explore the wooden maze too. Discover the best preserved medieval town in Ireland and visit a place immortalised by the song 'The Fields of Athenry' as a town rich in history and culture.

# Visiting

#### Contact

10

Athenry

Athenry Heritage Centre St. Mary's, The Square Athenry, Co. Galway Tel: 091–844 661 athenryheritagecentre@gmail.com www.athenryheritagecentre.com

#### Location

Exit Junction 17 M6 Dublin-Galway motorway. 17 km from Galway City Athenry train station is a 7 minute walk. Tickets available on irishrail.ie

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.2992, -8.7464

Opening Times March-May, Mon to Fri: 10:00-16:30h June-Aug, Mon to Sun: 10:30-17:00h Group bookings by appointment

#### Admission Rates

General Admission €4pp Medieval Experience Adult €7.50 Child €6.50 Family (2 + 2) €26 Discounts for Senior/Student Group discount available

Parking Pay & Display Parking

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### Athlone Castle Visitor Centre

Athlone, Co. Westmeath

#### Brings the stories and characters of Athlone to life

Athlone Castle Visitor Centre is a family friendly tourist attraction in the heart of Ireland. Filled with modern exhibitions, Athlone's history, people, castle and battles are explored and brought to life. Child friendly multi-mode disclare and

multi media displays and interactive games guide the visitor through the castle. The great Siege of Athlone is relived in a 360° cinematic experience transporting visitors to the centre of the 1691 battle. Athlone Castle Visitor Centre is a treat for all the family, with dress up areas throughout, courtyard picnic facilities, outdoor chess and picturesque town views. Audio

guides are available in several European languages.

This newly renovated tourist attraction is the perfect midlands stop off point. Athlone Castle Visitor Centre is waiting for you to explore, engage and enjoy!



# Visiting

#### Contact

Athlone Castle Visitor Centre St. Peters Square, Athlone Co. Westmeath Tel: 090–644 2130 info@athlonecastle.ie www.athlonecastle.ie

#### Location

Athlone

Located on west side of Athlone town on the banks of the River Shannon

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.4230, -7.9427

#### Opening Times

Open year round Sept to Oct, Mar to May Tues to Sat 11:00-17:00h Sun & B/Hols 12:00-17:00h Nov to Feb, Wed to Sat 11:00-17:00h Sun 12:00-17:00h Jun to Aug, Mon to Sat 10:00-18:00h Sun & B/Hols 12:00-18:00h Last admission 1 hour before closing

#### **Admission Rates**

Adult €8. Senior/Student €6 Child (U15) €4, Child (U4) Free Family (2+2)€20 (2+4) €25. Group bookings on request

Information Café and Gift shop



## **Luan Gallery**

Athlone, Co. Westmeath

#### Showcasing visual art in the Midlands



Luan Gallery is Athlone's contemporary visual art gallery. Situated in the heart of the midlands, Luan Gallery is dedicated to promoting a dynamic contemporary visual art programme. Featuring work of both established and emerging artists from the midlands and beyond, Luan Gallery features an exhibitions programme of both contemporary and traditional art.

Luan Gallery also hosts a variety of educational workshops including classes, talks and tours. Guided tours are available for every visitor free of charge upon request. Groups are advised to book in advance.

### /isiting

#### Contact

Luan Gallery Grace Road, Athlone Co. Westmeath Tel: 090–644 2154 info@luangallery.ie www.luangallery.ie

#### Location

Luan Gallery is located on the west side of Athlone town on the banks of the River Shannon, adjacent to the historical church of St. Peter & Paul and Athlone Castle

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 53.4238, -7.9431

#### **Opening Times**

Closed Monday Tuesday to Saturday 11:00–17:00h Sunday 12:00–17:00h Please see website for seasonal changes to opening hours

Admission Rates Free. Group bookings on request

Parking On street parking available

# - The Living Past Experience

Near Quin, Co. Clare

#### A Re-creation of Celtic Ireland



Craggaunowen—Experience Ireland's original award winning Pre-historic Park. Explore the roots of the people, homesteads, animals and artifacts of over 1,000 years ago which have touched and shaped how we live today.

Visit the Crannog – an artificial island dwelling defended by a hidden pathway in the water. Travel back in time to the life of the hunter-gatherer in the Ring Fort. You will see how the Celts carried out their everyday activities as they cooked over open fires or in pits; ground corn for making bread or porridge on hand-powered querns; made pottery, wooden bowls, goblets and platters. See the Brendan Boat – a leather hulled boat built by Tim Severin who sailed across the mid-Atlantic, re-enacting the voyage of St. Brendan and the early Christian monks reputed to have discovered America centuries before Columbus!! Craggaunowen Castle a 16th century restored Medieval Castle built in 1550 stands defiantly on a crag overlooking the lake and enjoys magnificient views of the countryside. Observe rare animal breeds such as wild boar and soay sheep - specimens of the pre-historic era.

# /isiting

#### Contact

Ouin

Shannon Heritage Tel: 061–360 788 reservations@shannonheritage.com www.shannonheritage.com

Location Located off the R469 near Quin Co. Clare

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 52.8128, -8.7893

#### Opening Times

Open Easter Saturday to September 10:00–17:00h (last Admission 16:00) Opening times may be subject to change

#### Admission Rates

Varying categories including Family, Seniors, Child rates etc

Information Tearoom and Gift Shop

**Parking** Free for coaches and cars A Shannon Heritage Attraction



# Loop Head Lighthouse

### Kilbaha, Kilrush, Co. Clare

#### At the tip of West Clare

The enchanting Loop Head Lighthouse is located at the tip of the Loop Head Peninsula at the furthest point west on the Clare coastline and is a discovery point along the spectacular Wild Atlantic Way. The wild and rugged Atlantic coastline, contrasting sharply with the sheltered Shannon Estuary truly sets a breathtaking backdrop to the Lighthouse.

Visitors have the opportunity to be guided to the top of the Lighthouse and take in the magnificent views.

An exhibition focusing on the history of Irish Lighthouses and the people who have operated them since the 17th



century is located in one of the Light Keeper's Cottages. Other highlights in the locality include the Bridges of Ross, an important habitat for cliff nestling birds.

Rates quoted are for 2016

# isiting

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

Contact Clare County Council Ennis, Co. Clare

Ennis, Co. Clare Tel: 065-684 6429 www.loophead.ie www.clare.ie

Location 25km from Kilkee on the R487

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 52.5630, -9.9205

Opening Times 12th March to 2nd October 10:00-18:00h

Admission Rates Adult €5, Children €2 Family €12 (up to 3 children)

Information Limited refreshments available on-site

Parking Free car parking

# Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

Bunratty, Co. Clare



#### A window to the past

Bunratty Castle and Folk Park is one of Ireland's top visitor attractions. A visit to the Castle, the most complete and authentic medieval fortress in Ireland, and the captivating Folk Park is a wonderful experience for all the family.

Built in 1425, the majestic Castle was restored in 1954 to its former medieval splendour. It now contains mainly 15th and 16th Century furnishings, tapestries and works of art, which capture the mood of the times. Marvel at the finest collection of medieval furniture in the country, which brings to life a vital part of our medieval past. Included are eight farmhouses, two watermills, a blacksmith's forge, a church, a display of 19th century agricultural machinery and lots more...

A restored village street complete with pub, post office, school, doctor's house, hardware shop, printers, drapery shop, and pawnbrokers provide the main focal point for the park which will enchant and mesmerise both young and old. There is also a fabulous new children's playground, including slides, swings, zipwire, Viking head ship, hammock and sand play area for little ones (and not so little!) to enjoy!

# Visiting

#### Contact

Shannon Heritage Bunratty Castle & Folk Park Bunratty, Co. Clare Tel: 061–360 788 reservations@shannonheritage.com www.shannonheritage.com

#### Location

Bunratty is a ten minute drive from Shannon Airport, just off the N18 dual carriageway between Limerick & Ennis – follow signage on N18

SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 52.6986, -8.8111

#### **Opening Times**

Bunratty Castle & Folk Park is open daily year round 09:00–17:30h Last admission to the folk park 16:15h Last admission to the castle 16:00h Closed Dec 24th, 25th & 26th Opening hours are extended during summer months. See www.shannonheritage.com

**Banquet Times** 

Reservations Necessary 17:30 & 20:45h, year round



#### Information

The Bunratty Gift Shop and speciality shops on the village street Selection of dining options – Tea Room (Mar to Oct) & Mac's Pub (Mid-Jan to Dec 23rd—limited opening during off peak season)

#### Parking

Ample free parking for coaches and cars

A Shannon Heritage Attraction

### **Stonehall Wildlife Park**

### Kilcornan, Co. Limerick

Stonehall hosts a wide variety of rare & domestic animals, from Llamas, Alpacas, Ostriches, Emus, Rheas and a large variety of Parrots & Birds of Prey.

Enjoy the nature trail walk.

Caters for all weather conditions. Visit the indoor pets corner, bring your picnic and enjoy the indoor play area where there are a variety of go-karts and bouncy castles for the children.



## isiting

#### Contact

Stonehall Wildlife Park Curraghchase, Kilcornan, Co. Limerick Tel: 061–393 940 info@stonehallvisitorfarm.ie www.stonehallvisitorfarm.com

#### SatNav: Latitude/Longitude 52.6080, -8.8680

#### **Opening Times**

April, May, June, Sept, Oct Sat & Sun 11:00–18:00h July & Aug. Open 7 days a week Mon to Sat 11:00–18:00h Sun 11:00–18:00h Nov to Mar Closed Open Dec for Santa's Grotto

Admission Rates Adult €8. Children €8 Separate rate for Santa's Grotto

Parking Parking facilities for coaches & cars





# Your Daily Adventure

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