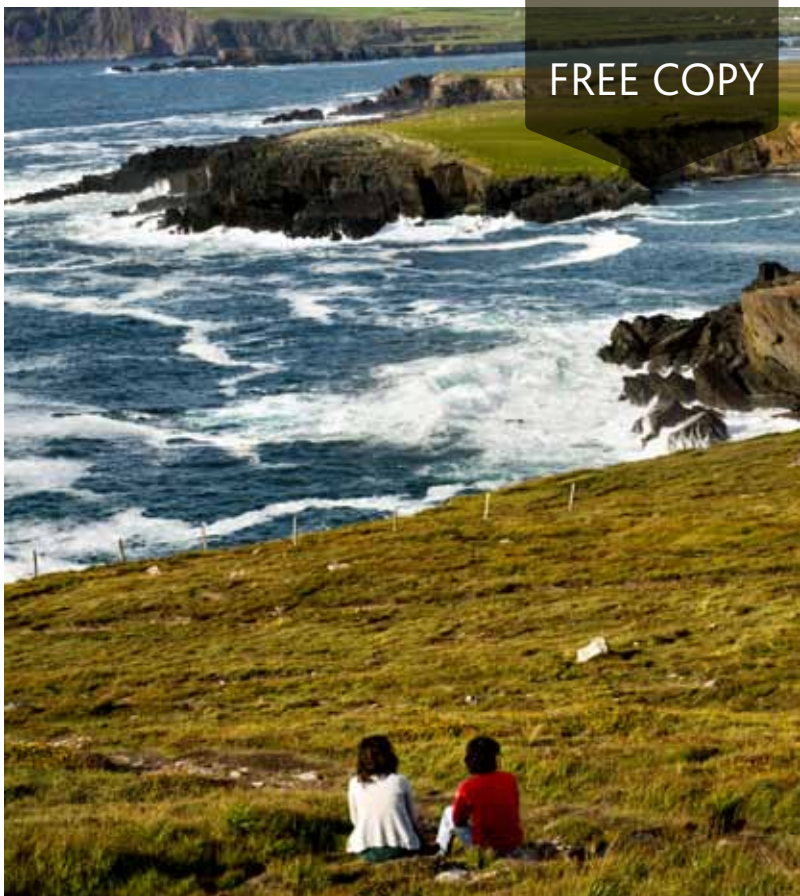


South West

Pocket Guide



FREE COPY



THINGS TO DO

PLACES TO SEE

FAMILY FUN

EVENTS & MAPS

AND LOTS MORE...



GET IN TOUCH!



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

CORK

Cork City Tourist Office
Grand Parade, Cork City
T 021 4255100
E corktio@failteireland.ie
#lovecork

Clonakilty Tourist Office
25 Ashe Street, Clonakilty
T 023 8833226
E clonakiltytio@failteireland.ie
#lovecork

Kinsale Tourist Office
Pier Road, Kinsale
T 021 4772234
E kinsaletio@failteireland.ie
#lovecork

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

Skibbereen Tourist Office

North Street, Skibbereen
T 028 21766
E skibbereentio@failteireland.ie
#lovecork

KERRY

Killarney Discover Ireland Centre
Beech Road, Killarney
T 064 6631633
E killarneytio@failteireland.ie
#lovekerry

Dingle Tourist Office
The Quay, Dingle
T 066 9151188
E dingletio@failteireland.ie
#lovekerry

Tralee Tourist Office
Ashe Memorial Hall,
Denny Street, Tralee
T 066 7121288
E traleetio@failteireland.ie
#lovekerry



Visit our website: **DISCOVERIRELAND.IE**



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



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



Mobile Phone Tip: When using a mobile phone from another country (i.e. non-Irish phone), you need to dial the international prefix for Ireland (+353). For example: to phone 021 4255100 (a number in the Cork area), you need to dial it as +353 21 4255100



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Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

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

WILD ATLANTIC WAY



Wild Atlantic Way



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN

Out at the very edge of Europe, the **Wild Atlantic Way** stretches for 2,500km (1,500 miles) along Ireland's western seaboard. From **Malin Head** in County Donegal down to **Kinsale** in County Cork, passing along by famous landmarks and film locations, this is the longest defined coastal drive in the world.

Here, the Atlantic Ocean's force has carved a coastline of wild, raw Irish beauty. Jagged cliffs, wave-capped inlets, surfing-friendly strands and deserted beaches line a coast guarded by islands and lighthouses dotted along the way.

Highlights along the south western seaboard include famous islands, from the literature-rich **Blasket Islands**, famous for its storytellers to the beehive hut-studded **Skellig Michael**, built over 1,300 years ago by early Christian monks and now a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The Italianate Gardens on **Garinish Island**, in **Bantry Bay's** sheltered harbour, are another gem as the Way winds around the remote **Beara Peninsula** to the dramatic **Mizen Head**, Ireland's most south-westerly point, before reaching its endpoint at the 'Gourmet Capital of Ireland' **Kinsale**.

Travel the entire Way or pick your part of the Atlantic coastline to explore using this Pocket Guide. Suggested experiences include meeting some unforgettable local characters or even venturing along part of the Way by kayak, bike or Connemara pony.

Sit by a turf fire in a traditional pub for a seafood feast or to hear the Irish language, song and stories. Wherever you travel along the **Wild Atlantic Way** you will encounter moments of magic along one of the world's most unforgettable coastal routes.



WILD ATLANTIC WAY





Blasket Islands

Signature Discovery Point: Radharc na mBlascaodaí (Blasket's View)

Out on the very edge of Europe lie the now-deserted mystical Blasket Islands, a mountainous archipelago with a poignant past that gave birth to Ireland's greatest storytellers. These stories, in their own distinct lyrical style, became the first written works to be published from oral Gaelic culture. After many years of hardship and emigration, the last inhabitants left the islands in 1953.

Today you can take a boat across the Blasket Sound to visit the Great Blasket, wander among the ruined cottages, climb An Blascaod Mór, gaze at dolphins and whales, and look west to America as so many islanders have done in the past.

Back on the mainland, a visit to the Blasket Centre provides moving insights into the islanders' hard lives, the sorrows of emigration, and the literary heritage of the Blaskets.

Throw a pot inspired by the wild Atlantic

On the scenic Sleah Head Drive you can visit the workshop of one of Ireland's renowned potters, Louis Mulcahy. See the Sleah Head settings that inspire Louis' wonderful work, from the rapid changing colours of the light and the sea, to the shadows on the mountains ... and the roaring red sunsets. Visit in the summer months and you can try your hand at 'throwing a pot', inspired by the wild Atlantic!



Skelligs Islands

Signature Discovery Point: Bray Head

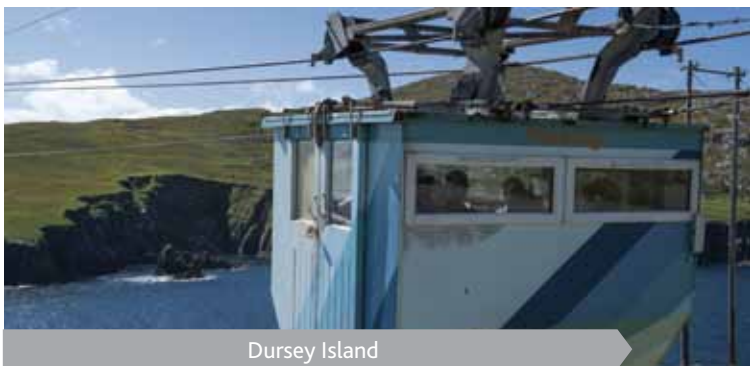
Viewed from Bray Head, Skellig Michael (Sceilig Mhichíl) and Small Skellig are two islands rising from the Atlantic some 13km southwest of Valentia Island in County Kerry. Early Christian monks built a remarkable hermitage at the top of the jagged ocean crag of Skellig Michael 1,300 years ago by carving steep steps into the rock and building a collection of "beehive" monastic cells on its 213 meter summit.

This extraordinary, far-flung place of pilgrimage is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It can be reached by the adventurous on a small boat from Portmagee or Ballinskelligs ... but only when the weather allows, and only for those with good sea legs and a head for heights!

Try a taste of heaven on the Skellig Coast

The Skellig Ring coastal route takes you along narrow cliff top lanes overlooking the wild Atlantic waves crashing below. A very earthly pleasure awaits you at St Finian's Bay, where monks once embarked for Skellig Michael, as now you can enjoy a cup of hot chocolate at Europe's most westerly chocolate factory.

Salty sea breezes and the aroma of chocolate making...Heavenly!



Durseley Island

Signature Discovery Point: Durseley Island

Take the cable car for 'Europe's last sunset'

A scenic drive along the north edge of the remote Beara Peninsula, with its views north and west across the mussel rafts and seal colonies of Kenmare Bay, takes you to Dursey Sound.

The Skelligs are a ghostly outline far out at sea but nearer to land is Dursey Island, one of over 100 islands off West Cork. A unique way to visit the island is by a 10 minute ride above the waves over this hazardous stretch of water on Ireland's only cable car.

Castle ruins, a lighthouse, signal tower, standing stones and stunning sunsets, known locally as 'Europe's last' lie in wait. But remember local etiquette; residents take priority over visitors in the cable car queue!

Let nature set the pace in timeless West Cork

There's a timeless air to the area around Bantry and Glengarriff, at the base of the Beara Peninsula. Nature sets the pace here and the gentle, relaxing climate seems to have also rubbed off on the wildlife. Waterbuses, taking visitors to the Italianate Gardens on Garinish Island, detour around Seal Island, where seals obligingly sunbathe and laze on the rocks waiting for their photo shoot sessions!



Mizen Bridge

Signature Discovery Point: Mizen Head

Look out to sea for Ireland's last teardrop

When you can go no further to the south and west in Ireland, you've reached the dramatic Mizen Head.

Early 20th century engineering provides a thrilling experience: cross the arched suspension bridge, far above the foaming Atlantic, to reach the rocky crag on the opposite side.

Here stands the Mizen Head Signal Station, which hosts an exhibition about the keepers' lives in the early 20th century. And out on the horizon the imposing Fastnet Lighthouse stands on a rock known as Ireland's teardrop: for millions of emigrants leaving for the New World, this was the last sight of their native land.

See stars sparkle above and below you

Tidal currents rush in from the Atlantic to feed Lough Hyne, a marine lake whose warm salt waters support a rich habitat of plants and creatures. On summer nights, Atlantic Sea Kayaking takes small groups kayaking across the sea lake.

As darkness falls the magic begins. Shining ripples spread out from the paddle blades as microscopic marine life erupts into ghostly phosphorescence, and the surface of the water seems to mirror the starry skies.



Kinsale Harbour

Signature Discovery Point: Old Head of Kinsale

Feel the spirit of Kinsale

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!

Jerome was born and grew up on the Old Head of Kinsale, and worked as a fisherman in these waters for close to 30 years. A trip on his boat 'The Spirit of Kinsale' takes in the harbour, Charles Fort and the Atlantic's edge as he tells you about this Viking trading post, its network of fortified towers and signal stations built to ward off invasion, the 1601 Siege of Kinsale and about the sinking of the trans-Atlantic liner 'Lusitania' off the Old Head in 1915.

Have a whale of a time in Kilbrittain

See one of the world's largest creatures in Kilbrittain, where the dramatic skeleton of an 18m fin whale is found in the local park. The whale was stranded and subsequently died on a nearby beach in 2009, after becoming disoriented by unusually high tides. The locals organised to keep the whale's remains, have them cleaned and then put the skeleton on display.

In addition to the enormous skeleton, the village has picnic tables, making it a great place to stop for a slice of science and a bite to eat!

CORK CITY



Cork City

Ireland's southernmost city, capital of the beautiful south west is high on the Lonely Planet's list of favourite cities in the world.

Steeped in history, Cork City is fast gaining a reputation as one of Europe's hippest cities. Like Venice, the city is built upon water, and the city centre is built on an island in the River Lee, just upstream of Cork Harbour. The two channels of the River Lee which embrace the city centre are spanned by many bridges, and this gives the city a distinctive continental air.

Exploring Cork is an enjoyable multi-day pursuit; you can ring the Shandon Bells in the 300-year-old tower of St. Anne's Church, and marvel at the French Gothic spires of St. Fin Barre's Cathedral. You will discover unique shopping and dining options, including the English Market, with its stalls selling foods from all over the world. Cork also has numerous pedestrian walkways and sidewalks flanked by smart boutiques and major department stores.

At every corner you'll come across another panoramic view, another interesting architectural feature and some of the best art galleries, theatres and museums in Ireland.

Did you know?

- In 2011, HM Queen Elizabeth II visited Cork's English Market on the final day of her Irish visit.
- The Lonely Planet voted Cork one of the world's top 10 cities in 2010.
- In the 18th century, Cork had the largest butter market in the world.
- The Irish or Gaelic name for Cork is 'Corcaigh' meaning 'a marsh'.
- As Cork City had two breweries, traditionally, Murphy's was a Northside drink, while Beamish was a Southside drink.

For more information, call into your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie

Visitor Attractions

1 St. Fin Barre's Cathedral

Bishop Street

Tel: 021 4963387

www.cathedral.cork.anglican.org



St Fin Barre's Cathedral. Daily Services.

A William Burges neo gothic gem. 1200

carvings, Masonic Stained Glass, Gargoyles, Griffins, Arches and Angels.

Guided tours. Gift shop.

Open: Tours; Mon - Sat: 9:30 - 17:30, Sun(Ap - Nov): 13.30 - 17.00.

Morning Prayer: 10:00, Mid day Eucharist, Evening Prayer 17:15.

Admission: Adult: €5, Senior €4, Student: €3, Group discounts available.

★ **Offer:** 10% discount on production of this guide. (One per person).

2 Elizabeth Fort

Barrack Street

Tel: 021 4975947

www.cork.ie



The imposing 17th century Elizabeth

Fort perches on a limestone outcrop

overlooking the city and affords excellent views of the town below. The

walls of the fort are newly opened to the public. Guided tours available.

Open: Tue - Sat 10.00 - 17.00, Sun 12.00 - 17.00

Admission: Free of charge for 2015

3 English Market

Between Grand Parade

and Patrick Street

www.englishmarket.ie



Cork's beloved English Market is a

gourmet hub, selling fresh produce such

as quality meats, fish, spices, fruit, vegetables, baked delicacies, cheeses

and much more.

Open: All year; Mon - Sat; 8.00 - 18.00. Closed Bank Holidays

(Tour groups and operators need to contact Market management in advance.)

4 CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory

Castle Road, Blackrock

Tel: 021 4326120

www.bco.ie



A 16th century Castle filled with interactive space science exhibits and Ireland's only full time planetarium. Fun for kids, families and science enthusiasts!

Open: Mon - Fri 10.00 - 17.00, Sat/Sun/B/Hols 11.00 - 17.00.

Admission: Adult: €6.50, Student / Senior / Child (5 - 14 yrs): €4.50, Family (2 + 2): €18, Group Rate for 10 and more: €5.50p.p.

5 Triskel Christchurch Arts Centre

Tobin Street (off South Main St.)

Tel: 021 4272022

www.triskelartscentre.ie



Combining concerts, visual art, independent cinema, literature, heritage & education at TRISKEL CHRISTCHURCH; contemporary visual art - THE BLACK MARIAH, great food & atmosphere - GULPD café; pioneering theatre - THEATRE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE; and independent record shop PLUGD; - Triskel Arts Centre is THE centre for culture in Cork.

Open: Triskel Christchurch; 10.00 - 16.00, Tue - Sat (Ticketed events most evenings) Gulpd Café; Daily, Plugd Records; 11.00 - 19.00 Tue - Sat.

Admission: Please see web for various tickets prices: approx. €5 - €35

6 Crawford Art Gallery

Emmet Place

Tel: 021 4805042

www.crawfordartgallery.ie



A major public art museum, the Crawford Art Gallery has a permanent collection of over 2000 works. The Gallery also presents a programme of temporary exhibitions; for details please see our website. The Gallery also has a Café that serves breakfast and lunch.

Open: All year, Gallery; 10.00 - 17.00 Mon - Sat. Thu: 10.00 - 20.00. Café; Mon - Fri: 8.30 - 16.00, Sat; 9:00 - 16:00, Thu; 16.30 - 20.00.

Admission: Free of charge.

Visitor Attractions

7 St. Anne's Church & Shandon Bells

Church St., Shandon

Tel: 021 4505906

www.shandonbells.ie



Explore the Shandon Bells Tower, play the bells at Cork's famous landmark and enjoy breath-taking views of Cork City and surrounds. This historic church opened in 1722 and has become a symbol of the city. See website for Bell Tower Access times.

Open: All year (see website or phone for details) Jun – Sep; 10.00 – 17.00

Admission: Adult: €5, Child (5 – 15yrs): €2.50, Student/Senior: €4, Family: €12 (2+4Children under 16), phone for details of group rates.

★ **Offer:** €1 discount mid week on presentation of this guide.

8 Cork Butter Museum

O'Connell Square,
Shandon

Tel: 021 4300600

www.corkbutter.museum



The Butter Museum tells the story of Ireland's butter, the country's signature food. The golden fruit of our green grass, Ireland has been making butter for thousands of years. From 1000 year old bog butter to modern Kerrygold, the Butter Museum engages the visitor with this unique heritage.

Open: Daily; Mar - Oct 31st 10.00 - 17.00, Nov - Feb 11.00 - 15.00 Sat & Sun only. See website for Christmas and New Year arrangements.

Admission: Adult: €4, Student/Senior: €3, Child: €1.50, Child under 12: Free of charge.

★ **Offer:** Two admitted for price of one on presentation of this guide.

9 Cork Vision Centre

North Main Street

Tel: 021 4279925

www.corkvisioncentre.com



Cork Vision Centre @ St. Peter's operating as an exhibition and visitor Centre is located in the heart of Cork's

historic centre, within walking distance of the city's cultural, shopping and tourist attractions. **Open:** All year, Tue - Sat 10.00 - 17.00 (With the exception of installation periods). **Admission:** Free of charge.

10 George Boole Walking Tour

UCC Visitors' Centre
Main Quadrangle, UCC

Tel: 021 4901876
www.ucc.ie



2015 is the bicentenary of George Boole, forefather of the information age and first Professor of Mathematics at UCC. Hear Boole talk about his time here and his impact on not only the university but also on the worldwide scientific community. The tour takes in a Visit to the Aula Maxima, the Ogam Stone Corridor, Honan Chapel and the Crawford Observatory.

Open: Tour; Mon - Fri 15.00, (Bank Holiday Mondays excluded),
Sat 12.00 **Admission:** Adult : €2, Under 18: Free of charge.

11 Lewis Glucksman Gallery

University College Cork,
Western Road

Tel: 021 4901844
www.glucksman.org



The Lewis Glucksman Gallery is a cultural and educational institution that promotes the research, creation and exploration of the visual arts. Set in an award-winning building at UCC, that includes displays, lectures, a riverside restaurant and gallery shop.

Open: Year round, Tue - Sat 10.00 - 17.00, Sun 14.00 - 17.00.

Admission: Free of charge. (Suggested donation of €5).

12 Lifetime Lab @ Old Cork Waterworks

Old Waterworks,
Lee Road

Tel: 021 4941500
www.lifetimelab.ie



Journey through Victorian architecture and explore the age of steam, investigate our interactive exhibits and transform into environmental detectives, unwind in our playground and gardens overlooking the River Lee. Lifetime Lab is suitable for all ages.

Open: Sep - May: Mon - Fri: 9.00 - 17.00 (closed Bank Hols.) Jun - Aug:
Mon - Fri: 9.00 - 17.00, Sat + Sun: 11.00 - 17.00 (Including Bank Hols).

Admission: Adult: €3.50, Child/Senior/Student: €2.50, Family (2a+2c): €10.

Visitor Attractions

13 Cork City Gaol

Convent Avenue,
Sunday's Well

Tel: 021 4305022

www.corkcitygaol.com



Cork's most captivating experience, suitable for all ages & nationalities! Life-size wax figures, furnished cells & sound effects, experience 19th c. life both inside & outside prison walls! (Also original 6CK Radio Studio now restored).

Open: Daily; Mar - Oct 9.30 - 17.00, Nov - Feb 10.00 - 16.00.

Admission: Adult: €8, Student/Senior: €7, Child: €5, Family: €25 (2+4 Children up to age 17).

★ **Offer:** €2 Adults admitted for €12 on presentation of this guide.

14 Cork Public Museum

Fitzgerald's Park,
Mardyke Walk

Tel: 021 4270679

www.corkcity.ie



The Cork Public Museum has fine collections of locally-made silver, glass and needlepoint lace, as well as a comprehensive section on the trades and crafts of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Open: Mon - Fri; 11.00 - 13.00 and 14.15 - 17.00 Sat; 11.00 - 13.00 and 14.15 - 16.00. Sun; (Apr - Sep only) 15.00 - 17.00.

Admission: Free of charge.

15 Fitzgerald's Park

Mardyke Walk

Tel: 021 4924000

www.corkcity.ie



With its ornamental fountain and pavilion from 1902, today the park is home to Cork Museum, playground, purpose built skate park, a variety of sculptures and the Mardyke Gardens which feature the award winning Sky Garden.

Open: Nov - Feb Mon - Fri 8.30 - 17.00; Mar & Oct Mon - Fri 8.30 - 18.00; Apr & Sep Mon - Fri 8.30 - 20.00; May & Aug Mon - Fri 8.30 - 21.00; Jun/Jul Mon - Fri 8.30am - 22.00; Sat/Sun/Bank Hol year round from 10.00.



Triskel Christchurch

Churches and Settlements

Cathedral of St. Mary & St. Anne (F4) Roman Street. Tel: 021 4304325
www.corkcathedral.ie

The Cathedral is known locally as the North Cathedral. The building is a combination of sandstone and limestone dressings, and is of early neo gothic revivalist style.

Red Abbey (F4) Abbey Street. Tel: 021 4255100 (Cork Tourist Information Office).

Cork's oldest surviving structure, the late medieval Red Abbey tower is the sole survivor of an Augustinian friary founded in the 13th century, much of the structure was destroyed in a fire in 1799. The remaining square limestone tower has been restored and is an imposing feature in the area..

St. Finbarr's South Church (F4) Dunbar Street

Tel: 021 4272989 www.corkandross.org

Also known as the 'South Chapel,' St. Finbarr's South built in 1776 is home to the delicate sculpture of the 'Dead Christ' which is the work of Ireland's most distinguished sculptor of the 19th century, John Hogan. The marble for this piece comes from the same Carrara Quarries used by Michelangelo.

City Green Areas & Farm

The city has a number of parks, for details: Visit www.corkcity.ie

Atlantic Pond (F4) at the eastern end of the city near the Marina Walk is home to many types of waterfowl and is also a breeding site for Grey Herons.

Bishop Lucey Park (F4) located on the Grand Parade is in the heart of the city. The entrance arch was originally the entrance to the City Corn Market and just inside it are portions of the city's original 13th-century walls.

Cork Lough (F4) is a natural lake, south west of the city's centre. It is a designated bird sanctuary and a popular local amenity.

Lee Fields (F4) to the west of the city is a popular recreation area on the south side of the River Lee, with a riverside walk and a grassy area.

Rumleys Open Farm (F4) Tel: 021 4885122 www.rumleysfarm.ie Only five minutes from Cork City, Rumleys is a fully working farm with a range of farm and exotic animals, large indoor and outdoor play and picnic areas.



University College Cork

Theatres

Cork Arts Theatre (F4) Carroll's Quay. Tel: 021 4505624

www.corkartstheatre.com

The fondly named '**CAT Club**' is an intimate, purpose-built auditorium with a reputation for staging cutting edge theatre and music.

Cork Opera House (F4) Emmet Place. Tel: 021 4270022 www.corkoperahouse.ie

Cork's municipal theatre is the only purpose-built opera house in Ireland and offers audiences a varied programme of drama, opera, dance, comedy and concerts.

Granary Theatre, (F4) Mardyke. Tel: 021 4904275 www.granary.ie

The Granary is owned by UCC and shows work by artists in theatre, dance, and live art.

Half Moon Theatre (F4) Half Moon Street. Tel: 021 4270022 www.corkoperahouse.ie

The Half Moon fosters a range of projects mixing drama with music and comedy.

The Everyman Theatre (F4) MacCurtain Street. Tel: 021 4501673 www.everymancork.com

Cork's beautiful Victorian theatre hosts a diverse range from drama to comedy and pantomime.

The Firkin Crane (F4) Shandon. Tel: 021 4507487 www.firkincrane.ie

This unique building hosts: dance, theatre, opera, art exhibitions & poetry readings.

Tours

Bus Éireann Day Tours (F4) Tel: 021 4508188 www.buseireann.ie

Bus Éireann offers a selection of tours from Cork, including a tour of Cork City and Blarney in an open-top bus. (Jun - Aug).

City Jogging Irish Tours.com (F4) 087 2656273 www.cityjoggingirishstours.com

Guided fun jogging or walking Cork City Highlights Tour.

Cork City Kayaking Tours (F4) Tel: 028 21058 www.atlanticseakayaking.com

Kayaking in Cork City and Harbour, including the famous stop over of the Titanic. Half day, full day and evening trips are available.

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



National Mounment, Grand Parade

Cork City Tour Bus (F4) Tel: 021 4309090 www.corkcitytour.com

Take an open-top bus tour of Cork on the hop-on hop-off service. Tickets are valid for two consecutive days. (Mar - Nov).

Cork City Walks (F4) Tel: 087 7004981 www.corkcitywalktours.com

Experience Cork, take a leisurely stroll around Cork City with local guides.

Cork Sea Safari Harbour Tours (F4) Tel: 086 8208565 www.safari.ie

Group bookings taken for an unforgettable experience in Cork Harbour.

Cork Walks (F4) www.corkcity.ie

Cork Walks are free self guided walks consisting of interpretive panels with local historic information and colour coded finger posts for guidance. Pick up brochure from the Cork Tourist Office on the Grand Parade. See www.discoverireland.ie/cork to download two Cork iWalks.

Franciscan Well Brewery (F4) North Mall. Tel: 021 4393434

www.franciscanwellbrewery.com

Franciscan Well is one of Ireland's best respected breweries. See website for details of Brewery Tours including tasting.

OLGA (F4) Rigsdale, Ballinhassig. Tel: 087 2944637 Email: olgacork@gmail.com

OLGA provides experienced and specialised Tour Guides.

O' Brien Coach Tours (F4) Tel: 021 4545903 www.obriencoachtours.com

Day Tours: Highlights of West Cork & Mizen Peninsula; Highlights of the Ring of Kerry.

Paddywagon Tours (F4) Tel: 021 4508380 www.paddywagontours.com

Day Tours: Ring of Kerry; Cliffs of Moher; Blarney, Cobh; Dingle; Kilkenny, Cashel; Kinsale & West Cork.

The Jameson Experience Tour (F4) Tel: 021 4613594

www.jamesonwhiskey.com

Premium shuttle bus service from Cork City to The Jameson Experience, Midleton.

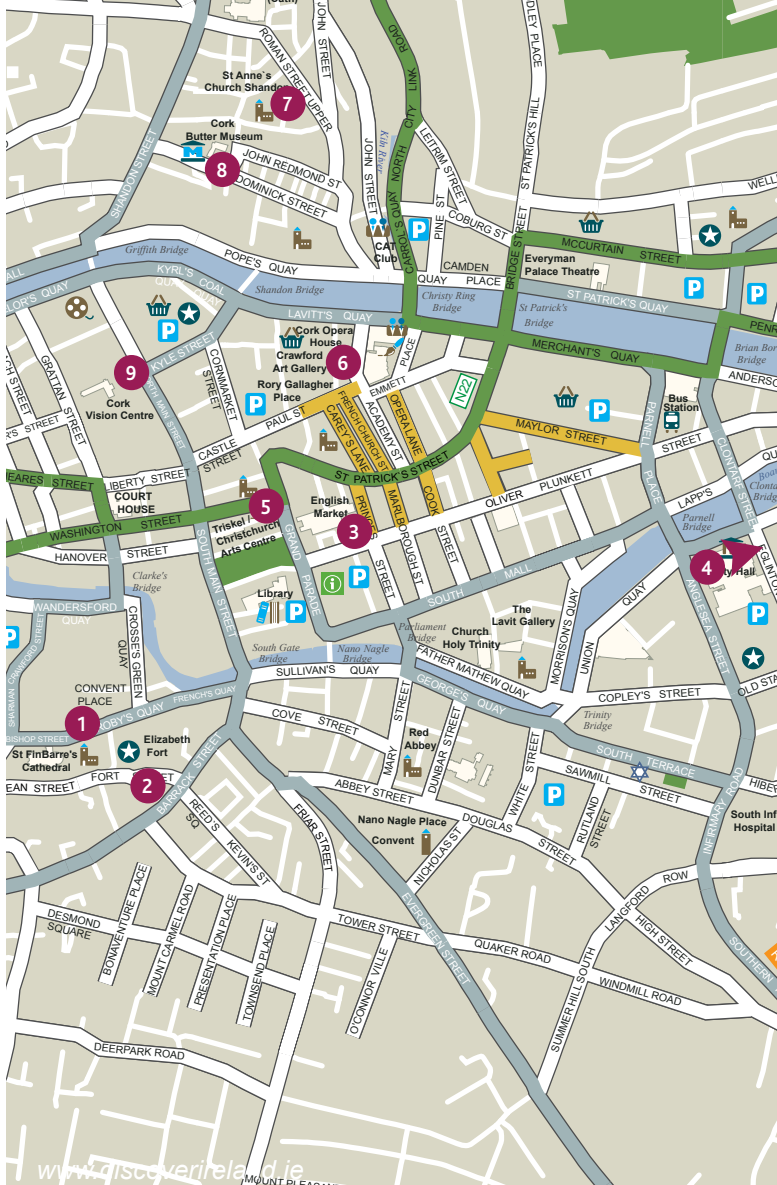
For info on galleries, cinemas, sporting venues and more, visit your local Tourist Office.



Ireland www.osi.ie

Map No.	Attraction
1	St. Fin Barre's Cathedral
2	Elizabeth Fort
3	English Market
4	CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory

Map No.	Attraction
5	Triskel Christchurch Arts Centre
6	Crawford Art Gallery
7	St. Anne's Church & Shandon Bells
8	Cork Butter Museum

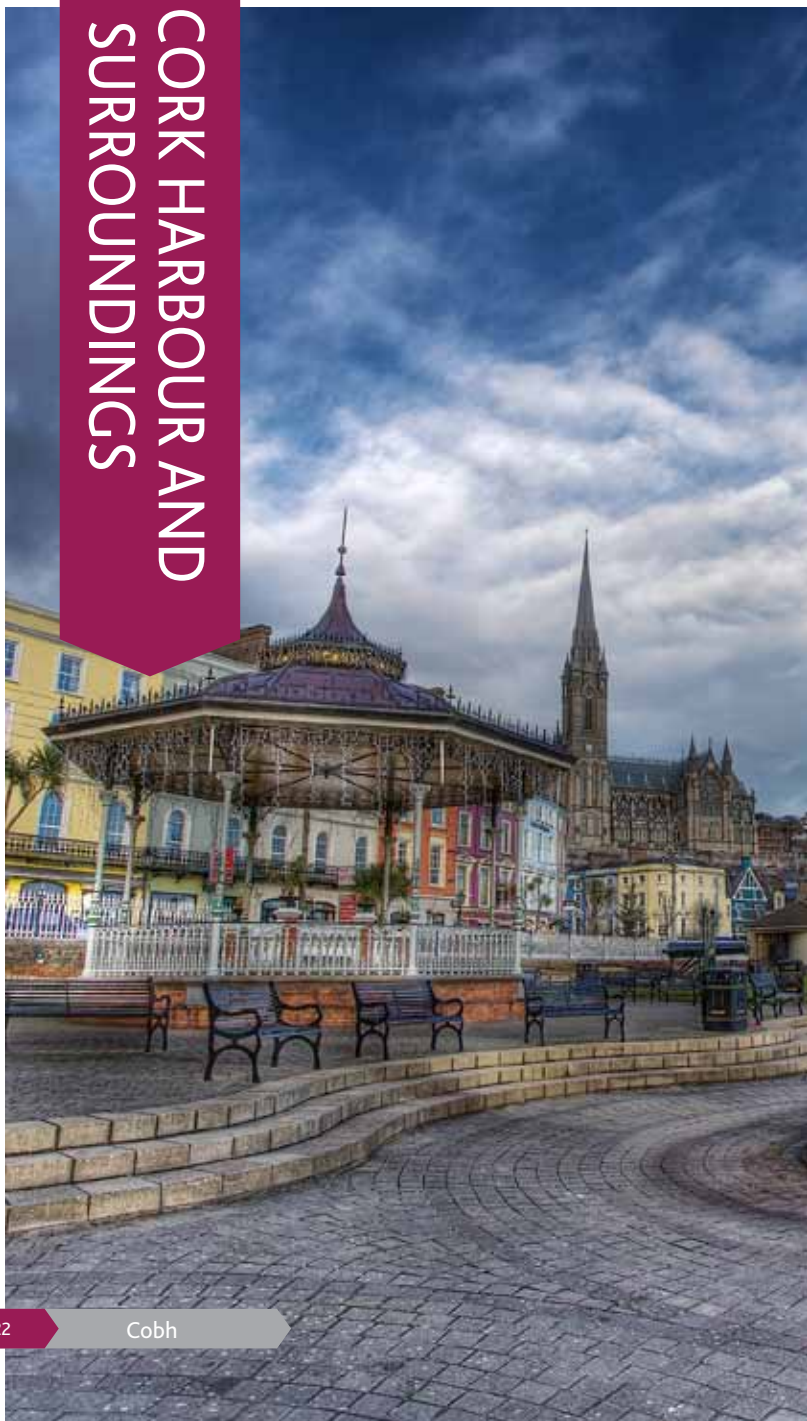


www.discoverireland.ie

Map No.	Attraction
9	Cork Vision Centre @ St. Peters
10	UCC Visitors' Centre
11	Lewis Glucksman Gallery
12	Lifetime Lab @ Old Cork Waterworks

Map No.	Attraction
13	Cork City Gaol
14	Cork Public Museum
15	Fitzgerald's Park

CORK HARBOUR AND SURROUNDINGS



Cork Harbour and Surroundings

To the south of Cork City, the deep bowl of Cork Harbour, with its sailing races and regattas, is circled by some of Ireland's most iconic places. At the harbour's edge, Cork's port of Cobh, departure point for millions of emigrants and the last calling point of the Titanic, is a place with a poignant history beneath its cheerful seaside feel.

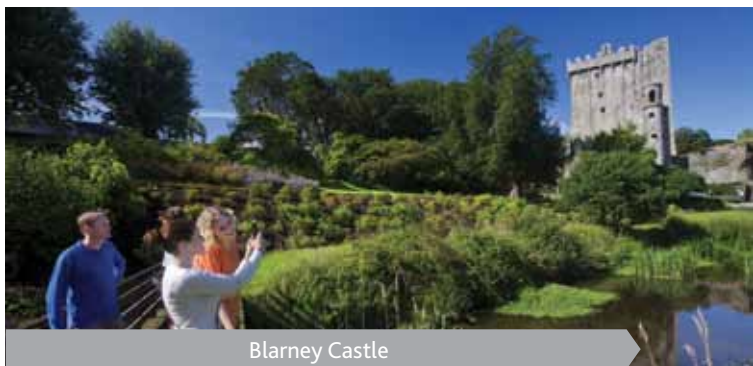
East of the harbour with its rich historical and maritime legacy, there is a truly unique variety of attractions to offer the visitor. From the 13th c Barryscourt Castle, The Jameson Experience where Jameson whiskey is distilled in Midleton, Youghal, one of the last walled towns of Ireland, Ballymaloe with its renowned cookery school and Ballycotton, one of the most picturesque fishing ports in the area to its many blue flag beaches.

West of the Harbour lies the picturesque Owenabue Valley called after the Owenabue River which gently flows from its western source near Ballinhassig and into Cork Harbour at Crosshaven. To the North West lie Blarney and its castle, legendary home of Irish eloquence ... Just south again, along the Wild Atlantic Way, is picture - perfect, smart Kinsale with its yachts, pretty quayside, narrow 18th century streets, festivals and gourmet cuisine.

Did you know?

- Cork Harbour is the second largest harbour in the world, after Sydney Harbour in Australia.
- Kissing the Blarney Stone is said to bestow great eloquence or the 'Gift of the Gab'.
- The Jameson Distillery in Midleton has the biggest Pot Still in the World.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie



Blarney Castle

Towns and Villages

Ballincollig (F4) is a vibrant and rapidly growing satellite town of Cork City. It has numerous heritage sites including the Ballincollig Royal Gunpowder Mills, now an impressive Regional Park. West lies Macroom (E4) in the beautiful Lee Valley, the surrounding Muskerry Gaeltacht is steeped in Irish language and tradition with places such as Ballygeary, Ballyvourney, Ballymakeera, Kilnamartyra, Coolea, Inchigeela and Gougane Barra.

Ballycotton (G4) is a picturesque angling village surrounded by scenic cliff walks and fabulous beaches. As well as being a lifeboat centre, it is also a superb location for deep sea angling. Just off the coast, Ballycotton Island has a 19th century lighthouse.

Blarney (F3) known as 'the biggest little village in Ireland', is a picturesque village with a host of wonderful things to do and places to discover. Many visitors kiss the Blarney Stone at Blarney Castle in order to receive the gift of 'the Blarney' known as the 'gift of the gab.'

Carrigaline (F4) at the head of the Owenboy River is a busy town, and the nearest centre to the Ringaskiddy Car Ferry Terminal, which links Cork with Roscove.

Cloyne (G4) is an ancient cathedral town, Bishop Berkeley the famous 18th century philosopher was Bishop of Cloyne from 1734 to 1753. Cloyne Round Tower is one of the few surviving in Ireland. Christy Ring, the famous Cork hurler, is commemorated by a sculpture in the town.


Cobh (G4) pronounced Cove is easily accessible by a regular train service from Cork City. St. Colman's Cathedral overlooks the brightly coloured town and inner islands of the harbour. Cobh was the last port of call of the ill fated Titanic in 1912. The new memorial garden features a glass wall with the names of the passengers that boarded Titanic in Cobh. Cobh now has many visiting cruise liners, that berth in the centre of the town.

Crosshaven (G4) lies east of Carrigaline, home to the Royal Cork Yacht Club with its charter of the oldest Yacht Club in the world. Cork Week is an international biannual sailing regatta where hundreds of boats descend on the town. There are beaches, secluded coves and cliff walks in the Crosshaven area. Church Bay, Myrtleville and Weaver's Point are popular bathing places.



Kinsale Street

Garryvoe (G4) is a popular beach holiday destination for families.

 **Kinsale** (F4) is known as the 'Gourmet Capital' of Ireland and has been designated an Irish Heritage Town. Attractions include heritage, gourmet restaurants, sailing, deep-sea angling and golf. Visitors are captivated by the town's beautiful setting, with the long waterfront and narrow winding streets. The old fortifications of Charles Fort and James Fort guard the narrow entrance to Kinsale from the sea. The nearby 'Blue Flag' beach of Garrylucas, adds to the attraction of Kinsale.

Midleton (G4) is a vibrant town, easily accessible by a regular train service from Cork City. Legend has it that it was here in Ireland that whiskey was invented! Today it is home to the largest pot still in the world. The very popular Saturday Farmers' Market enhances the town's fine food culture.

Owenabue Valley (G4) is a very picturesque rural area comprising of Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Carrigaline, Crosshaven, Monkstown, Passage West and Ringaskiddy.

Shanagarry (G4) near the pretty village of Ballycotton is home to the internationally famous Ballymaloe House, Gardens and Cookery School. Ardnahinch Beach also known as Shanagarry Beach has received the National Green Coast Award for both 2013 and 2014.

Whitegate (G4) is a small attractive village with a great children's playground. Activities include fishing, water sports, bird watching and walking. There are panoramic views of Cork Harbour from Fort Carlisle, nearby is the Holiday Village of Trabolgan with its sub-tropical swimming paradise. It is a pleasant drive from here to Roche's Point at the mouth of the Harbour.

Youghal (H3) (pronounced Yawl) with its mediaeval town walls is a designated Irish Heritage Town. With miles of beaches, Youghal is a focal point for water sport enthusiasts with activities such as whale watching and wreck-diving. The famous movie 'Moby Dick' was filmed here in 1954.

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

 Indicates the town or village is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Visitor Attractions

1 Blarney Castle and Gardens

Blarney Castle Estate,
Blarney

Tel: 021 4385252

www.blarneycastle.ie



Situated 8km from Cork City, this historic castle is most famous for its stone, which has the traditional power of conferring eloquences on all who kiss it.

Open: Mon - Sat; May 9.00 - 18.30; Jun, Jul, Aug 9.00 - 19.00, Sep 9.00 - 18.30, Oct - Apr 9.00 - 17.30. Sunday: Summer 9.00 - 17.30, Winter 9.00 - Sundown.

Admission: Adult: €13, Child: €5, Student/Senior: €11, Family (2+2): €32.

2 Charles Fort

Summer Cove, Kinsale

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: Mid Mar - Oct 10.00 - 18.00, Nov to Mid Mar 10.00 - 17.00 (Closed on Monday). Please check our website for updates.

Admission: Adult; €4, Group/Senior: €3, Child/Student: €2, Family: €10.

3 Desmond Castle

Cork Street, Kinsale

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: 2nd Apr – 23rd Sep; Daily 10.00 - 18.00. Please check our website for updates.

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

4 Fota Wildlife Park

Carrigtwohill

Tel: 021 4812678

www.fotawildlife.ie

Fota Wildlife Park is where you can come face to face with free roaming animals & birds from all parts of the world. Leap over to the new Tropical House & Conservation Centre or visit the Asian Sanctuary.

Open: Mid Mar - Oct: Mon - Sat 10.00 - 18.00, Sun 10.30 - 18.00 (last admission to the park at 17.00) Nov - Mid March: Mon - Sat 10.00 - 16.30, Sun 10.30 - 16.30 (last admission to the park at 15.30)

Admission: Adult: €15, Child: €9.50, Child under 3: Free of Charge, Student/Senior: €10; Family: €45.50(2+2), €52(2+3), €58(2+4)

★ **Offer:** €5 off 2 adult's price or family ticket on presentation of this guide

5 Fota House, Arboretum & Gardens

Fota Island, Carrigtwohill

Tel: 021 4815543

www.fotahouse.com

Visit Fota House and see what life was like for those who lived and worked in the 'big house'. The charming café, stunning gardens and arboretum make a visit to Fota a great day out.

Open: House Open, Daily: Apr - Sep, Mon - Sat 10.00 - 17.00 Sun 11.00 - 16.00. Gardens open all year.

Admission: House Tour; Adult: €8, Child: €3, Concession: €6, Family: €19. Frameyard Tour; Adult: €5, Child: €2, Concession: €4, Family: €14

★ **Offer:** Combo Tour (House & Victorian Frameyard) Adult: €11, Child: €4, Family: €29, Concession: €8.

6 Barryscourt Castle

Carrigtwohill

Tel: 021 4882218

www.heritageireland.ie

Barryscourt castle is the 16th century seat of the Barry family. The present castle is a fine example of an Irish Tower house and adjacent to the castle is a beautifully restored Orchard and Herb garden.

Open: Castle is closed for 2015 season due to renovations. Tours of the castle grounds will remain in place during May - September 2015. Please check our website for updates.

Admission: Free of charge.

Visitor Attractions

7 Cobh Heritage Centre

Deepwater Quay, Cobh

Tel: 021 4813591

www.cobhheritage.com



A dramatic exhibition of the origins, history and legacy of Cobh, a unique Irish port town. Learn about those Irish people, who emigrated from Cobh on coffin ships, learn about the convict ships. Discover the links between the Titanic and the Lusitania with Cobh. 2015 is the centenary year of the Lusitania disaster, see our upgraded exhibition.

Open: Daily; Mar - Oct; 9.30 - 18.00, Nov - Mar; 9.30 - 17.00
(last admission 1hr before closing)

Admission: Adult: €9.50, Concession: €7.50, Family: €25

★ **Offer:** 10% discount on presentation of Pocket Guide.

8 St. Colman's Cathedral

5 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh

Tel: 021 4813222

www.cobhcathedralparish.ie



St. Colman's Cathedral is an exquisite gem of neo-Gothic architecture by the architects Pugin and Ashlin. The Cobh Carillon now boasts 49 bells, including the heaviest bell in Ireland at 3.6 tons.

Open: 8.30 - 18.00 daily. **Admission:** Free of Charge.

9 Titanic Experience Cobh

White Star Line Building,
20 Casement Square, Cobh

Tel: 021 4814412

www.titanicexperiencecobh.ie



Take a step back in time as we invite you to visit us at the original White Star Line Ticket Office in Cobh (formerly known as Queenstown) and retrace the footsteps of the final 123 passengers who boarded Titanic here on April 11th 1912. Experience what life would have been like on board for these passengers and discover the facts surrounding the tragic sinking of Titanic.

Open: Jan - Apr & Oct - Dec; 10.00 - 17.30. Last Tour 16.45. May - Sep
9.00 - 18.00. Last Tour 17.15.

Admission: Adult: €9.50, Child: €5.50, Student/Senior: €7.50, Family: €24.00

★ **Offer:** 20% off Adult Ticket & 10% off other Tickets on presentation of this guide.

10 The Jameson Experience, Midleton

Distillery Walk,
Midleton

Tel: 021 4613594

www.jamesonwhiskey.com



Take a journey through history and see the old kilns, mills and malting, water wheel and old warehouses. The Jameson Experience in Midleton is one of the top attractions in Cork, as rated by Tripadvisor.

Tour Times: Apr - Oct; 10.00 - 18.00 last tour 16.30. Nov - Mar; 11.30, 13.15, 14.30, 16.00

Admission: Adult: €15, Child: €8, Student / Senior / Group + 15: €12
Child under 6yrs: Free of charge.

★ **Offer:** Cork Whiskey Way visitors receive a complimentary adult tour as reward for completing the Whiskey Way App Trail.

11 St. Mary's Collegiate Church

Emmet Place, Youghal

Tel: 024 20170

www.youghal.ie



St. Marys Collegiate Church is protected as a national monument. The extensive graveyard is surrounded by the original medieval town walls, complete with walkways, canons and viewing points.

Open: Mon - Sat; 10.30 - 16.00 (10.00 - 16.30 in the summer) Sunday 12.30 - 16.00.

Admission: Free of charge.

12 Leahy's Open Farm

Dungourney, Midleton

Tel: 021 4668461

www.leahysopenfarm.ie



Have a fun, exciting and adventurous family day out. Hold a snake, collect the eggs, ride the real JCB mini diggers, Quad and barrel train rides. Maze, crazy golf, loads of animals, museums & coffee shop.

Open: Apr - Sep Mon - Sat 11.00 - 18.00, Sun 11.00 - 18.00. Check website for weekend opening times Oct - Apr.

Admission: €9 per person, child under 2 free.



Titanic Experience, Cobh

More to Experience

Churches and Settlements

Clock Gate Tower (H3) Youghal Tel: 024 20170

The Clock Gate straddles Youghal's main street. Built in 1777 on the site of Trinity Castle, part of the town's fortifications. A conservation plan is currently underway to re-open the Clock Gate to the public.

Cloyne Round Tower (G4) Cloyne www.discoverireland.ie

The tower is one of the few surviving aspects of the old monastic foundation at Cloyne. It was struck by lightning in 1748 - 1749 and the original conical roof was destroyed. The tower was subjected to some alterations after this.

Saint Multose Church (F4) Kinsale Tel. 021 4772220

Saint Multose Church, an important medieval building, was built in 1190.

Museums

Cobh Museum (G4) Old Scots Church, High Road, Cobh Tel: 021 4814240.
www.cobhmuseum.com

Housed in a former Presbyterian church in which the main interior features have survived, the exhibition reflects the maritime and cultural history of the town.

Kinsale Regional Museum (F4) Kinsale. Tel: 021 4772154/021 4777930.
www.kinsale.ie

It was in this building that the inquest to the sinking of the Lusitania (1915) was held, the German Kaiser was accused of 'wilful murder'.

Youghal Heritage Centre, (H3) Market Square, Youghal www.youghal.ie
Tel: 024 92447

Youghal Heritage Centre and Tourist Office is located on the quayside, close to the Clock Gate. The very informative Heritage Centre has free admission and displays of artefacts, images and models illustrate the history of Youghal.



Ballycotton Lighthouse

Tours

Ballycotton Island Lighthouse Tours (H4) Ballycotton Tel: 021 4646875
www.ballycottonislandtours.com

Enjoy a short boat trip, then walk to the island summit and into the lighthouse where you can delight in the incredible views from the balcony that previously only lighthouse keepers have admired.

Blackwater Cruises (H3) Youghal. Tel: 087 9889076. www.blackwatercruises.com
 Cruise departs daily (April - Nov) from Youghal jetty and travels North up the River Blackwater.

Camden Fort Meagher (G4) Crosshaven www.camdenfortmeagher.ie
 This is one of the finest examples of a classical coastal Artillery Fort in the world. Visit website for opening times.

Cobh Road Train (G4) Tel: 085 1363393 www.cobhroadtrain.com
 The Cobh Road Train provides a fun and informative trip around the historic town of Cobh.

Cobh Water Bus (G4) Kennedy Pier, Cobh. Tel: 086 4169662
www.corkwaterbus.com
 Enjoy one of our informative and entertaining daily guided tours of Cork Harbour including Cobh, Fort Camden, Spike Island, The Titanic Trail and much more.

Kinsale Harbour Cruises (F4) Tel: 086 2505456
www.kinsaleharbourcruises.com
 Come on board the 'Spirit of Kinsale' for a spectacular tour of Kinsale harbour.

Cork Harbour Boat Hire (G4) The Quays Bar & Restaurant Pontoon, Cobh.
 Tel: 086 0747926 www.corkharbourboathire.com
 Hire a self drive boat in the safety of Cork Harbour; all tours are led by a qualified safety boat guide.

Whale of a Time (G4) Ballydavid, Cloyne. Tel: 086 3283250. www.whaleofatime.ie
 Whale & Dolphin Watching trips, operating out of Cork Harbour, Kinsale and Youghal.

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The Jameson Experience

Walking Tours

Cobh Town Tours (G4) Tel: 085 7321937 www.cobhtowntours.com

Tour of Cobh Cathedral, the Crypt, 49 Bells and the Bible Gardens.

Dermot Ryan's Heritage Town Walks (F4) Tel: 021 4772729 / 086 8267626
www.kinsaleheritage.com

Kinsale Heritage Town Walks will help you enjoy the Real Kinsale.

Don & Barry's Historic Stroll (F4) in old Kinsale. Tel: 021 4772873 / 087 2500731
www.historicstrollkinsale.com

'The original daily historical walking tour of Kinsale - Now celebrating 23 years!'

Kinsale Ghost Tours (F4) Tel: 087 9480910/021 4772240.

The Kinsale Ghost Tour leaves from The Tap Tavern 6 nights a week (Sun to Fri during high season).

Olde Youghal Walking Tour (F4) Tel: 024 20170.

Take a step back in time and experience olde Youghal on this walking tour, which last 90 minutes. Tours commence from outside the tourist office.

Titanic Trail (G4) Cobh. Tel: 021 4815211/087 2767218. www.titanic.ie

This fascinating year round guided walking tour explores the town of Cobh and recounts many interesting facts about the Titanic's history and its association with Cobh. (Also operating Ghost Walk Tours & Guided Tours of Spike Island.)

Other Local Experiences!

East Cork Bird Trail (G4) www.birdwatchcork.com

The East Cork Bird Trail will guide you through what is undoubtedly one of the finest areas in Ireland for birdwatching.

Kinsale Pottery & Arts Centre (F4) Kinsale www.kinsaleceramics.com

Kinsale Pottery and Arts Centre provides arts and crafts, drama and more.

The Old Head Signal Tower (F5) Old Head of Kinsale www.kinsale.ie

The Old Head Signal Tower is just over 200 years old. The restored tower is due to open to the public from May 2015 - see website for updates.



Youghal Lighthouse

Movie Junction (G4) Fota Retail Park Tel: 089 4461464 www.moviejunction.ie

This Drive In, is cinema your way. You're watching it in your own car, listening to it on your own stereo, so you can talk, answer your mobile or enjoy complete silence.

Perks Family Entertainment (H3) Youghal Tel: 024 92438

www.perksfunfair.com

Perks is a superb family visitor attraction including a state of the art casino, 10 pin bowling, video & games arcade, lasar, kiddies rides and adventure play areas.

Shanagarry Design Centre (G4) Shanagarry Tel: 021 4645838

www.kilkennyshop.com

The Centre boasts a large Kilkenny shop, an Artisan Café and downstairs customers can experience first hand how local crafts are made.

Sirius Arts Centre (G4) Cobh Tel: 021 4813790. www.siriusartscentre.ie

Sirius Arts Centre is open all year round and is a local focus for arts and cultural programming. It is located in the historic and restored Old Yacht Club Building.

Stephen Pearce Pottery, Gallery & Café (G4) Old Pottery, Shanagarry

Tel: 021 4646807 www.stephenpearce.com

The world famous Stephen Pearce Pottery is all hand made and hand decorated following a 250 year old tradition of handcrafted pottery in East Cork.

Tír na Sí (G3) Condonstown, Watergrasshill Tel: 021 4889431 www.tirnasi.com

Tír na Sí open farm is a traditional farmstead, where you can meet a wide range of farm animals, take a pony and trap ride..

Trabolgan Holiday Village (G4) Whitegate Tel: 021 4661551 www.trabolgan.com

Trabolgan is a great place for the perfect family day out, with an exciting range of activities for young and old with both indoor and outdoor play areas.

Ferries

Cross River Ferries (G4) Cobh Tel: 021 4811485; 021 4811549 www.scottcobh.ie

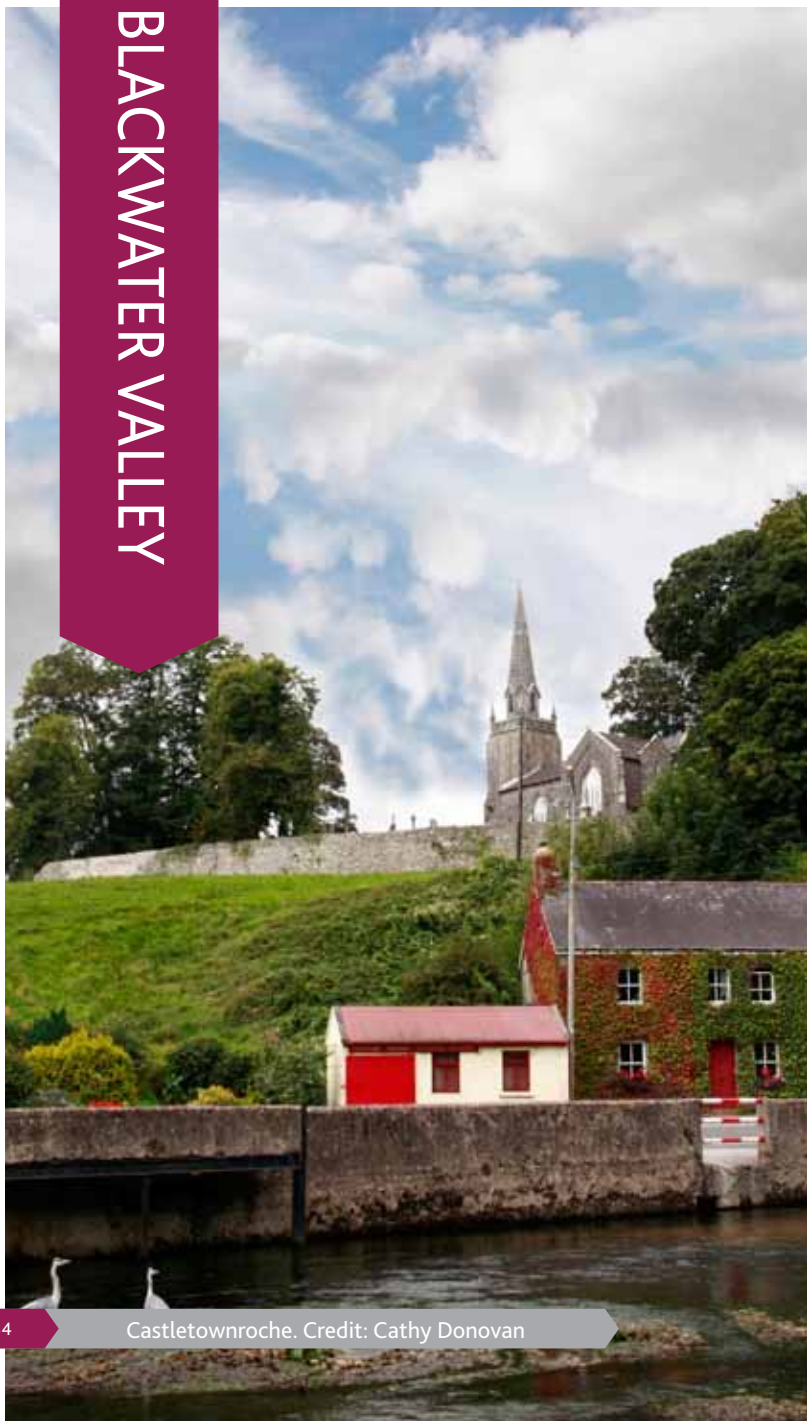
Operate a ferry service between Carrigaloe and Glenbrook, the average crossing time is 5 minutes.

Spike Island Ferry (G4) Kennedy Pier, Cobh Tel: 021 4811485.

www.spikeislandcork.ie

Take the ferry to Spike Island with free entry into the fort, (Guided tours can be pre booked by phoning 021 4815211)

BLACKWATER VALLEY



Blackwater Valley

The tranquil setting of the beautiful, unspoilt Blackwater Valley is the perfect place for some down time! Enjoy the picturesque scenery as you marvel at gorgeous houses, castles, parks and gardens along the Valley. Mallow Castle, Millstreet Country Park, and Doneraile Wildlife Park to mention just a few!

Adrenaline junkies can experience all the thrills of the hills mountain biking on the Ballyhouras, Ireland's very first dedicated mountain biking centre, or book in for action packed activities at Ballyhass Lakes including kayaking, rock climbing and archery.

For history buffs the 3,500 year old megalithic tomb at Labbacallee, is an absolute must see! If you'd prefer a spot of fishing the River Blackwater, Funcheon, Awbeg or Ballyhass Lakes will catch the fancy of even the most ardent angler! The Blackwater Valley has a wide array of walkways to choose from including the famous Blackwater Way.

What ever takes your fancy, be it a round of golf, the fun of the track at Cork Racecourse, or just a good pub music session complete with easy conversation, you will experience it all along the Blackwater Valley!

Did you know?

- Edmund Spencer made Doneraile Famous in his poem the Faerie Queene.
- Elizabeth St. Leger from Doneraile was the first female ever to be initiated as a Freemason, after she had inadvertently witnessed the secret ceremonial carried on in the Lodge.
- The World's first Steeplechase took place in North Cork between the two steeples of Doneraile & Buttevant in 1752.



Fermoy. Credit: Cathy Donovan

Blackwater Valley Towns & Villages

Banteer (E3) this small village is located just south of the River Blackwater. There is a railway station here on the railway line from Mallow to Killarney. The Glen Theatre provides excellent entertainment.

Buttevant (F2) like many other areas in the Blackwater Valley, Buttevant is mentioned by Edmund Spenser in his writings. The first ever steeplechase took place here in the year 1752, from the Steeple of Buttevant Protestant Church to that of Doneraile, 7km away. Cahirmee Horse Fair has been a lively annual event every summer for centuries, and it is claimed that Napoleon's horse, Marengo, was bought at this fair from a Kerryman named O'Connor!

Castlelyons (G3) this small village in the Blackwater Valley is one of historic importance, with interesting religious and secular ruins, such as Castlelyons Dominican Friary.

Castletownroche (F2) lies midway between Mallow & Fermoy, the town features ancient ruins of the Bridgetown Abbey, a 13th century Augustinian foundation. Castletownroche is also home to an old mill, with the song 'The Old Rustic Bridge' taking its origins from it.

Conna (G3) is a short distance from the boundary with counties Waterford and Cork is located on the river Bride, a tributary of the Blackwater River. Excellent fishing is available in this area.

Doneraile (F2) once formed part of the poet Edmund Spenser's great estate, until his son sold it to the St. Leger family in 1627. From 1895 to 1913, Canon Sheehan, the author, was Parish Priest of Doneraile, and he wrote many books here which have as their subject Irish rural life. Doneraile is also home to Doneraile Wildlife Park.

Fermoy (G3) is a magnificent market town straddling the Blackwater River, albeit unevenly 'All to one side like the town of Fermoy' is an old saying. It is particularly the haunt of salmon, trout and coarse anglers. Many archaeological remains from the Bronze Age or Iron Age in the area indicate the long history and importance of the town.



White Deer at Mallow Castle Credit: Ignatius O'Shea

Glanworth (G2) lies on the banks of the river Funshion north-west of Fermoy. The very old and narrow 12 arch stone bridge is a notable feature. This bridge was built around the year 1600, probably the oldest in the country.

Kanturk (E2) is an attractive town, built where the rivers Allow and Dalua meet, before joining the River Blackwater. The interesting bridge in the town dates from 1760. The town celebrates its focus through the tranquil town park running alongside the River with Kanturk Castle a short distance from the town centre.

Killavullen (F3) Ballymacmoy House, the home of the Hennessy Brandy family is located on the cliff, high above the River Blackwater. Edmund Burke (1729 -1797) received some of his early education here.

Kilworth (G2) is an attractive small village just off the main road from Fermoy to Mitchelstown. To the north east rise the Kilworth mountains, and there is some good walking east of the village..

Liscarroll (E2) this was a very early Anglo-Norman settlement, and the ruins of Liscarroll Castle dating from approximately 1280 survives. Nearby there is a Donkey Sanctuary which can be visited.

Mallow (F3) known as the 'Crossroads of Munster' is the largest town along the Blackwater Valley. Traditionally an agricultural market town, during the 18th and 19th centuries Mallow was renowned as a spa town. Mallow is a significant coarse and game angling centre, and is home to Cork Racecourse.

Millstreet (E3) nestles at the foot of the Claragh Mountains and is practically surrounded on all sides by hills and mountains. It is the location of the renowned Green Glens Equestrian Centre, and another major attraction is the Millstreet Country Park.

Newmarket (E2) is a market town north-west of Kanturk set in the area known as Duhallow. John Philpot Curran the famous orator and politician was born here in 1750. He was father of Sarah Curran the fiancée of Robert Emmet, and she is buried in the local graveyard..

For more information on Blackwater Valley's towns and villages, visit our website www.discoverireland.ie/blackwatervalley

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

Visitor Attractions

13 Millstreet Country Park

Millstreet

Tel: 029 70810

www.millstreetcountrypark.com



This 500 acre park has three zones – Leisure, Active & Wilderness. Nature's goodness from our Venison farm, tunnel and gardens along with scenic views, historical sites, walks and cycling trail. There really is something for everyone!

Open: Mid Mar - Oct; Wed – Sun 11.00 - 19.00.

Admission: Adult: €10, Student / Senior: €8, Child under 16: Free of charge, Adult season ticket: €20

14 The Donkey Sanctuary

Liscarroll

Tel: 022 48398

www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie



The donkey sanctuary has taken in over 2,850 donkeys, many of which were abandoned. Visitors may see the donkeys out in the fields, or drop into the Visitors' Information Centre where you can purchase donkey-related gifts.

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.

15 Mallow Castle

Bridewell Lane, Mallow

Tel: 022 42222

www.mallow.ie



The 'Old' Mallow Castle is a three storey rectangular stronghouse with wings projecting from the middle of the northern and southern walls. In the grounds are a herd of white fallow deer which are from the lineage of white deer given as a gift to Elizabeth Norreys by her God-mother Queen Elizabeth 1.

Open: Daily, all year.

Admission: Free of charge.

16 Doneraile Wildlife Park

Doneraile

Tel: 087 2515965

www.heritageireland.ie

An outstanding example of an 18th century landscaped park covering 166 hectares. Several restored water features and a number of deer herds can be viewed along the many pathways within the Park.

Open: All year; Summer: Mon - Fri, 8.00 - 20.00, Sat, Sun & B/H, 9.00 - 20.00. Winter: Mon - Fri, 8.00 - 17.00, Sat, Sun & B/H, 9.00 - 17.00. Please check our website for updates.

Admission: Free of charge.

17 Bridgetown Augustinian Priory

Castletownroche

www.discoverireland.ie

Alexander Fitz Hugh Roche established the settlement and organized its buildings in a traditional quadrangle. Visitors can explore the remains of a 13th century Augustinian priory, including cloister, kitchen, refectory, chapter house and church. In recent years, the site has undergone extensive restoration efforts.

Open: Daily, all year.

Admission: Free of charge.

18 Labbacallee Wedge Tomb

Glanworth

www.discoverireland.ie

Labbacallee wedge tomb is the biggest of all the Irish wedge tombs. Known as the Hag's Bed, the tomb is associated with the Celtic Hag Goddess 'Caillech Bhéara'. It stands in a wedge shaped stone cairn and is bounded by massive standing stones. Situated: About 2 kilometres SE of Glanworth, on the R512.

Open: Daily, all year.

Admission: Free of charge.



Conna Castle. Credit: Cathy Donovan

More to Experience

Churches and Settlements

Ballybeg Augustinian Priory (F2) Buttevant. www.discoverireland.ie

Very little remains today of the Priory, constructed in 1229 and patronised by the de Barry family. The dove cot is particularly impressive and is regarded as the best preserved of its kind in Ireland.

Buttevant Franciscan Friary (F2) Buttevant. www.discoverireland.ie

Buttevant Franciscan Friary was founded for the Franciscans by David Oge Barry in 1251 and was dedicated to St. Thomas a Becket.

Castlelyons Dominican Friary (G3) Castlelyons. www.discoverireland.ie

Castlelyons Dominican Friary was founded in 1307 by John de Barry for the Carmelite Friars. The present ruins probably date from the 15th century.

Castles & Historic Sites

Conna Castle (G3) Conna. www.discoverireland.ie

Conna Castle is very dramatically situated on a rock overlooking the River Bride. The tower was built around 1500 by one of the earls of Desmond.

Drishane Castle (E3) Millstreet. www.millstreet.ie

Drishane Castle is an imposing rectangular five-story tower house, which is open to the public during summer months. Highlights include a lovely spiral stairway, good slit windows, and an attached 16th century round tower. Walk to the top of the tower for wonderful views of mountains and lakes all the way to Killarney.

Dromaneen Castle (F3) Mallow. www.discoverireland.ie

This fortified house and castle, finely situated overlooking the River Blackwater, was erected by the O'Callaghans around 1600.

Glanworth Castle and Dominican Friary (G2) Glanworth.

www.discoverireland.ie

This impressive 13th century castle overlooks the River Funsheon, which is crossed by a graceful, narrow bridge of the 18th century. Close by is the long, hall like church of a Dominican priory founded in 1475.



Raft Building at Ballyhass Lakes

Island Megalithic Tomb (F3) Burnfort www.ancientireland.org

This ancient wedge-tomb is situated close to Burnfort, which is about 8km south of Mallow on the N20. It is believed that this monument is about 4,000 years old.

Kanturk Castle (E2) Kanturk. www.discoverireland.ie

The Castle was built for MacDonogh MacCarthy, Lord of Duhallow. The Castle was probably started at the end of the sixteenth century.

Liscarroll Castle (E2) Liscarroll. www.discoverireland.ie

Liscarroll Castle was built in the 13th century by the De Barrys, possibly by David Og de Barry. The Castle is a large square in shape with rounded turrets at each corner.

Museums & Tours

Mallow Self-guided Walking Town Trail (F3) Tel: 022 42222

Maps for this trail are available at Mallow Tourist Office.

Mallow Heritage Centre (F3) Tel: 022 50302. www.mallowheritagecentre.com

Genealogy service which assists in tracing ancestors in County Cork.

Nano Nagle Centre (F3) Ballygriffin, Mallow. Tel: 022 26411

The centre relates the story of Nano Nagle and the Presentation Sisters.

Craft Studios & Workshops

Gallery Crafts (G2) Kilworth, Tel: 025 27972. www.fionaturley.com

Contemporary arts and crafts gallery based in Kilworth, County Cork.

Farm

The Farm (F3) Grenagh Tel: 021 4629816 www.visitthefarm.ie

Experience life on a farm first-hand and be inspired by its unique environment.

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

WEST CORK



West Cork

It's no wonder they call West Cork 'A Place Apart'. Nature sets the pace in this beautiful south west corner of Ireland stretching from smart south-coast Kinsale to three rugged westerly peninsulas reaching into the wild Atlantic: Mizen Head, Sheep's Head and Beara.

Hundreds of inlets, tiny coves, safe harbours and beaches are just right for long active days in the salty air – learning to sail, surfing, diving, whale watching, island-hopping, bird spotting, kayaking on a salt-water lake in the moonlight, foraging for seaweed, messing about in boats. Or simply eating a fresh crab sandwich on a quayside.

Thanks to its gentle and generous nature, this corner has a wonderful food culture. West Cork's farmers, award-winning artisan producers and chefs are leading Ireland's culinary revolution. From traditional pubs to world-class restaurants, at local farmers' markets, and long-established food festivals, you can enjoy great food right across West Cork.


People here value the good things in life. It feels warm-hearted and kind. It's a place that takes its time and helps us to slow down ... It's A Place Apart.


Did you know?


- Adrigole is where the global ban on CFC's began.
- The first Ford motor factory in the world outside the USA was in Cork. Henry Ford's father came from West Cork.
- The Fastnet Rock, Ireland's most southerly point was the last point seen by emigrants and was known as the 'Teardrop of Ireland'.
- Dursey Island off the coast of the Beara Peninsula has the only cable-car in Europe that operates over water.
- Michael Collins 'the Big Fella' was born at Woodfield near Clonakilty in 1890.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie


West Cork Towns & Villages


 **Allihies** (B5) Once the base for the thriving copper mines, the attractive village of Allihies looks out on Ballydonegan Bay in the beautiful Beara Peninsula.


 **Ballydehob** (C5) is a brightly painted village, home to many artists and craft workers with antique shops, galleries, bookshops and cafés. Panoramic views of Roaringwater Bay are provided from the disused 12 arch bridge which crosses the estuary.


 **Baltimore** (D5) boasts many festivals, restaurants, harbour and water-based activities and is the gateway to the islands of Sherkin, Cape Clear & Heir Island.


Bandon (E4) is a thriving town and a good game angling centre. Nearby Innishannon village lies in a woodland setting.

 **Bantry** (D5) is a hive of activity with its brightly decorated houses and streets. The town Square has a large promenade with seating, trees, flowers, an anchor and a centre piece fountain. This is an old town with many historical connections.

 **Castletownbere** (B5) Set in a large and dramatic harbour, Castletownbere is one of the largest white fishing ports in Ireland and is host to many European fleets. Nearby is Bere Island, and a visit to this island makes for an interesting day trip.


 **Castletownshend** (D5) A picturesque village with high walled gardens and an air of quiet reserve. St. Barrahane's Church contains beautiful Harry Clarke stained glass windows.

 **Clonakilty** (E5) became Ireland's first official Fair Trade Town in 2003. Michael Collins, one of the heroes of the 1916-1922 period lived here. Clonakilty is also known for its black pudding, the secret spice recipe has been used since the 1880s. Close by are the pretty villages of Timoleague with its large Franciscan Friary and Courtmacsherry, which is set along the shoreline.

 **Crookhaven** (C5) A glance at a map will explain the name of the delightful little village on the 'crook' of Cork's most south-westerly peninsula, near the long golden 'blue flag' beaches of Barleycove.

Drimoleague (D5) is situated on the main road between Dunmanway and Bantry. Drimoleague Heritage Walkways enable the visitor to explore the rich landscape of the surrounding countryside.

Dunmanway (D4) is located in the centre of West Cork and is the birthplace of Sam Maguire, who gave his name to the All Ireland Senior Football Trophy and a commemorative statue is located in the Square.

 **Durrus** (C5) lies at the head of Dunmanus Bay. Further along the Sheep's Head Peninsula on the way to Kilcrohane lies Ahakista the site of the memorial to those who died in the Air India plane crash in 1985.



Baltimore Beacon

🌊 **Eyerias** (B4) This brightly coloured village is located on the majestic Ring of Beara route. The whole area is rich in historical and archaeological sites.

🌊 **Glandore** (D5) has a beautiful location overlooking Glandore Harbour. Nearby is the famous Drombeg Stone Circle which has been dated to 150 BC. North of Glandore Harbour lies the village of Leap.

🌊 **Glengarriff** (C4) is one of Ireland's most beautifully situated villages and an area which is of special interest to botanists, because of the mild climate which the area enjoys. Glengarriff is one of the few areas in Ireland which still has some of the original oak forest which totally covered the country.

🌊 **Goleen** (C5) is attractively located towards the southwestern end of the Mizen Peninsula, and is a popular base for exploring the beautiful coastline of this part of West Cork.

🌊 **Rosscarbery** (E5) is an attractive village with a long and interesting history. The town grew up around a Monastery, which was established in the 6th century by St. Fachtna. Nearby, in the centre of Castlefreke Woods, are the magnificent ruins of the 15th century castle.

🌊 **Schull** (C5) is a delightful seaside market town and a popular water sports base. It overlooks Schull Harbour, the many islands of Roaringwater Bay and is protected from the north by Mount Gabriel. Local ferries operate from here during the summer months giving access to Cape Clear Island, Long Island, Carbery's Hundred Isles and the opportunity to take a closer look at the famous Fastnet Rock.

🌊 **Skibbereen** (D5) is a vibrant, friendly town where you can sample the very best of West Cork's artisan food and craft. Skibbereen was severely devastated by the Great Famine of the 1840s, today there is an Exhibition at the Skibbereen Heritage Centre. Nearby Lough Hyne, Ireland's first Marine Nature Reserve is well worth a visit.

🌊 **Union Hall** (D5) This is a coastal fishing village surrounded by extensive woodland and connected by a bridge with Glandore Harbour. Union Hall was the location for David Puttnam's film 'War of the Buttons'.

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

🌊 Indicates the town or village is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Visitor Attractions

19 Bantry House & Garden

Bantry

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: Apr 3rd - Oct 26th, Tue - Sun & Bank Hol Mons 10.00 - 17.00.

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

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

20 Garinish Island (Ilnacullin)

Glengarriff, Bantry

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: 12th Mar - 1st Nov Please check our website for opening times. Last landing 1 hour before closing.

Admission: Adult: €4, Group/Senior: €3, Child/Student: €2, Family: €10. Please note that a separate charge is imposed by boat operators.

21 Mizen Head Signal Station

Goleen

Tel: 028 35225

www.mizenhead.ie



Mizen Head Signal Station at Ireland's most south westerly point, in West Cork 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; Mid Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct 10.30 - 17.00. Jun - Aug 10.00 - 18.00. Nov - mid Mar; 11.00 - 16.00 Weekends only.

Admission: Adult: €6, Senior/Student: €4.50, Child (5-12): €3.50, Child under 5: Free of charge, Family (2+3): €18, Groups 10+: 10% discount.

22 Dzogchen Beara Buddhist Meditation Centre

Allihies,
Beara Peninsula

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).

23 Allihies Copper Mine Museum

Allihies, Beara

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.

Open: Daily; Apr - Oct; 9.30 - 17.00. The Copper Café opens from Easter to October. (For off-peak season opening hours please phone 027 73218 to confirm times.)

Admission: Adult: €5, Senior: €4, Student €3, Child: €2, Family(2+2): €10, Group rates available.

24 The Ewe Experience

N71 Kenmare Road,
Glengarriff

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 kilometer walk. Also riverside tea garden and bead workshop.

Open: Daily 1st Jun – End of Sep; 10.00 - 18.00.

Admission: Adult: €6.50, Child: €5, Family: €20 (2+2).

Visitor Attractions

25 Timoleague Abbey

Timoleague

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.



26 Dún na Séad Castle

Baltimore

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.

Open: Daily; 1st Mar - 31st Oct 11.00 - 18.00.

Admission: Adult: €4; Accompanied children: Free of charge.



27 Skibbereen Heritage Centre

Old Gasworks Building,
Skibbereen

Tel: 028 40900

www.skibbheritage.com



Enjoy a visit to the Skibbereen Heritage Centre, located in the award winning, beautifully restored Old Gasworks building. Exhibitions include the Great Famine Exhibition, Lough Hyne Visitor Centre, genealogy information, archaeology trail, hot/cold drinks and gift shop.

Open: Mar - Mid May & Mid Sep - Oct; Tue - Sat 10.00 - 18.00. Mid May - Mid Sep; Mon - Sat; 10.00 - 18.00. (last admission 17.15)

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



28 West Cork Model Railway Village

Inchydoney Rd,
Clonakilty

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: €7, (€10 including train ride), Senior/Student: €5 (€7.50 including train ride), Child under 5: €2 (€3 including train ride) Child over 5yrs: €4 (€6 including train ride) Family: €20, (€30 including train ride).

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

29 Michael Collins Centre – Memorial Park

Castleview, Clonakilty

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 life-size 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.

30 St. Finbarr's Oratory (Gougane Barra)

Off the Macroom
Glengarriff road (R584)

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.



Ahakista

More to Experience

Churches and Settlements

Abbeystrewry Abbey (D5) Skibbereen.

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

Drombeg Stone Circle (D5) 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.

Franciscan Abbey (D5) 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 (D5) Bantry.

The Kilnaruane Pillar Stone, 3km outside Bantry town just off the N71 route is a monument of early Christian times.

Knockdrum Stone Fort (D5) 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.

St. Barrahan's Church (D5) Castletownshend.

Lovely church with beautiful Stained Glass Windows by Harry Clarke, in one of the most unique parts of West Cork.

St. Fachtna's Cathedral (E5) Rosscarbery.

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

St. Patrick's Cathedral (D5) Skibbereen.

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

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



Sheep at Coulagh Bay. Credit: Chris Hill

Castles

Carriganass Castle (D4) Kealkill.

Carriganass Castle is the impressive remains of an imposing 16th century tower and walled courtyard on the Ouvane River. Built around 1541, it was the ancestral home of the O'Sullivan Beare clan.

Castle Salem (E5) Rosscarbery. Tel: 085 2415845 www.castlesalem.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.

Marine Nature Reserve

Lough Hyne (D5)

Situated just 5km from Skibbereen, Lough Hyne is Ireland's first Marine Nature Reserve. A beautiful place to visit for walks and kayaking, it is also rich in history and folklore. This salt-water lake offers a unique marine environment.

Tours

Amy K (D5) Island Cruises, Whale & Dolphin Watching, Baltimore.

Tel: 028 20300. www.baltimorediving.com

Visit Carbery's Hundred Isles in our state-of-the-art Catamaran 'Amy-K', go whale and dolphin watching or visit one of the several seal and bird colonies on the off shore islands.

Aquaventures (D5) Baltimore. Tel: 028 20511 www.aquaventures.ie

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

Baltimore Sea Safari Boat Trips (D5) Tel: 028 20753. www.baltimoreseasafari.ie

Coastal sightseeing tours, in an area of exceptional unspoiled natural beauty within Carbery's Hundred Isles, Roaringwater Bay and the Ilen river, which are home to the most diverse range of sea and birdlife to be seen anywhere in Ireland.

Cork Whale Watch (D5) 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.



Castletownshend

The Fastnet Tour (Departs from Baltimore) (D5) www.fastnettour.com
Sail around the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse and visit the Fastnet multimedia display on Cape Clear Island.

Whale Watch West Cork (D5) Tel: 028 33357 or 086 1200027.
www.whalewatchwestcork.com

Dolphin & Whale Watching Tours leaving from Baltimore Harbour on Voyager, a well-equipped, twin-engine catamaran, built specifically for whale and dolphin watching tours.

For Ferry Services to the islands please see Islands Section pages 150 to 157.

Craft Studios & Workshops

Adrigole Arts (C4) Adrigole, Tel: 027 60234. www.hungryhillgallery.com
Adrigole Arts exhibits jewellery, distinctive Irish knitwear, pottery, glass, leather, hand-turned woods, original art and limited edition prints.

Catherine Hammond Gallery (C4) Glengarriff. Tel: 027 63812.
www.hammondgallery.com

The Gallery is proud of its association with some of Ireland's most outstanding established and emerging artists.

Green Wood Chairs (D5) Skibbereen. Tel. 028 21890 www.greenwoodchairs.com
Using locally coppiced hazel, Green Wood Chairs offers 1 day stool/small table making course & 3 day armchair course. Other workshops, please see www.handsonwestcork.com.

Mill Cove Gallery & Sculpture Garden (B5) Castletownbere Tel: 027 70393.
www.millcovegallery.com

Exhibitions of Irish contemporary art by established and emerging artists.

The Doswell Gallery (E5) Rosscarbery. Tel: 087 7478713. www.doswellgallery.com
Exhibitions of contemporary art by Irish and international artists.

The Wildlife Film School Tel: 086 1531663. www.thewildlifefilmschool.com
Courses covering wildlife photography and wildlife video film making.

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Galley Head Lighthouse

West Cork Arts Centre (D5) Skibbereen. Tel: 028 22090.

www.westcorkartscentre.com

West Cork Arts Centre works to develop a programme of exhibitions that offers the people of West Cork a broad and in-depth experience of contemporary visual arts.

West Cork Craft and Design Guild Tel: 028 21890.

www.facebook.com/westcorkcraft

Guild of Craft makers situated in the stunning surrounds of West Cork.

West Cork Watercolour (D5) Castletownshend Tel: 028 36828.

www.westcorkwatercolour.ie

Watercolour painting courses for all abilities, in the heart of scenic West Cork.

Working Artists Studios (D5) Skibbereen Tel: 086 1628471 www.mariecullen.com

An informal environment for artists, art lovers and the wider community.

Visit www.discoverireland.ie/craft for information on Irish craft providers.

Parks & Planetarium

Gleninchaquin Park (C4) Beara Peninsula. Tel. 064 6684235.

www.gleninchaquin.com

Gleninchaquin Park provides breath-taking landscapes and scenery, a spectacular 140 metre high waterfall, parking facilities and picnic areas.

Admission: Adult: €6, Student: €4, Child (u6): Free of charge.

Gougane Barra Forest Park (D4) Gougane Barra. Tel. 026 20270. 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.)

Glengarriff Woods Nature Reserve (C4) Glengarriff. Tel. 027 63636.

www.glengarriffnaturereserve.ie

Glengarriff Woods are situated in a deep rough glacial valley which opens out into the north side of Bantry Bay. The Canrooska River flows through the woods and there are a range of woodland trails through the reserve.

Schull Planetarium (C5) Schull. Tel: 028 28315 www.schullcommunitycollege.com

Located on the Grounds of Schull Community College.

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

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



Map No.	Attraction
1	Blarney Castle
2	Charles Fort
3	Desmond Castle
4	Fota Wildlife Park
5	Fota House
6	Barrysourt Castle
7	Cobh Heritage Centre

Map No.	Attraction
8	St. Colman's Cathedral
9	Titanic Experience
10	The Jameson Experience
11	St. Mary's Collegiate Church
12	Leahy's Open Farm
13	Millstreet Country Park
14	The Donkey Sanctuary
15	Mallow Castle



Map No.	Attraction	Map No.	Attraction
16	Doneraile Wildlife Park	24	The Ewe Experience
17	Bridgetown Augustinian Priory	25	Timoleague Abbey
18	Labbacallee Wedge Tomb	26	Dún na Séad Castle
19	Bantry House	27	Skibbereen Heritage Centre
20	Garinish Island	28	West Cork Model Railway Village
21	Mizen Head Signal Station	29	Michael Collins Centre
22	Dzogchen Beara	30	St. Finbarr's Oratory
23	Allihies Copper Mine Museum		

KILLARNEY



Killarney

People have been escaping to Killarney for over 250 years. They come for the legendary beauty of the lakes, waterfalls, mountain peaks and heart stopping views. And they come for the 'craic agus ceol', the good times, the banter, the pubs, live music, and easy Irish charm.

The town is on the north-east shore of the largest of the three Lakes of Killarney, Lough Leane or Lake of Learning, where the medieval monks of Inisfallen recorded the earliest history of Ireland. Killarney makes it easy to enjoy nature, to be as active or as laid-back as you choose. There are easy strolls and challenging hikes, trips and tours, bike hires and boat rides. Traditional horse-drawn jaunting cars with their drivers known as 'jarveys' wait in the centre of town to take visitors into the National Park.

Killarney is a great base for exploring South West Ireland's three wild Atlantic peninsulas, Dingle, Beara and Iveragh and the world-famous Ring of Kerry. Back in town, the streets are a hive of activity, full of life and everything is geared towards making sure you have a great time!

Did you know?

- Killarney hosted the Adventure Travel World Summit in 2014.
- Killarney was voted Ireland's tidiest town in 2011.
- Actor Michael Fassbender is the most famous local resident.
- Killarney was first made popular by Queen Victoria who visited Killarney in 1861 staying at Muckross House.
- Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, who during the course of World War II helped to save over 6,500 civilians and POW's grew up in Killarney.
- The famous Annals of Inisfallen were written by the monks living on Inisfallen Island which is the largest and most beautiful of all the islands on the Lakes of Killarney.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie

Visitor Attractions

1 Killarney National Park

Killarney

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.

2 Muckross House

National Park, Killarney

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: €6, Family (2+2): €28, Family (2+3): €32. (Combined discounted ticket to Muckross Farms available.)

3 Muckross Traditional Farms

National Park, Killarney

Tel: 064 6670165

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 newly opened Farm petting area and playground. Last admission is 1 hour before closing.

Open: Daily; Jun - Aug; 10.00 - 18.00, May & Sep; 13.00 - 18.00, Mar, Apr & Oct; Sat/Sun & B/H; 13.00 - 18.00.

Open: Daily; Jun - Aug; 10.00 - 18.00, May & Sep; 13.00 - 18.00.

Open: Mar, Apr & Oct; Sat/Sun & B/H; 13.00 - 18.00.

Admission: Adult: €9, Senior/Student: €7.50, Child: €6, Family (2+2): €28, Family (2+3): €32. (Combined discounted ticket to Muckross House available.)

4 Ross Castle

Killarney

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: 5th Mar - 28th Oct. Please check our website for opening times. (Last admission 45 minutes before closing) Access is by guided tour only.

Admission: Adult: €4.00, Group/Senior: €3, Child/Student: €2, Family €10.

5 Muckross Abbey

Killarney

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.

6 Innisfallen Island

Lough Lein

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.

Visitor Attractions

7 Kennedys All-Weather Pet Farm & Playgrounds

Brewsterfield, Glenflesk,
Killarney

Tel: 064 7754054

www.killarneypetfarm.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: Daily: Apr - Sep 10.00 - 17.00; Feb & Mar 10.00 - 16.00
(Closed Mon & Tue).

Admission: €8 p.p., Family: €35 (2+3).

8 Torc Waterfall

N71 Muckross /
Kenmare Road

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.

9 Gap of Dunloe

Killarney

Tel: 064 6631633

www.discoverireland.ie



A breathtaking 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.

10 Saint Mary's Cathedral

Cathedral Place,
Killarney

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 10.30 - 18.00

11 Dinis Cottage

Killarney National Park,
Killarney

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: Mid Apr - end of Oct approx.

Admission: Free of charge.

12 Ladies View

Killarney National Park,
Killarney

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.



Ross Castle

More to Experience

Boat Tours

O'Donoghues Killarney Day Tour (C3) Old Weir Lodge, Muckcross Road, Killarney.
Tel: 064 6631068. www.killarneydaytour.com

On this day tour you will travel by coach to Kate Kearney's Cottage, from there through the world famous Gap of Dunloe by pony and trap. Upon arriving at Lord Brandon's Cottage you will board an open boat for a cruise along Killarney's lakes toward the historic Ross Castle.

Killarney Lake Tours (C3), Ross Castle, Killarney Tel: 064 6632638
www.killarneylaketours.ie

MV Pride of the Lakes offers scenic tours on Lough Leane, Killarney's largest and most picturesque lake, with attractions including O'Sullivan Cascade and the monastic ruins of Inishfallen Island.

Lily of Killarney Watercoach (C3) Old Weir Lodge, Muckcross Road, Killarney.

View the Killarney National Park while cruising on the famous lakes in the comfort and safety of a covered, heated and modern vessel, with live commentary on the history and folklore of the area.

Gap of Dunloe Tours (C3) 7 High Street, Killarney.

Tel: 064 6630200 / 087 2672821.

Gap of Dunloe Tours offers a combination of bus, jaunting car and open boat tours to the famous Gap of Dunloe & also cruises on the Lakes of Killarney.

Coach Tours

Corcorans Tours (C3) 8 College Street, Killarney. Tel: 064 6636666.

www.corcorantours.com

Corcorans Tours offers fully-guided day tours around the Ring of Kerry, Gap of Dunloe, Dingle and Sleah Head, and Killarney.

Deros Coach Tours (C3) 22 Main Street, Killarney. Tel: 064 6631251.

www.derostours.com

Deros offers daily coach tours to the Ring of Kerry, Dingle and Sleah Head and the Gap of Dunloe as well as a Killarney highlights tour and golf tours.



Muckross Traditional Farms. Credit: Cathy Donovan

O'Connor Autotours (C3) Ross Road, Killarney. Tel: 064 6631052.
www.oconnorautotours.ie

Year round day tours of the Ring of Kerry, Dingle's Sleat Head, Gap of Dunloe and Lakes of Killarney.

J O'Callaghan & Sons (C3) Killarney. Tel: 064 6631095. www.jocgroup.com
 O'Callaghan Coach Holidays offer a wide range of exciting scheduled coach holidays to suit all requirements and budgets.

Ghost Tour of Killarney (C3) Killarney. Tel: 087 2945007.
www.killarneyghosttour.com

The two hour tour is a theatrical bus tour and will bring you to locations associated with ghostly apparitions, spirited history and local folklore. Join us if you dare! (Only in operation during Summer/Halloween, must be pre booked.)

Hop on Hop off Big Red Killarney Bus Tour (C3) Departs Daily from East Avenue Road, Killarney Town Centre. Tel: 087 7654555, 087 2508122 www.killarneytour.com
 See Killarney at your leisure, at any of our stops you can Hop On or Hop Off, tickets are valid for two days. Our tour is designed to make the Killarney experience your own. A free map and history guide are available along with live guided commentary onboard from our driver/guide.

Killarney Heritage Trail (C3) Departs Daily from East Avenue Road.
 Tel: 087 3428259 www.killarneyheritagetrail.com

There's no better way to see Killarney and it's many surrounding attractions than with our Open Top Bus Tour.

Killarney Shuttle Bus (C3) Departs from Discover Ireland Centre, Beech Road.
 Tel: 087 1384384 www.killarneyshuttlebus.com

The Killarney shuttle bus provides a bus service to Torc Waterfall, Muckross House, National Park Muckross Abbey and the Gap of Dunloe.

Killarney Tourist Train (C3) Departs from Malton Hotel. (Daily; Jun - Sep)
 Tel: 087 9979399 www.killarneytouristtrain.com

Tours to Muckross House, Gardens & Farm, Killarney Town & Ross Castle.



Racing Festival, Killarney

More Tours

Killarney Guided Walks (C3) Currach, Aghadoe, Killarney. Tel: 064 6633471.
www.killarneyguidedwalks.com

Discover Killarney National Park on a guided two-hour walk. Highlights include Ross Castle and the old copper mines, departs at 11.00 daily. Meeting point is opposite St. Mary's Cathedral (May – Oct, no booking required.) (Nov – Apr, booking required) Adult: €9, Child: €5.

Killarney Horse and Carriage Tours (C3) 26 Dromhall Park, Killarney.
 Tel: 087 1505002/087 1505003. www.killarneyhorseandcarriagetours.com

Killarney Horse and Carriage Tours offer a number of excursions which depart on a regular basis, including the Ross Castle and Kenmare Estate tour.

Killarney Jaunting Cars/Tangney Tours (C3) 10B Muckcross Close, Killarney.
 Tel: 064 6633358. www.killarneyjauntingcars.com

These traditional tours are operated by jaunting cars and watercoach and take in Muckcross House and Gardens, Killarney National Park and Ross Castle, the Gap of Dunloe and a lake cruise.

Craft Studios & Workshops

Killarney Art Gallery (C3) Aghadoe, Killarney. Tel: 064 6634628, 087 2767999.

The Killarney Art Gallery was established in 1990 by Declan Mulvany. The gallery represents many of the country's leading contemporary artists and up and coming artists.

The Blue Pool Art Gallery (C3) Muckcross, Killarney. Tel: 064 6629049.

Open: Tue – Sun 10.30 – 18.00 (closed for Lunch).

Kerry Woollen Mills (C3) Beaufort, Killarney. Tel: 064 6644122

www.kerrywoollenmills.ie

The 17th-century Kerry Woollen Mills has been creating fabrics and yarn from fine wool for over 300 years. **Open:** Mon – Sat. CLOSED on Sun.

Killarney Art Holidays (C3) Killarney. Tel: 085 7773538.

www.killarneyartholidays.com

Step-by-step oil painting courses run monthly throughout the year from various indoor and outdoor locations in Killarney.

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



Killarney National Park

Kerry Crafted Glass (C3) Kilcummin, Killarney. Tel: 064 6643295.
www.irishkerryglass.com

This traditional glassworks is the only one of its kind in Ireland, with each piece blown and finished by hand using traditional tools. The unique designs use 100% recycled glass and are inspired by the beautiful Killarney surroundings. Open: year round, 9.30 - 18.00 Mon - Sat, Sun by appointment.

Frank Lewis Gallery (C3) 6 Bridewell Lane (off New Street), Killarney.
 Tel: 064 6631108. www.franklewisgallery.com

The Frank Lewis Gallery hosts changing solo and group exhibitions of paintings and sculpture by some of Ireland's leading artists as well as emerging names in the Irish arts scene. Open: year round, 9.00 - 18.00 Mon - Sat.

Kerry Craft Trails www.originalkerry.com

Take a craft trail while out and about in County Kerry, look for the official logo on participating craft-making premises. Brochures available in Tourist Offices.

More Local Experiences!

Coolwood Wildlife Park (C3) Coolcasslagh, Killarney. Tel: 064 6636288.
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, children's playground, picnic areas and coffee shop are on site.

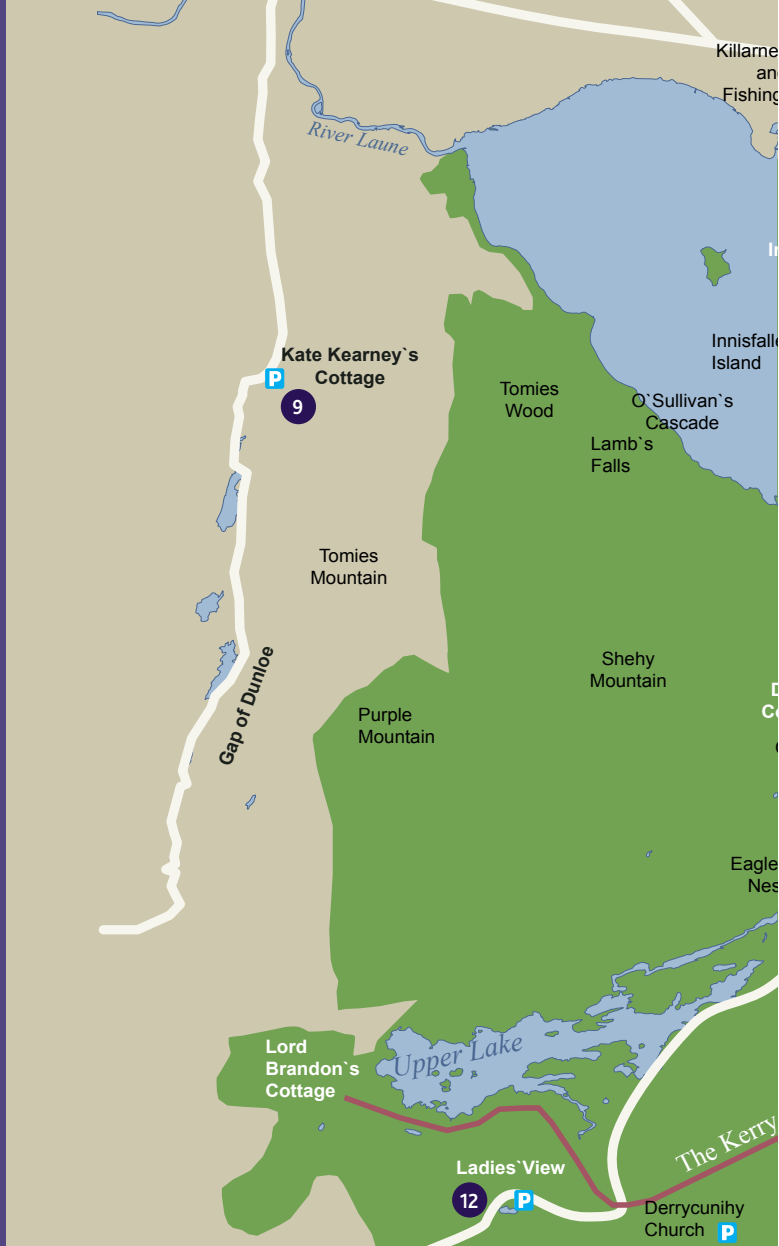
Dunloe Ogham Stones (C3) Dunloe, Killarney www.discoverireland.ie

Between Beaufort village and the Gap of Dunloe can be found a display of Ogham Stones. These were originally the roof of a souterrain or underground passage which collapsed at the end of the last century at Coolmagort.

Knockreer House and Gardens (C3) Killarney National Park
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 National Park Education Centre is based in Knockreer House, which was once the home of the Grosvenor family.

(For details of local Walking Operators call into Killarney Discover Ireland Centre or visit www.discoverireland.ie/walking)



Map No.	Attraction
1	Killarney National Park
2	Muckross House
3	Muckross Traditional Farms

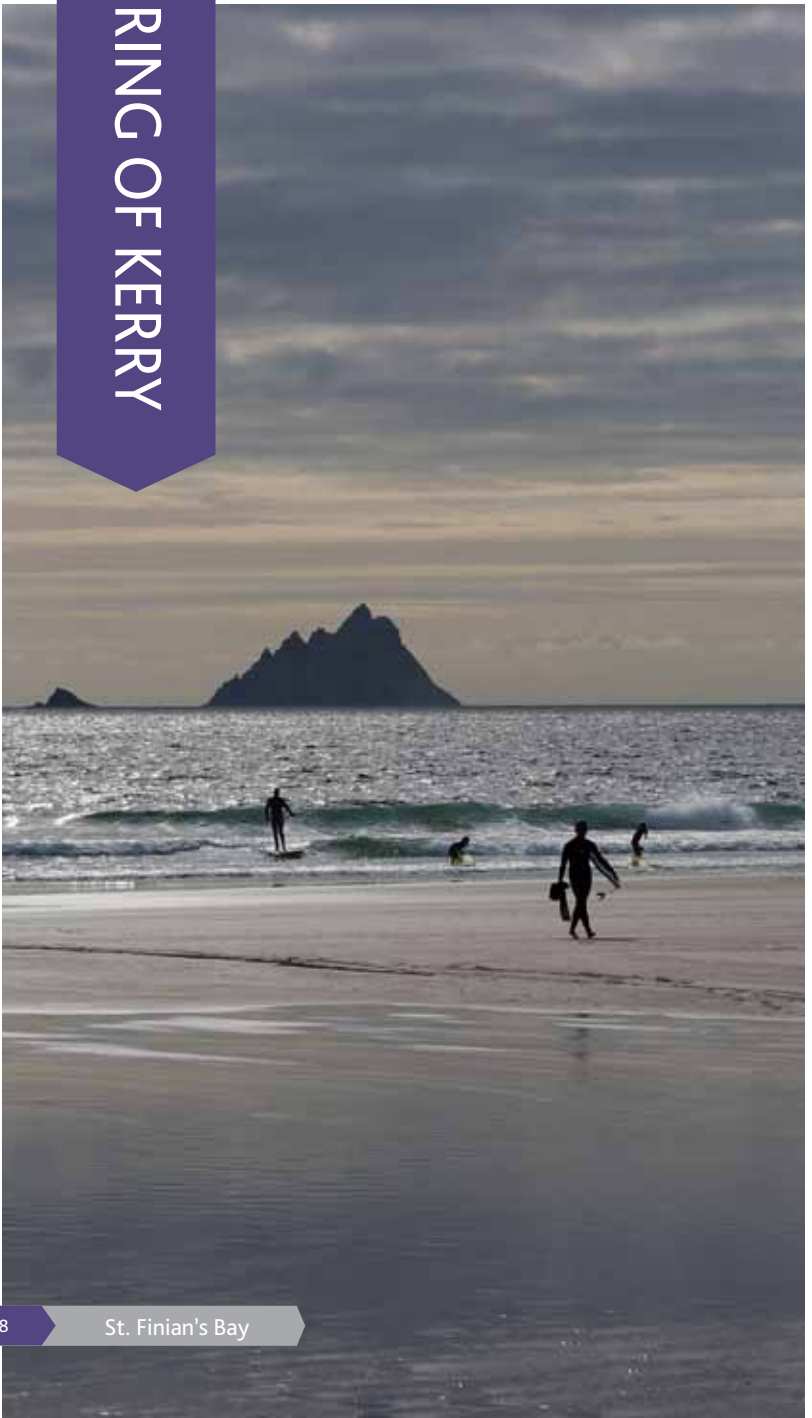
Map No.	Attraction
4	Ross Castle
5	Muckross Abbey
6	Innisfallen Island



Map No.	Attraction
7	Kennedy's All-Weather Pet Farm/Playground
8	Torc Waterfall
9	Gap of Dunloe

Map No.	Attraction
10	Saint Mary's Cathedral
11	Dinis Cottage
12	Ladies View

RING OF KERRY



Ring of Kerry

Out at the very edge of Europe, on south west Ireland's wild Atlantic seaboard, the Ring of Kerry circles the Iveragh Peninsula. The Ring is one of Ireland's best-known attractions, it's the contrast between the warmth of the people and the elemental nature of the place that makes it so special, and worth slowing down to explore.

At Iveragh's heart is Ireland's highest mountain range and highest peak, Corrán Tuathail, part of an ancient glacial landscape. Inland, the Ring crosses Killarney National Park with heart-stopping views of lakes and peaks, waterfalls and ancient woods. To the west, seals 'pup' in sheltered Kenmare Bay and on the shores of Valentia Island are the Tetrapod tracks, the earliest fossil footprints in the world. Further west still, out to sea is an extraordinary far-flung place of pilgrimage, Skellig Michael.

... These are the things that make memories. Iveragh and the Ring have a way of putting things into perspective. Of reminding us of how small we are ... in a good way. Of soothing the mind and touching the soul, at the Edge of the World!

Did you know?

- The oldest pre-dinosaur footprints in the Northern Hemisphere were found on Valentia Island.
- Skellig Michael is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The Kerry International Dark-Sky Reserve is the first Gold Tier reserve in the Northern Hemisphere.
- There is a statue to famous actor Charlie Chaplin in Waterville, where he holidayed for many years.
- Staigue Fort near Castlecove is an Iron Age Fort that has been in existence for about 3000 years.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie



Cahersiveen Marina

Ring of Kerry Towns & Villages

Ballinskelligs (A4) Sitting on the attractive Ballinskelligs Bay, Baile an Sceilge is an Irish-speaking area with a unique history and culture. Once the land base for the monks of Skellig Mhichil, the surrounding area has numerous prehistoric and early Christian ruins along its shores. Miles of golden, sandy beach and turquoise water attract holidaymakers who avail of safe swimming and excellent opportunities for water sports and sea angling.

Cahersiveen (A3) is scenically located overlooking Valentia Harbour and is the capital town of the Iveragh peninsula. The town also lies at the foot of Beentee Mountain, on the Fertha River, and is renowned for its natural beauty and wealth of historic sites. It is home to the engaging Old Barracks Heritage Centre, the atmospheric ruins of a 15th century castle and two ancient forts. Cahersiveen also has a busy marina and has a reputation for some of the best deep sea angling in Europe. Sandy coves and beaches surround the town and the calm waters and spectacular scenery attract artists, climbers, windsurfers, cyclists and walkers.

Caherdaniel (B4) This pretty village stands on the shore of Derrynane Bay, the terrain varies from rugged shore lines to gently rolling mountains, there is a magnificent blue flag beach in the area. Activities include, kayaking, canoeing, horse-riding, diving and walking.

Castlecove (B4) This is a small resort with fine sandy beaches nearby, on a bay in the picturesque Kenmare River. The coast has created natural rock pools and there are exquisite sandy coves dotted underneath the cliffs. Nearby are the imposing ruins of Staigue Fort, one of Ireland's finest archaeological remains.

Glenbeigh (B3) The picturesque village of Glenbeigh is nestled at the foot of a well wooded mountain and close to the head of Dingle Bay. The area is a popular destination for families due to this superb beach at Rossbeigh which is located 1.5km from Glenbeigh.

Kells (B3) is a small picturesque seaside area halfway between Glenbeigh and Cahersiveen. The tranquil atmosphere and crystal clear water of the sheltered blue flag beach at Kells Bay is a family favourite. Kells Bay Gardens is one of Ireland's foremost Victorian gardens and contains one of the finest collections of Southern Hemisphere plants in Europe.



King Puck, Killorglin

🌊 **Kenmare** (C4) buzzes with 5 star hotels, chic spas, B&Bs, smart restaurants, arty shops, cosy cafes and friendly pubs with live traditional music sessions. This is great walking country or visitors can take to the water on sea Safaris out into the Atlantic, or in the Bay to kayak, fish, swim and sail.

🌊 **Killorglin** (C3) is a gateway to the beautiful Iveragh Peninsula situated on a hill overlooking the wide and graceful River Laune, a river offering salmon and trout angling. Dominating the landscape to the south are the McGillycuddy's Reeks. Killorglin is the location of the famous 'Puck Fair' festival - Ireland's largest and the world's oldest business event dating back to pre-Christian times.

🌊 **Parknasilla** (B4) Beautifully situated, the charming scenery of Parknasilla, with its combination of sea, wood and mountain, makes for a relaxing and peaceful holiday. It nestles between the sea, studded with islands and Knockanamadane Hill 273 meters, on the magnificent coastline of the Kenmare River.

🌊 **Portmagee** (A4) Brightly painted houses line the streets of Portmagee, the first ever winner of the National Tourism Towns Awards. South West Kerry's main fishing centre, is close to the safe and secluded Reencaheragh Strand. Portmagee is the main departure point for boat trips to the Skelligs UNESCO World Heritage Site.

🌊 **Sneem** (B4) whose Gaelic name means 'the Knot' is a village of colourful houses and two little squares. The village is also home to a sculpture park, a Geo-Park exploring local geology, a sensory garden, riverside wildlife trail and a rare coral beach, one of only two in the country.

🌊 **St. Finian's Bay/the Glen** (A4) South of Portmagee the scenic drive along Coomanaspig Pass offers stunning views over St. Finian's Bay and out to the Skellig Rocks. The pier at St. Finian's Bay is a popular launch pad for divers exploring the underwater treasures of this area.

🌊 **Waterville** (B4) is a picturesque coastal village much loved by Charlie Chaplin. It is famous throughout the world for its superb golf courses, its sea trout and salmon angling and its long sandy beaches. Its angling is so good that the area has been designated as a 'centre of excellence' for angling.

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

🌊 Indicates the town or village is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Visitor Attractions

1 The Kerry Bog Village

Ballincleave, Glenbeigh

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: Daily, all year; 9.00 - 18.00.

Admission: Adult: €6.50, Child: €4.50, Student/Senior/Group: €5.45.

2 The Old Barracks

Bridge Street,
Cahersiveen

Tel: 066 9472777

www.theoldbarracks.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: Please contact the Old Barracks directly for 2015 opening times and admission rates.

3 Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church

Cahersiveen

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.

4 The Skellig Experience Visitor Centre

Valentia Island

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.

5 Geokaun Mountain and Fogher Cliffs

Feighmane,

Valentia Island

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: €5, Motorcycle: €3, Pedestrian: €2, Cyclist: €2, Bus: €2 pp.

6 Derrynane House

Caherdaniel

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: 5th Mar - 1st Nov; Please check our website for opening hours.

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

Visitor Attractions

7 Staigue Fort

Castlecove

Tel: 064 6631633 (Killarney

Discover Ireland Centre)

www.discoverireland.ie



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.

8 Kerry Geopark Information Centre

South Square, Sneem

Tel: 087 1602240

www.kerrygeopark.ie



The Centre exhibits geological heritage in the form of interactive panels on Archaeology, Geology, and Glaciations. The exhibition has combined to create a rich storehouse of features which can be explored at one's leisure in the surrounding countryside.

Open: Mar - Oct

Admission: Free of charge (Donations welcome).

9 Molly Gullivan's Cottage & Traditional Farm

Bonane, Kenmare

Tel: 064 6640714

www.mollygallivans.com



At Molly Gullivan's you will 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, with animals, fowl and traditional farm machinery. Discover the ghostly remains of a famine dwelling and a Neolithic stone row part of a rare ancient sun calendar.

Open: Daily, Mid March - end Oct 9.30 - 18.00

(Check website for details of evening shows.)

Admission: €3 P.P. Guided tours available on request.

10 Bonane Heritage Park


Bonane, Kenmare

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.

11 Kenmare Heritage Centre

Kenmare

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.**12 Kilgarvan Motor Museum**

Slaheny, Kilgarvan

Tel: 064 6685346

www.kilgarvanmotormuseum.com

Come and view some of Ireland's motoring heritage in this family run museum consisting of cars, motor bikes 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.



Cill Rialaig Art Gallery, Ballinskelligs. Credit: Cathy Donovan

More to Experience

Astro - Tourism

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.

Castles & Settlements

Ballycarbery Castle (A3) Cahersiveen. Tel: 064 6631633.

This is the ruin of what was once a magnificent 15th century Castle of MacCarthy Mór. It was subsequently held by the O'Connells, ascendants of the Liberator, until it was taken by the Cromwellians in 1652.

Kenmare Stone Circle (C4) Kenmare www.discoverireland.ie

The Kenmare stone circle is probably the largest one in the South West and is the only egg shaped stone circle in Munster. It lies in the town of Kenmare not far from the Cromwell Bridge.

Leacanabuaile & Cahergal Stone Forts (A3) Cahersiveen. Tel: 064 6631633.

The forts 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.

Craft Studios & Workshops

Delve into the rich world of Irish craft with a visit to one of the many craft studios on the Ring or follow **The South Kerry Craft Trail**, www.originalkerry.com, brochures available in Tourist Offices. For more information on Crafts and Art Galleries visit www.discoverireland.ie and www.craftinireland.com

Farms

Kissane Sheep Farm (C4) Molls Gap, Kenmare Tel: 087 2600410
www.adoptasheep.ie

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



Seafari Eco Cruise

Blueberry Hill Farm (B4) 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? Here you get to do it all! (Please contact in advance for details of tour times and prices.)

Gort na Cille Heritage Open Farm (B4) Caherdaniel Tel: 087 7095021
www.gortnacilleheritage.com

Step back in time with a visit to the original farm house museum, visit the farm animals and enjoy the range of gardens. (Please check website for opening times and admission prices.)

Tours & Boat Trips

Finnegan's Coach and Cab Tours (C4) Kenmare. Tel: 064 6641491/087 2480800.
www.kenmarecoachandcab.com

Finnegan's Tours offer the unique opportunity to see the true beauty of Kerry & West Cork, to learn about its history and to meet the friendly local people.

Kerry Experience Tours (B4) Sneem. Tel: 064 6689679/086 2554098.
www.kerryexperiencetours.ie.

Welcome to Kerry Experience Tours, the different way to experience the beauty & magic of Ireland!

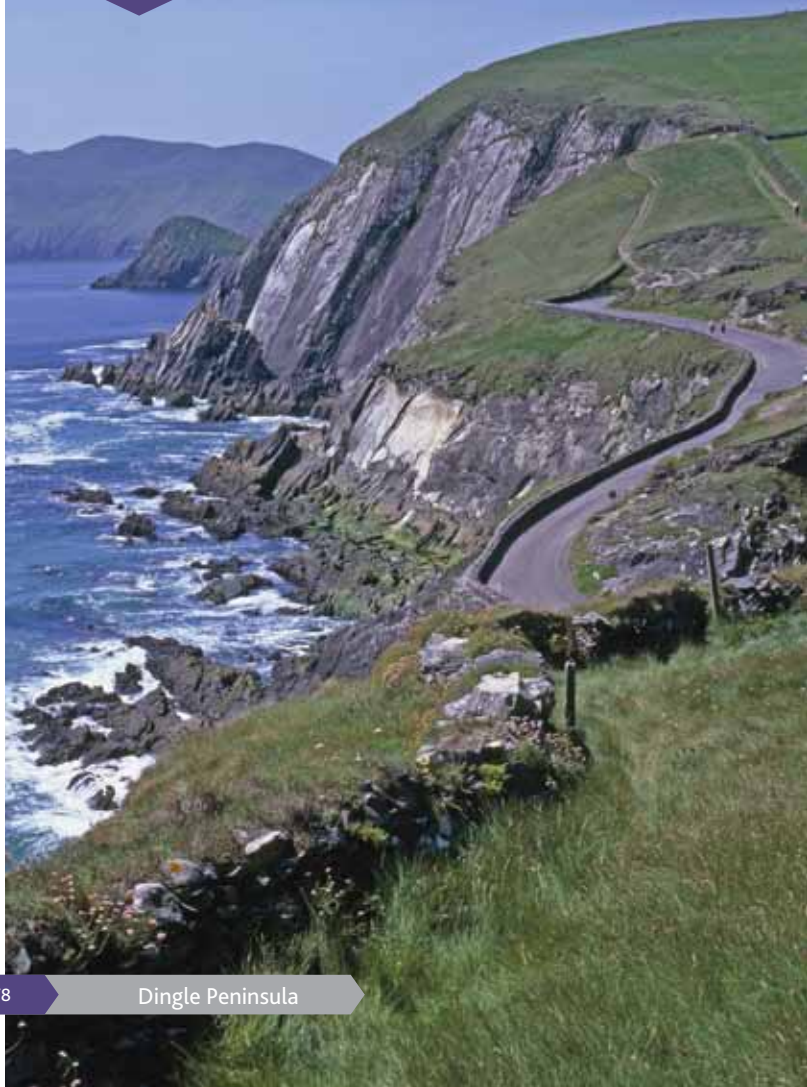
Seafari Eco Cruises (C4) 3 The Pier, Kenmare. Tel: 064 6642059. www.seafariireland.com
SEAFARI Fun, Eco-Nature and Ireland's first Seal Watching Cruise offers a unique, close-up, personal and inspiringly memorable Irish eco-nature experience! **Reservations essential.**

Skelligs Boat Trips (A3) Tel: 066 9476306. www.skelligexperience.com
Numerous local boat owners operate boat trips to the spectacular Skelligs UNESCO World Heritage Site. Boat trips around Valentia Harbour and Portmagee are also available. The main departure points are Portmagee, Knightstown, Valentia Island, Baile an Sceilge (Ballinskelligs) and Caherdaniel. (See Islands section; pages 150-157 for information on Valentia & Skellig Islands).

Valentia Harbour Tours (A3) The Marina, Cahersiveen. Tel. 087 0527562. www.vht.ie.
Boat trip around scenic Valentia Harbour in a unique boat which has wheels. Board at Cahersiveen Marina.

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

DINGLE



Dingle

The Dingle Peninsula - Corca Dhuibhne.

At the very edge of Europe, as far west as you can go in Ireland, is the breathtaking Dingle Peninsula, once described by National Geographic as 'the most beautiful place on earth'. It's a place of spectacular seascapes and landscapes shaped by the elements, with a wild and rugged coastline of steep cliffs and wide sandy beaches, a place where the mountains roll into the ocean.

Descending from the incredible Conor Pass, Ireland's highest mountain pass, you'll arrive at the bustling cosmopolitan town of Dingle, the peninsula's main hub. This colourful fishing town, set around a busy fishing port and marina, is packed with eclectic eateries and traditional pubs where you're bound to catch a lively traditional music session.

The Dingle Peninsula has one of the largest Gaeltacht (gaelic-speaking) communities in Ireland. Maybe it's that living culture, deep-rooted and handed down through generations, that gives this place such a strong creative spirit. Maybe it's the simple, natural vibe that lets you slow down and go-with-the-flow. Whatever it is, the Dingle Peninsula inspires, it connects, it "catches the heart off-guard", and it stays with you.

Did you know?

- Dingle is the only town on the Dingle Peninsula.
- The infamous film 'Ryan's Daughter' was filmed on the Dingle Peninsula, with some scenes filmed on Inch Beach.
- Dingle Bay is home to Fungie, a fully-grown male bottlenose dolphin known for interacting with humans.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie



Castlegregory

Dingle Towns & Villages

~~~~~ **Abhainn an Scáil - Annascaul (B2)** is the birthplace of Jerome Connor, the famous sculptor and Tom Crean, the Antarctic explorer. The mountains here will tempt many to make a long stay, and for the walker there is a particularly good route via Annascaul Lake over the hills of Beenoskee.

~~~~~ **Baile na nGall - Ballydavid (A2)** is a quiet fishing village on the shores of Smerwick Harbour with views of Mount Brandon to the east and the Three Sisters and Dún an Óir to the west. Tradition is strong in this Irish speaking area. The unique currach used for generations by fishermen on the western seaboard is still built here.

~~~~~ **Baile an Fheirtéaraigh - Ballyferriter (A2)** lies near Smerwick Harbour and hosts a celebrated Irish Language school during the Summer. Dún an Óir (the Fort of Gold), is an Iron Age promontory fort, which lies on the shore of Smerwick Harbour and was the location of a bloody massacre, the Siege of Smerwick, in 1580.

~~~~~ **Bréanainn - Brandon (B2)** On the northern tip of the peninsula set beneath the imposing Mount Brandon, the remote village of Brandon, with its gorgeous views over Brandon Point and Brandon Head, acts as a great base for walkers and naturalists. The area, rich in coastal plant and wildlife, has been awarded a 'beatha', EU environmental quality award for its contribution to sustainable living.

~~~~~ **An Com - Camp (B2)** The village is dominated by its golden sandy beach at the seaward end of Glen Fas. A stone promontory fort on the mountain slopes at the height of 625m (2,050ft) is the highest fortification on the western fringe of Europe. Apart from the archaeological interest the fort is well worth a visit for the magnificent, extensive view of the Dingle peninsula.

~~~~~ **Caisleán na Mainge - Castlemaine (C2)** The castle of the River Maine. It is here that the famous Australian outlaw 'The Wild Colonial Boy' was born. Standing just beyond the head of Castlemaine Harbour the village is pleasantly situated against the background of the Slieve Mish mountains to the north-west.



Dingle Peninsula

🚩 **Caisleán Ghriaire - Castlegregory** (B2) On the northern stretch of the peninsula in an area called the Maharees, lies the charming village of Castlegregory. Flanked on either side by the large bays, Tralee Bay and Brandon Bay, the area has an abundance of well-serviced beaches to enjoy. Brandon Bay is popular with windsurfers while in the Maharees area there is a blue flag beach. You can swim or horse-ride on Ireland's longest beach which stretches 19km from the Maharees through Castlegregory and Cloghane.

🚩 **An Clochán - Cloghane** (B2) The colourful village of Cloghane, just east of Brandon, with its lively pubs and scenic hinterland is a good starting point for Mount Brandon hikes and there are numerous picturesque walks and cycle routes in the area. The distinctive red sand beach of Ballyquin, is a great spot for fishing dogfish and bass.

🚩 **Dún Chaoin - Dunquin** (A2) in the heart of the gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) area, is a traditional village at the foot of Mount Eagle (516m) overlooking the Blasket Sound and the spectacular jagged peaks of the Blasket Islands. The 1970 film *Ryan's Daughter* was shot here and featured the dramatic cliff-flanked Com Dhíneol Beach. Boat trips to the Blaskets are available from Dunquin pier.

🚩 **An Feothanach - Feohanagh** (A2) Under the shadow of Mount Brandon, Feohanagh and the surrounding countryside is ideal for the hill walker. The coastline in the vicinity is of much geological interest and nearby is Brandon Creek from which St. Brendan is reputed to have set sail on his voyage of discovery and which Tim Severin used as his starting point when he retraced St. Brendan's route in 1976.

🚩 **An Inse - Inch** (B2) lies near the base of the Inch Peninsula. Inch Beach is Blue Flag Status and is backed by sandhills of archaeological interest.

🚩 **Ceann Trá - Ventry** (A2) The little village of Ventry, which sits at the centre of Ventry Harbour, lies on the stunning coastal Sleah Head drive. A beautiful sandy horseshoe-bay that stretches 5km provides a safe swimming area that's also popular with windsurfers and horse-riders. There are plenty of local walks that span out from the village including the renowned Dingle Way.

For more information on Dingle's towns and villages visit our website; www.discoverireland.ie

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

🚩 Indicates the town or village is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Visitor Attractions

13 Dingle Oceanworld Aquarium

The Wood, Dingle

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. New for 2015: Creepy Crawly display including Tarantulas and Scorpions.

Open: Daily all Year; High season, 10.00 - 19.00. Low season, 10.00 - 17.00.

Admission: Adult: €13, Child: €7.50, Student/Senior: €9, Family (2+2): €34, (2+4): €40, Child under 3: Free of charge.

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

14 Dingle Dolphin Boat Tours

Unit 2, The Tourist Office,
The Pier, Dingle

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 32nd 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.

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

15 An Díseart

Green St, Dingle

Tel: 066 9150000

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 in progress.

Open: Mon - Fri: 9.00 - 17.00, Sat: 10.00 - 16.00. (Access on Sunday can be arranged by tel. 066 9150000).

Admission: Adult: €3, Child under 10: Free of charge

16 Celtic & Prehistoric Museum

Kilvicadownig, Ventry

Tel: 087 7703280

www.discoverireland.ie

This local archeological museum contains over 500 artefacts from the Stone, Bronze and Celtic Iron Ages as well as Viking, Roman and Saxon objects, also included are a fossil baby dinosaur and a dinosaur egg nest.

Please contact the Museum directly for 2015 opening times and admission rates.

17 Beehive Huts (Fahan Group)

Fahan, Sleah Head Drive

Tel: 087 9254086

www.discoverireland.ie

These Beehive Huts along Sleah 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.

18 Dunbeg Fort Visitor Centre

Sleah Head Drive,

Fahan, Ventry

Tel: 066 9159070

www.dunbegfort.com

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.

Visitor Attractions

19 Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (The Blasket Centre)

Dún Chaoin, (Dunquin)

Tel: 066 9156444

www.heritageireland.ie



The Blascaod Centre in Dún Chaoin, on the tip of the Dingle Peninsula, celebrates the story of the Blasket Islanders, the unique literary achievements of the island writers and their native language, culture and tradition.

Open: 2nd Apr - 28th Oct. Please check our website for opening times.

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

20 Louis Mulcahy Pottery

Slea Head Drive, Clogher,
Dingle

Tel: 066 9156229

www.louismulcahy.com



Try your hand at being a potter –

it's great fun for all ages. Daily Workshop Tours (July & August)

View our full range at workshop prices. Savour a taste of West Kerry in our Café.

Open: Shop & Café; Daily all year; Pottery Experience & Tours; Daily in Jul & Aug.

Admission: €4 for Pottery Experience. Family discounts available for Tours.

★ **Offer:** FREE Pottery Experience on presentation of this guide. (Applies to one person only)

21 Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne / Corca Dhuibhne Regional Museum

Baile an Fheirtéaraigh

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: Daily; Easter and Jun - Sep; 10.00 - 17.00. (Otherwise by request).

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

22 Gallarus Oratory

Baile na nGall
(Ballydavid)

Tel: 064 6632402
www.heritageireland.ie



The best example of an early Christian Oratory on the Dingle Peninsula. A privately owned car park and other facilities are situated next to the Oratory. There is a charge for using these private facilities – use of the Heritage Card cannot apply.

Open: All Year. Please check our website for opening times.

Admission: A local service charge may apply.

23 Dingle Brewing Company

Spa Road, Dingle
(At the foot of the
Conor Pass Road)

Tel: 066 9150743
www.dinglebrewingcompany.com



Tour the brewery and learn how we make our beer. Discover old artefacts from when it was a creamery, and learn about Tom Crean, the Antarctic Explorer.

Open: Daily; 11.00 - 18.00.

Admission: Adult: €7 Child: Free of Charge.

24 Riasc Monastic Settlement

Ballyferriter

Tel: 066 9151188
www.discoverireland.ie



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.



Ring Fort

More to Experience

Churches & Settlements

Cathair na BhFionnúrach (A2) Feohanagh, Dingle www.discoverireland.ie

Located in the shadow of Mount Brandon and overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, Baile na BhFionnúrach, Cathair na BhFionnúrach consists of a circular, stone-walled enclosure, approximately 29m in diameter. Originally the home of a Gaelic noble or wealthy farmer, it has stood sentinel over this remote part of the Dingle peninsula for more than 1,000 years.

Cathair Deargain (A2) Ballydavid, Dingle www.discoverireland.ie

Cathair Deargain stone fort lies beside the road that links Cill Mhaolceadair with Baile na nAth. It has a single defence wall and the ruins of some Clochans are also visible. It typifies the homesteads of the people in ancient times.

Dún An Óir (A2) Ballyferriter, Tralee

The Golden Fort - North of Ballyferriter is the broad inlet of Smerwick Harbour. Here on a rock promontory is the old fortress of Dún an Óir (Fort of Gold), the infamous massacre of Smerwick Harbour took place here in 1580.

Dunquin Graveyard (A2) Dunquin, Dingle www.discoverireland.ie

Dunquin Village was the birthplace of Peig Sayers, an influential Irish author best known for her autobiography. She died in 1958 and was buried in the village graveyard.

Kilmalkedar Church (A2) Ballydavid, Dingle www.discoverireland.ie

Kilmalkedar is a spectacular early-Christian and medieval ecclesiastical site, the ruins are spread across an area of 10 acres. Among them, visitors will enjoy examining the fine 12th-century Hiberno-Romanesque church and several fascinating artefacts, such as an alphabet stone, holed Ogham stone, sundial and large stone cross.

Puicín an Chairn Wedge Tomb (B2) Lispole www.discoverireland.ie

Puicín An Chairn Wedge Tomb is well worth the trouble of getting there. From its strategic vantage point stretches one of the finest views of the Dingle Peninsula. Dating from Celtic time, it is one of the many archaeological sites which scatter the area. The structure is complete from inside except for the missing sidestone.



Slea Head

Craft Studios & Work Shops

An Gailearaí Beag (A2) Main St., Dingle. Tel: 066 9152967. www.gailearaibeag.com
A showcase of West Kerry Crafts Guilds.

Brian de Staic (A2) Green St., Dingle. Tel: 066 9151298. www.briandestaic.com
Brian de Staic crafts his jewellery according to the age-old traditions of the Celt.

Carol Cronin's Gallery (A2) Green Street, Dingle. Tel: 086 1031074.
www.carolcronin.com

Carol Cronin's seascapes are inspired by the Atlantic coast of West Kerry where she lives.

Dillon Gallery (A2) Green St., Dingle. Tel: 087 9449491. www.thedillongallery.com
Display of local artwork by Honora O'Neill, artist and owner of the Dillon.

Dingle Artworks (A2) Green St., Dingle. Tel: 066 9152220. www.dingleartworks.com
On going exhibition of paintings by local artists.

Dingle Crystal (A2) Tel: 066 9151550. www.dinglecrystal.ie
Sean Daly is one of a very few artisans who are hand crafting crystal in Ireland today. Visitors to the Dingle Crystal shop can view a stunning array of glassware be it a special present or simply a luxurious souvenir of your trip to Kerry.

Faoileán Pottery (A2) Ballyferriter West, Dingle. Tel: 066 9156294/086 1579392.
Children will love the opportunity to paint their own pottery from one of the hand thrown pots in store.

Greenlane Gallery (A2) Holy Ground, Dingle. Tel: 066 9152018.
www.greenlanegallery.com
Established in 1992 by Dingle native Susan Callery, this ambitious gallery showcases contemporary paintings and sculpture by Irish artists.

Hedi O'Neill Dingle Pottery (A2) Dingle. Tel: 066 9159097. www.dinglepottery.net
Hand crafted pottery by Hedi O'Neill. All Hedi's pottery is hand thrown, and hand decorated so each pattern is unique.

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Maharees

It Must Be Dingle (A2) Ballyferriter. Tel. 066 9156508. www.itmustbedingle.com
A warm welcome awaits you at It Must Be Dingle Art Gallery.

John Weldon (A2) Tel: 066 9152522. www.johnweldonjewellers.com
John's unique celtic jewellery features the finest celtic knotwork.

Kathleen McAuliffe (A2) Dingle. Tel: 066 9150644. www.kathleenmcauliffe.com
Kathleen McAuliffe makes all types of hats from couture styles to simple fun styles.

Kerry Craft Trails www.originalkerry.com
Take a craft trail while out and about in County Kerry, look for the official logo on participating craft-making premises. Brochures are available in Tourist Offices.

Lisbeth Mulcahy (A2) Dingle Tel: 066 9151688. www.lisbethmulcahy.com
Lisbeth is one of Ireland's best known designer/weavers and tapestry artists.

NU Goldsmith (A2) Dingle. Tel: 066 9152217. www.nugoldsmith.com
Hand crafted unique gold and silver jewellery by Niamh Utsch.

Distillery

Dingle Distillery Ltd (A2) Old Mill, Milltown, Dingle Tel. 086 8299944
www.dinglefoundingfathers.ie
Essentially an artisan distillery, producing whiskey, vodka and gin.
Open by appointment.

Theatres & Museums

Beehive Theatre Company (A2) The Studio Cúilin, Dingle. Tel: 066 9152924.
www.beehivetheatre.com
Europe's westernmost theatre, producing theatre, as well as offering diverse classes in Drama, playwriting, and production skills.



Dingle Marina

Tours, Trails and Boat Trips

Begley's Sleá Head Tour (A2) Tel: 087 2504767 www.dingleshuttlebus.com

Tours of the peninsula's many stunning locations and fascinating historical locations.

Bailtin Tours (A2) an Daingean. Tel 086 3252996. www.dingletours.com

Archaeological & Scenic Tours of the Dingle Peninsula.

Coastline Tours (A2) an Daingean. Tel 087 9982230. www.coastline-tours.com

Coastline Tours of Sleá Head, Dingle Peninsula and beyond.

Dingle Activities Centre (A2) Gallarus, Ballydavid, Dingle.

Tel: 066 9155143/086 8191942. www.dingleactivities.com

Dingle Activities Centre is a family run business offering specialist walking tours, cycling, fishing, beach combing, swimming, horse riding, boat trips and more.

Dingle Bay Charters (A2) Tel: 066 9151344; 087 6726100.

www.dinglebaycharters.com

Dingle Bay and Blasket Island boat tours depart from Dingle Yacht Marina.

Dingle Dolphin Boat Tours (A2) Tel: 066 9152626. www.dingledolphin.com

Dingle Boatmen's Association has 8 passenger boats that leave from Dingle Pier, on a 1 hour trip to see Fungie wild and free in his natural habitat.

Dingle Peninsula Food and Drink Trail www.discoverireland.ie

Don't miss your chance to sample some of the world's best food, meet some of the people who produce it, hear their stories, and experience their passion by following the Dingle Peninsula Food and Drink Trail. Brochures available at Tourist Information Offices.

O'Connors Sleá Head Tours (A2) Tel 087 2480008. www.dingletourskerry.com

Discover for yourselves the delightful Corca Dhuibhne O'Connor's Sleá Head Tours.

Sciúird Archeological Tours (A2) Holyground, Dingle. Tel: 066 9151606

Sciúird Archeological Tours offer a unique insight into 6000 years of human habitation on the Dingle Peninsula, it is advisable to pre book tours.

For Ferry Services to the Blasket Islands, please see Islands section pages 150 to 157.

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

TRALEE AND NORTH KERRY



Rose of Tralee Sculpture. Credit: Cathy Donovan

Tralee and North Kerry

From its rolling green countryside, sandy beaches, spectacular golf courses, relaxing rural walks, to engaging historical monuments and a life on stage that combines songs and tales of Ireland's rural past, North Kerry is the hidden treasure of the beautiful Southwest.

North Kerry is the ideal place for a family holiday, with a broad variety of all weather attractions. You can explore the underground in Crag Caves, visit the Tralee Bay Wetlands, ride the indoor rapids at the Aqua Dome, experience life in Medieval Tralee at the County Museum or visit the dominant landmark in Tralee Bay; the Blennerville Windmill. Travel on board the Listowel Lartigue Monorail, climb to the top of Listowel Castle, or indulge in Literary History at the Seanchaí Centre in Listowel.

Visit Ballybunion, Kerry's premier seaside resort, witness crime and punishment at Tarbert Bridewell Jail, view the striking gothic ruin of Carrigafoyle Castle, Ballylongford or explore late Romanesque architecture at Ardfert Cathedral.

When the sun goes down you can enjoy a night at the dogs at Kingdom Greyhound Stadium, take in a show at Siamsa Tíre, the National Folk Theatre of Ireland or at St. John's Theatre, Listowel, or you could join in a local sing song with traditional performers, rambling house style!!

Did you know?

- Tralee is famous for the Rose of Tralee International Festival.
- Listowel is often described as the Literary Capital of Ireland.
- That you can **Experience Tralee 1-2-3**: Enjoy three great attractions
1. Tralee Bay Wetlands 2. Kerry County Museum 3. Blennerville Windmill with our great value Family Ticket for only €33
*Two Adults and up to three children. Tickets available at each of the three attractions.

For more information, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre, Tourist Office or visit www.discoverireland.ie



Ballybunion Castle

Tralee And North Kerry Towns & Villages

~~~~~ **Ardfert** (C2) The once ecclesial capital of Kerry has a long history of association with medieval churches. Brendan the Navigator founded a monastery in Ard Fhearta (Ardfert) in the 6th century and it later became the headquarters of the Anglo-Norman Church in Kerry.

~~~~~ **Ballybunion** (C1) is a jewel in the North Kerry crown, the town boasts two golden blue flag beaches, picturesque sea caves and offers the visitor an abundance of accommodation, festivals and activities all year round. The world renowned Ballybunion Golf Club, has had many famous visitors including Bill Clinton, former US President who played at Ballybunion in both 1998 and 2001. From the fun and games at the International Bachelor festival to walking, golfing, surfing, dolphin watching, pints, seaweed baths and excellent evening performances at the state of the art theatre, one might be tempted to ask, is this the seaside town that never sleeps?

~~~~~ **Ballyduff** (C1) This local village nestled in the heart of rural North Kerry between the seaside resorts of Ballybunion and Ballyheigue is home to the Rattoo Round Tower, one of Ireland's finest examples of round towers dating from the 10th century.

~~~~~ **Ballyheigue** (C1) A wide blue flag beach in Ballyheigue with extraordinary views of the mountains of Dingle Peninsula is worth a visit as is the Ballyheigue Castle, a backdrop for the Ballyheigue Golf Course. Horse racing during the summer can also be seen on the beach. Water sports including wind surfing and kite surfing are popular and the nearby beaches are also frequented by surfers. It is also the final stop on the long distance way marked North Kerry Way at Kerry Head.

~~~~~ **Ballylongford** (D1) is home to the refurbished Carrigafoyle Castle, close by the remains of Lislaughlin Abbey still has the fine east window intact. An annual oyster festival takes place in this vibrant town.

~~~~~ **Blennerville** (C2) Blennerville was the main port of emigration from County Kerry during the Great Famine (1845-1848) and the visitor centre houses a detailed display on Irish Emigration including models of the infamous 'coffin ships'.



Fleadh Cheoil, Listowel

🌊 **Castleisland** (D2) traditionally known as a market town, got its name from a moat around the now ruined castle. Close by is Crag Cave, a superb show cave and entry to the rocky inner heart of the area. Discovered in 1983 and thought to be over a million years old, this natural, all weather attraction has dramatic sound and lighting effects.

🌊 **Fenit** (B2) village is situated just 13km from Tralee in the beautiful setting of Tralee Bay, where you can enjoy some of the most spectacular views on the western seafloor. When visiting Fenit Harbour, a stroll to the St. Brendan the Navigator Heritage Park is a must as is sampling some of the finest seafood catch of the day in local restaurants.

Listowel (C1) is famous for its cultural links through the international Listowel Writers Week attracting well-known authors from around the world in early June each year. The magnificent 15th century castle, St. John's Theatre, the Seanchai Literary and Cultural Centre, the Lartigue Monorailway and the 'Gardens of Europe' in Childers Park reflect the rich cultural history of North Kerry. Listowel has two interesting walking trails; The River Walk 4km and The Sive Walk 11km. Each September the annual week long horse racing festival is held, a tradition since 1858!

Lyreacrompane (C2) is where the late John B. Keane spent the summers of his youth and it was home to many of the characters who later inspired his plays and stories. One of those characters was Dan Paddy Andy O'Sullivan, the last of the great Irish Matchmakers and it is Dan who is commemorated here annually in a four day festival of music, song, dance and storytelling - The Dan Paddy Andy Festival.

🌊 **Tarbert** (D1) is home to the Tarbert/Killmer Car ferry, the shortest route between Kerry and Clare. Tarbert House, is a Georgian Heritage House built around 1680 by the Leslie family. The John F. Leslie Woodland Walk starts at the Tarbert Bridewell. This old Courthouse and Jail has been restored as a visitor centre illustrating law enforcement and jail conditions in the 1830s. The adjoining river is a habitat to a variety of duck and other wildlife.

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

🌊 Indicates the town or village is located on the Wild Atlantic Way.

Visitor Attractions

25 Kerry County Museum

Ashe Memorial Hall,
Denny Street, Tralee

Tel: 066 7127777

www.kerrymuseum.ie



Find out what makes Kerry different at Ireland's Museum of the Year 2009. You will discover the unique flavour of the 'Kingdom' at Kerry County Museum, where our displays introduce you to the county's distinctive culture and heritage.

Open: Jan - Apr & Oct - Dec; Tue - Sat 9.30 - 17.00. May - Sep; Daily 9.30 - 17.00. Bank Holiday weekends Sun & Mon 10.00 - 17.00.

Admission: Adult: €5; Child: Free of charge.

26 Aqua Dome

Dan Spring Road, Tralee

Tel: 066 7129150

www.aquadome.ie



The Aqua Dome is one of Ireland's Largest Indoor Water Worlds & Premier Tourist Attractions. The Aqua Dome offers tropical temperatures all year round and is a great day out for all the family.

Open: Jul - mid Aug; 10:00 - 22:00 Mon - Fri, 10:00 - 21:00 Sat & Sun
Mid Aug - Jul; 10:00 - 22:00 Mon - Fri, 11:00 - 20:00 Sat & Sun

Admission: Adult: €15, Child: €12, Child under 2: Free of charge

★ **Offer:** Family Discount Rates Available.

27 Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre

Ballyard Road, Tralee

Tel: 066 7126700

www.traleebaywetlands.org



Activity and nature based visitor experience with 20 meter high observation tower, guided nature boat tours, interactive wildlife exhibition, activity lake with pedalo/rowing Boats, water walkers, climbing wall and boulder complex.

Open: Daily; Mar - Oct; 10.00 - 17.00, Jul & Aug; 10.00 - 19.00, Nov - Feb 11.00 - 16.00 (Closed: Christmas & New Year.)

Admission: Adult: €6, Senior/Student: €5, Child: €4, Family (2+3): €20.

★ **Offer:** 10% off Admission or Hire Equipment (T&C apply, not to be used in conjunction with any other offer).

28 Siamsa Tíre, National Folk Theatre

Town Park, Tralee

Tel: 066 7123055

www.siamsatire.com



People from Kerry and visitors from all over the world enjoy the best of Irish music, song and dance at Siamsa Tíre. Join us for a performance in our wonderful theatre in Tralee.

Open: Mon - Thur, Sat & Sun (May & Sep), Mon - Sun (Jun - Aug) at 20.30.

Admission: Varies depending on the performance.

29 Blennerville Windmill

Blennerville, Tralee

Tel: 066 7121064

www.kerrymodelrail.com



Guided tours of Ireland's largest working windmill, built in 1800 and painstakingly restored. The Visitor Centre contains a multi-lingual exhibition, audio visual presentation and Kerry Model Railway.

Open: Daily; Apr - Oct.

Admission: Adult: €5, Child: €3, Senior/Student: €4, Family: €15.

30 Crag Cave

Crag, Castleisland

Tel: 066 7141244

www.cragcave.com



Three Attractions in one location!

Crag Cave is an all weather attraction over one million years old, Adventure Centre for children, Kingdom Falconry, Birds of Prey flying displays also Gift Shop & Garden Restaurant.

Open: Apr - Dec; Daily 10.00 -18.00, Jan - Mar; Fri - Sun 10.00 - 18.00, (Closed Dec 24th - 27th).

Admission: Adult: €12, Child: €5, Student/Senior: €9, Family: €30 (2+2), €35 (2+4), (Crazy Cave €8 per child for 2 hrs. playtime.)

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

Visitor Attractions

31 Ardfert Cathedral

Ardfert, Tralee

Tel: 066 7134711

www.heritageireland.ie



The Cathedral dates from the 12th - 17th centuries and has a fine Romanesque west doorway, a magnificent 13th century east window and a spectacular row of nine lancets in the south wall.

Open: 30th Apr - 30th Sep; Daily 10.00 - 18.00. Please check our website for updates.

Admission: Adult: €4, Group/Senior: €3, Child/Student: €2, Family: €10. Maximum number on tour 40.

32 North Kerry Museum

Knoppouge North,
Ballyduff, Tralee

Tel: 087 7426231

www.northkerrymuseum.com



The museum houses exhibits from the early Mesolithic, Neolithic & Bronze Age – all the way to the land wars, archaic farming, old industries. The museum also features picture gallery, media room, gift shop and coffee shop.

Open: Jan 6th - May 31st Wed - Fri 10.00 - 16:30, Jun 1st - Sep 30th Daily 9:30 - 16:30, Oct 1st - Dec 22nd Thu & Fri 10.00 - 16:30.

Admission: Adult: €5, Child €2.50, Family(2+2) €12.

33 Listowel Castle

The Square, Listowel

Tel: 086 3857201

www.heritageireland.ie



Listowel Castle was built by the Fitzmaurice family 'the Lords of Kerry' in the 1400's. In November 1600 the castle was held by Irish rebels during a month long siege before surrendering to the attacking English army.

Open: 20th May - 4th Sep, 10.00 - 18.00 **Last admission 45 minutes before closing.** It is suggested that large groups should book in advance.

Admission: Free of charge including a guided tour.

34 Seanchaí - Kerry Writers' Museum

24 The Square, Listowel

Tel: 068 22212/57927

www.kerrywritersmuseum.com



Discover the stories & songs of acclaimed Kerry writers including John B. Keane & Bryan MacMahon in a unique audio-visual experience. Filled with an abundance of rich characters, humour, romance and tragedy, the words of the writers are now brought to life by costumed characters. Visit our website for performance times.

Open: Jun - Aug; Mon - Sat 9.30 - 17.00, Sep - May; Mon - Fri 10.00 - 16.00.

Admission: Adult: €6, Senior/Student: €5, Child: €3.50 (under 7 free), Family (2+2): €12.50

★ **Offer:** €1 discount midweek on presentation of this guide

35 Lartigue Monorail and Museum

John B. Keane Road, Listowel

Tel: 068 24393

www.lartiguemonorail.com



Take a demonstration trip on this truly unique train, a re-creation of the world's strangest railway. View the Museum's models and displays and watch historic film of the original railway in operation.

Open: Daily; 2nd May - 12th Sep 13.00 - 16.30, 20th - 30th Sep 13.00 - 16.30 (Groups by appointment).

Admission: Adult: €6, Senior: €5, Child: €3 (Under 5 free of charge), Family: €15, Group rates on request.

36 Tarbert Bridewell Visitor Centre

Tarbert

Tel: 068 36500

www.tarbertbridewell.com



Built in 1831, Tarbert Bridewell has served as a courthouse and jail for more than 100 years. Its exhibitions bring history back to life as visitors follow the life of wretched Thomas Dillon.

Open: Daily: 1st Apr - 30th Sep; 10.00 - 18.00. Oct - Mar; Mon - Fri, 10.00 - 16.00.

Admission: Adult: €5. Senior/Student: €3.50. Child: €2.50. Family: €12.



Tralee Bay Sailing Club, Fenit. Credit: Cathy Donovan

More to Experience

Castles, Churches & Settlements

Ballyheigue Castle (C1) Ballyheigue. www.ballyheiguelcastlegolfclub.com

Much of the town's history centres on the great castle overlooking the village which is now the centrepiece of the surrounding Ballyheigue golf course.

Carrigafoyle Castle (D1) Ballylongford. www.discoverireland.ie

The Castle has been recently partially restored and is one of the finest examples in the Southwest of a fortress built in the troubled times of the 1500s.

Fitzmaurice Castle (C1) Ballybunion. www.discoverireland.ie

The striking 30 foot wall of this 16th century castle stands proudly in the enclosure of a promontory fort.

Kyrie Eleisen Abbey (C2) Abbeydorney. www.discoverireland.ie

The ruins of this 12th century abbey have some of the finest examples of Celtic crosses in the area. The Cistercians called the abbey, Kyrie after the name of the territory it was situated in 'Ciarrai' Kerry.

Ratass Church (C2) Tralee. www.dioceseofkerry.ie

Now in ruins is one of the town's oldest buildings. The nave of this church is the oldest part, within is an Ogham stone and cross slab.

St. John's RC Church (C2) Castle Street, Tralee. www.dioceseofkerry.ie

St. John's Church possesses a superb collection of stained glass, paintings and sculptures.

Tours & Houses

Arabella House (C2) Ballymacelligott, Tralee. Tel: 066 7137611

Arabella House is a late Georgian country house, packed with many original features and a distinguished history.

Eco Trek Tours - Ballybunion (C1) Tel: 087 3539613 E: dannyhoulihan@me.com

Take a journey through the Myths of Time and experience the history, wildlife and lore with Danny Houlihan your local guide & historian. Tours run at 14.00 on Sundays. **Booking is essential.**

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

North Kerry Heritage Trails (C2) www.northkerryheritagetrails.ie

Tel: 087 7426231

Guided tours of North Kerry's historic sites from Historic Castles, Heritage & Cultural, Christianity & Spiritual & Independence & Civil war points of interest.

Walking Tours of Tralee Town (C2) Tralee Tel: 087 2229910 / 087 2628032

Duration 1 hour; (Operates by appointment only, please telephone for details.)

Theatres

Ivyleaf Theatre & Art Centre (D2) Old Church Lane, Castleisland. Tel: 066 7141135

Located in a converted 12th century church, the local drama group stage local productions.

St. John's Theatre and Exhibition Gallery (C1) The Square, Listowel.Tel: 068 22566. www.stjohnstheatrelistowel.com

Theatre, Music, Dance & Visual Arts Venue housed in a converted church.

Tinteán Theatre (C1) Main St., Ballybunion. Tel: 068 28003. www.tintean.com

A venue for contemporary Traditional Irish Dance, Irish Music and literature.

Craft Studios & Work Shops

North Kerry has a host of original craft producers and artists and many have opened their doors to visitors, providing a special glimpse into the inner workings of their studios.

Eden Art Studio & Gallery (C2) Tralee. Tel: 066 7121824.**John Hurley Art Gallery (C2)** Tralee. Tel: 087 2838895 www.hurleyscapes.com**Liam & Marie Brennan (C1)** Ballybunion. Tel: 086 0664435.**The Jane Hilliard Gallery (C2)** Tralee. Tel: 066 7180055 www.janehilliard.com**Kerry Craft Trails** Tel: 086 8524222 www.originalkerry.com/trails/north-east-kerry**Tubrid Art Studio** Ann Hennessy, Tubrid More, Ardfer. Tel: 087 6579093**Valerie Clifford (C2)** Tralee. Tel: 086 7376036

www.facebook.com/pages/valerie-cliffords

Farm

Beal Lodge Organic Farm (C1) Asdee, Listowel Tel: 086 8239582.

www.bealorganiccheese.com

Demonstrations of cheese making and tasting, please contact in advance for details.

Gortbrack Organic Farm (C2) Ballyseedy, Tralee Tel: 066 7137042

www.gortbrackorganicfarm.com

See website for information and details of upcoming courses and events.

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



| Map No. | Attraction |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Kerry Bog Village |
| 2 | The Old Barracks |
| 3 | Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church |
| 4 | Skellig Experience Visitor Centre |
| 5 | Geokaun Mountain & Fogher Cliffs |
| 6 | Derrynane House |
| 7 | Staigue Fort |
| 8 | Kerry Geopark Information Centre |
| 9 | Molly Gullivan's Cottage |

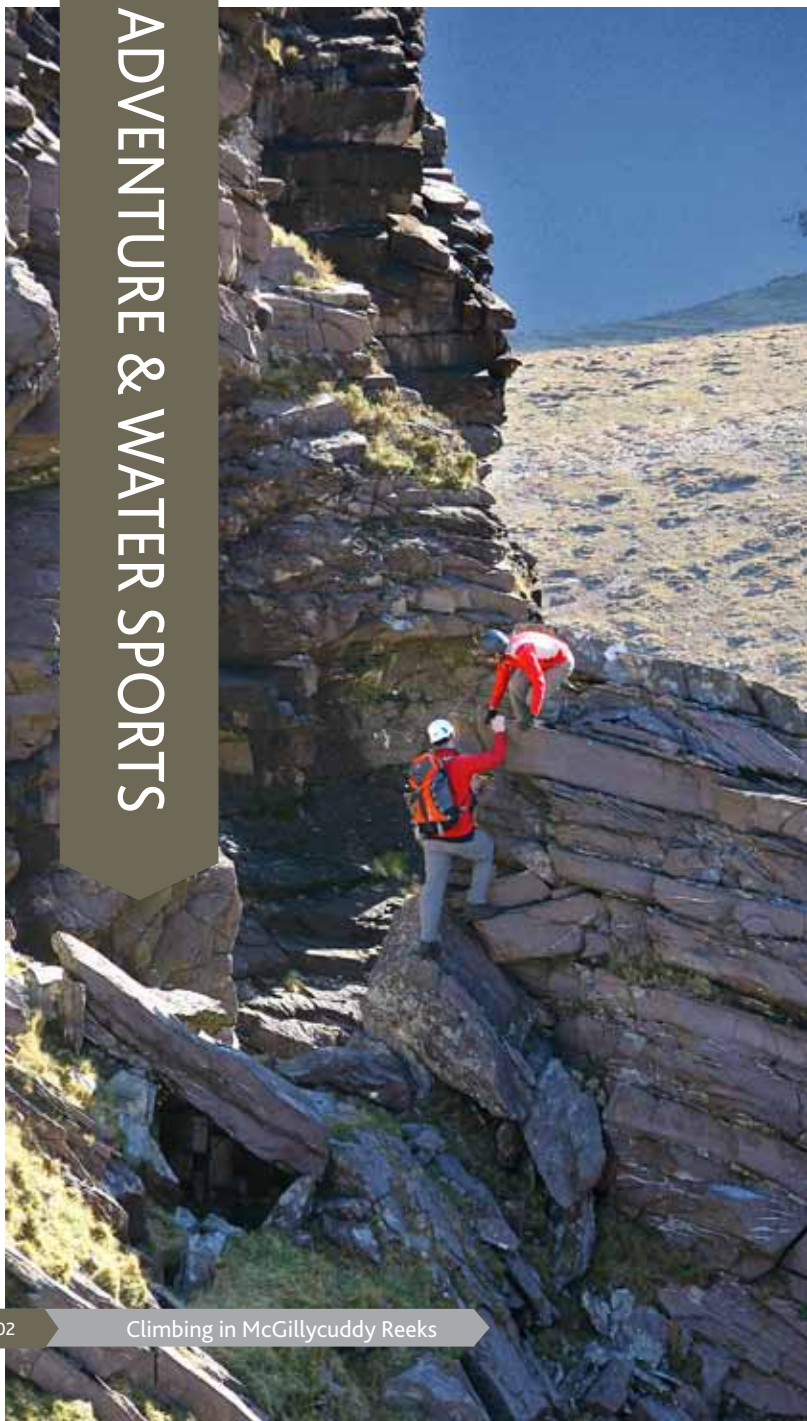
| Map No. | Attraction |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 10 | Bonane Heritage Park |
| 11 | Kenmare Heritage Centre |
| 12 | Kilgarvan Motor Museum |
| 13 | Dingle Oceanworld |
| 14 | Fungie Dingle Dolphin Boat Tours |
| 15 | An Disear |
| 16 | Celtic & Prehistoric Museum |
| 17 | Beehive Huts |
| 18 | Dunbeg Fort |
| 19 | The Blasket Centre |



| Map No. | Attraction |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 20 | Louis Mulcahy Pottery |
| 21 | Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne |
| 22 | Gallarus Oratory |
| 23 | Dingle Brewing Co. |
| 24 | Riasc Monastic Settlement |
| 25 | Kerry County Museum |
| 26 | Aqua Dome |
| 27 | Tralee Bay Wetlands Centre |
| 28 | Siamsa Tire |
| 29 | Blennerive Windmill |

| Map No. | Attraction |
|---------|---|
| 30 | Crag Cave |
| 31 | Ardfert Cathedral |
| 32 | North Kerry Museum |
| 33 | Listowel Castle |
| 34 | Seanchaí - Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre |
| 35 | Lartigue Monorail & Museum |
| 36 | Tarbert Bridewell Visitor Centre |

ADVENTURE & WATER SPORTS



Adventure & Water Sports

With one of the longest, most varied coastlines in the country as well as rivers and lakes throughout the region, the South West area provides some of the best facilities for adventure and water based activities.

Top that off with national parks, mountains and a network of rivers, mountaineering and climbing trails second to none and you have a great choice of activities all within easy reach. Try your hand at quad biking across hilly terrain, or paintballing or explore the caves and the wonders of rock formations deep underground.

Mountaineering, either guided or self guided, is a growing activity in the region with courses in rock climbing, mountain navigation and scrambling available. Prepare for alpine adventures or trips to the Antarctic with experienced trainers using specific terrain and skills to build your expertise.

There are a number of dive centres around the coast that can take you to the Blaskets or Skelligs for some fascinating diving experiences off the islands and rocks. Tuition from experienced divers can help even the most inexperienced get started and most centres supply all the safety and diving equipment you will need.

Sailing in every type of craft from dinghies or keelboats to catamarans is a popular pastime for locals and visitors alike. Visit places such as Cobh, Kinsale, Dingle Bay, Fenit, Courtmacsherry, Baltimore or Bantry and you will find sailing schools and clubs willing and able to get you out on the water exploring the many facets of the local coastline. Why not try sea kayaking or inland water canoeing?

If it is surfing that lights your fire, try some of the best conditions in Europe with big rollers in autumn and spring along this dramatic coastline!



Sea Kayaking Lough Hyne



Cappanalea Abseiling



Adventure & Water Sports

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS | DESCRIPTION |
|--|--|--|
| Cork | | |
| 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 Sea Kayaking, West Cork/
Cork City | 028 21058 www.atlanticseakayaking.com | Sea Kayaking |
| Baltimore Diving Centre | 028 20300 www.baltimorediving.com | Diving / Coastal Tours |
| Baltimore Sailing School | 028 20141
www.baltimoresailingschool.com | Sailing |
| Baltimore Yacht Charters | 086 2738368
www.baltimoreyachtcharters.com | Sailing |
| Ballyhass Lakes Activity Centre, Mallow | 022 27773 www.ballyhasslakes.ie
www.ballyhasswakepark.ie | Activity Centre/Wakepark |
| Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trails | 063 91300 www.visitballyhoura.com | Mountain Biking Centre |
| Barleycove Surf Camp | 087 1532248
www.barleycovesurfcamp.com | Surf School |
| Blackwater Outdoor Activities,
Castletownroche | 086 7837015
www.blackwateroutdooractivities.com | Outdoor Adventure
Centre |
| Bridgefield Buggies, Castlemartyr | 021 4667533 www.quadbikesafari.ie | Quad Biking |
| Carbery Sailing, Ahakista | 027 29101 www.carberysailing.com | Sailing |
| Carrig Water Ski & Wakeboard,
Carrigadrohid | 086 0757180
www.carrigwaterski.ie | Water Ski |
| Cork Harbour Boat Hire, Cobh | 086 0747926
www.corkharbourboathire.com | Self Drive Boats |
| Cork Powerboat & Waterski Club,
Lower Dripsey | 021 7334605
www.waterskiireland.com | Water Ski & Wakeboard |
| Courtmacsherry Watersports Centre | 087 6453979
www.courtmacsherrywatersports.com | Land Yachting / Sailing /
Powerboating / Kayaking |
| Fastnet Marine & Outdoor Education
Centre, Schull | 028 28515
www.schullsailing.ie | Sailing School |
| Funmanway, Dunmanway | 085 8060020 www.funmanway.ie | Zorbing / Paintball |
| GSUP Paddle Boarding, West Cork | 028 51528 www.discoverireland.ie | SUP Boarding |
| Gtown Surf School, Garrettstown | 087 8768549 www.surfgtown.com | Surf School /
Coasteering / SUP |
| Heir Island Sailing School | 028 38511
www.heirislandsailingschool.com | Sailing School |
| Inchydoney Surf School, Clonakilty | 086 8695396
www.inchydoneysurfschool.com | Surfing Lessons |
| Irish Water Sports at Inishbeg, Baltimore | 028 21745 www.irishwatersports.ie | Powerboating/Rib hire |
| Kartmania, Little Island | 021 2408000 www.kartmania.ie | Indoor Karting |
| Kartworld, Watergrasshill | 021 4889477 www.kartworld.ie | Karting/Paintball/Archery |
| Kayak Cork Harbour, Cork Harbour | 086 3469078
www.kayakcorkharbour.ie | Kayaking, Corporate,
Kids Clubs |
| Kinsale Boat Hire | 087 1747585 www.kinsaleboathire.ie | Boat Hire |
| Kinsale Outdoors | 021 4772896
www.kinsaleoutdoors.com | Sailing / Powerboating /
Kayaking / Abseiling |
| Kerry Climbing, East Cork | 087 7440523
www.kerryclimbing.ie | Rock Climbing / Walking
/ Scrambling |
| Neptune Kayak, Whitegate Rd,
Rostellan | 021 4661628
www.neptunekayak.com | SUP Tours / Rental |
| Ocean Addicts, Kinsale | 087 7903211 www.oceanaddicts.ie | Dive Charter / Cruising |
| Rebel Adventures, Clonakilty | 087 1233117
www.rebeladventures.com | Lazer Games / Archery /
Water sports |
| Rebel Waves Surf School, Rosscarbery
& Garrettstown | 086 3401621
www.rebelwaves.com | Surf School |
| Russagh Mill, Skibbereen | 028 22451 www.russaghamillhostel.com | Adventure Centre |
| Sail Cork, East Ferry, Cobh | 021 4811237
www.sailcork.com | Sailing / Powerboating /
Navigation courses |
| Schull & Fitbones, Schull | 086 2404709 www.fitbones.ie | Outdoor Adventure |

Cork

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| Schull Watersports Centre | 028 28554
www.discoverireland.ie | Kayaking/Sailing/Motor Boat Hire |
| Sovereign Sailing, Kinsale | 021 4774145 www.sovereignsailing.com | Sailing |
| Spike Island Adventure, Spike Island | 086 0209252
www.spikeadventure.com | Adventure Centre |
| Swell Surf School, Inch Beach, Whitegate | 087 9803206
www.swellsurfschool.ie | Surfing Lessons |
| Team Build, Bandon | 023 8843998 www.teambuild.ie | Adventure Sports / Team Building |
| The Lagoon Activity Centre, Rosscarbery | 087 7462720
www.lagoonaactivitycentre.ie | Kayak, Paddle-boat & Row-boat Hire / Windsurfing / SUP |
| The Oysterhaven Centre, Oysterhaven | 021 4770738
www.oysterhaven.com | Sailing / Kayaking / Windsurfing Courses |
| West Cork Sailing & Powerboating Centre, Adrigole | 027 60132
www.westcorksailing.com | Sailing/Kayaking/Canoeing / Powerboat |
| West Cork Sea Kayaking, Skibbereen | 086 3703767
www.westcorksea kayaking.com | Kayaking |
| Will and Away, Ballygarvan | 087 1366373 www.willandaway.ie | Outdoor Adventure |
| Youghal Dive Charters | 087 2112488 www.seahunter.ie | Dive Charter |

Kerry

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| Ballinskelligs Water Sports | 086 4176612 www.skelligboats.com | Diving |
| Ballyunion Surf School | 087 7443732 www.ballyunionsurf.com | Surfing School |
| Beara Outdoor Adventures, Bonane, Kenmare | 087 6678618
www.boa-ireland.com | Hillwalking / Rockclimbing
Canoeing / Cycling / Jeep Tours |
| Cahersiveen Marina & Water Activity Centre | 066 9472777
www.cahersiveenmarina.ie | Marina
& Water Activities |
| Cappanalea Outdoor Centre, Killorglin | 066 9769244 www.cappanalea.ie | Adventure Activities |
| Coasteering Ireland, Kenmare | 087 3562665
www.coasteering-ireland.com | Coasteering |
| Derrynane Sea Sports, Caherdaniel | 087 9081208
www.derrynaneseasports.com | Windsurfing / Sailing / Waterskiing / Canoeing |
| Dingle Bay Charters, Dingle | 066 9151344
www.dinglebaycharters.com | Yacht Charter/Eco Tours/
Harbour Cruises |
| Eclipse Ireland Adventure Centre, Kenmare | 064 6682965
www.eclipseireland.com | Adventure
& Activity Centre |
| Finn McCool's Surf School, Dingle | 066 9150833 www.finnmccools.ie | Surf School |
| Hidden Ireland Adventures, Killarney & Dingle | 087 2214002
www.hiddenirelandadventures.com | Mountaineering /
Hiking / Climbing |
| Irish Adventures, Dingle | 087 4190318
www.irishadventures.net | Kayaking / Rockclimbing /
Mountaineering / Biking |
| 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 |
| Kingdom Falconry, Crag Cave, Castleisland | 066 7141244
www.kingdomfalconry.com | Falconry |
| Kingdomwaves Surf School, Inch and Banna Beach | 087 7447958
www.kingdomwaves.com | Surf School |
| Kite Surf Ireland, Brandon Bay | 087 2229542 www.kitesurfireland.ie | Kite Surfing |
| Kite Way Kitesurfing School, Killarney | 087 2156299 www.kite-way.com | Kite Surfing |
| Mór Active, Waterville | 086 3890171
www.moractive.com | Climbing / Hiking
/ Mountaineering /
Kayaking / Coasteering |
| Off Shore Surf School, Inch, Banna, The Maharees | 087 2946519
www.offshoresurfschool.ie | Surfing |
| Outdoors Ireland, Killarney | 086 8604563
www.outdoorsireland.com | Mountaineering/ Rock
Climbing/Kayaking |
| Paintball Ireland, Tralee | 087 2854277 www.paintballireland.com | Paintball Games |
| Play at Height, Dingle | 066 9152822 www.playatheight.com | Climbing Wall |

Kerry

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| Play at Height, Killarney | 064 6631240 www.playatheight.com | High Ropes Adventure |
| Shorebreak Surf School, Banna Beach & Ballyheigue | 087 6475736
www.shorebreaksurfschool.com | Surf School |
| Skelligs Watersports, Ballinskelligs | 087 9178808 www.skelligsurf.com | Windsurfing / Surfing / Kayaking |
| Star Outdoors, Kenmare | 064 6641222
www.staroutdoors.ie | Kayaking / Sailing / Waterpark / Archery |
| Sunfish Explorer, Caherdaniel | 087 9474616 www.sunfishexplorer.com | Motorised kayaking |
| Tralee Bay Sailing Club, Fenit | 087 7606795 www.traleesailingclub.com | Sailing |
| Waterworld Castlegregory | 066 7139292 www.waterworld.ie | Dive Centre/Watersports |



ANGLING



Angling

Home to some of the best angling in Ireland, the South West region boasts a wide variety of fishing options from some of the best lake and river fishing through to adventurous and challenging shore and deep sea angling.

Helped by the warm waters of the Gulf Stream the greatest variety of fish in Europe is available off the Cork/Kerry coastline. Cahersiveen in Kerry has hosted both the European and World Boat Angling Championships. Castletownbere is also a firm favourite with deep sea angling enthusiasts. The River Blackwater, River Lee, Inniscarra Lake & Inchigeelagh Lake are very popular coarse fishing areas in the region.

Cobh hosts a deep sea angling festival each year and the Cork Harbour area and the offshore grounds beyond Roches Point offer the sea angler some of the best sea fishing in Ireland. Shark fishing is very popular and boats also offer fishing for large conger, ling, pollack, coalfish and cod that abound over offshore wrecks and reefs outside the confines of the harbour. For shore anglers, there is a choice of pier, beach, estuary and rock, yielding a wide range of species.

In Waterville the premium sea trout fishery in the area is on Lough Currane, famous for its spring salmon and large sea trout. As for shore angling, you'll be spoiled for choice along Kerry's magnificent coastline. Deep-sea angling is also popular; numerous experienced skippers have boats for hire and will take you out fishing. Further inland is Lough Leane situated within the Killarney National Park with an excellent stock of brown trout.

Visitors can expect angler-friendly accommodation, bait and tackle shops, as well as excellent eateries and vibrant pubs to complete the picture of an excellent angler's destination. For further information visit: www.discoverireland.ie and www.fishinginireland.info



Sea Angling, Kinsale



Minard, Dingle Peninsula



Angling

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS | DESCRIPTION |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Cork | | |
| Angling Bandon River | 086 3029396 www.bandonriver.com | Angling |
| Angling Charters, Cobh | 021 4812435 www.anglingcharters.eu | Angling |
| Angling Kinsale | 086 1036905 www.anglingkinsale.com | Sea Angling |
| Argideen River, Timoleague | 026 41222 www.discoverireland.ie | Game Angling |
| Aquaventures, Baltimore | 028 20511 www.aquaventures.ie | Sea Angling |
| Ballycotton Angling | 021 4646002
www.ballycottonangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Baltimore Angling | 086 3014971
www.baltimoreangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Ballyhass Lakes, Mallow | 022 27773
www.ballyhasslakes.ie | Fly Fishing /
Game Angling |
| Bandon Angling Association | 086 3724358 www.bandonangling.com | Game Angling |
| Barry Twomey, Crosshaven | 021 4831843 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| Clonakilty Coastal & Deep Sea Charters, Ring, Clonakilty | 083 4491403
www.irelandseaangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Clontackle & Leisure, Clonakilty | 023 8835580 www.clontackle.com | Bait/Tackle |
| Cork Harbour Boats, Passage West | 021 4841348
www.corkharbourboats.com | Sea Angling |
| Cork Whale Watch, Castletownshend | 086 3850568
www.corkwhalewatch.com | Sea Angling |
| Courtmacsherry Sea Angling Centre | 023 8846427
www.courtmacsherryangling.ie | Sea Angling |
| Deora Dé Deep Sea Angling, Cork Harbour | 021 4863445
www.charterangling.com | Sea Angling |
| East Cork Angling Centre, Midleton | 021 4631952 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| Eire Bass, Cobh | 086 1940744 www.corkbass.com | Sea Angling |
| Fly Fishing Ireland, Cork | 087 2353885 www.flyfishingireland.net | Angling |
| Fly Fish Ireland, Glanworth | 089 4948625 www.flyfishireland.ie | Fly Fishing |
| Geary Angling Services, Cobh | 021 4812167
www.sea-fishing-ireland.com | Sea Angling |
| Glandore Harbour Charters | 086 3314224
www.glandoreharbourcharters.com | Sea Angling |
| Iain O' Driscoll, Schull | 086 3862876 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| Inniscarra Lake | 021 7334023 www.fishinginireland.info | Coarse Angling |
| Jeffersport, Bandon | 023 8841133 www.fishinginireland.info | Permits/Tackle |
| Kinsale Boat Hire | 087 1747585 www.kinsaleboathire.ie | Sea Angling |
| Kinsale Charters | 087 2425685 www.kinsalecharters.com | Sea Angling |
| Kinsale Deep Sea Angling | 021 4774946 www.kinsaleangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Lagosta II, Cork Harbour | 087 6792796 www.fishinginireland.info | Sea Angling |
| Nick Dent, Baltimore | 086 8240642 www.wreckfish.com | Sea Angling |
| Peter Manning, Ballycotton | 021 4646773 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| River Funcheon, Fermoy | 022 25497 www.discoverireland.ie | Game Angling |
| River Ilen, Skibbereen | 026 41222 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 |
| Peter Manning, Ballycotton | 021 4646773 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| Sea Breeze Angling, Kinsale | 086 2311672
www.seabreezeanglingkinsale.com | Sea Angling |

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| South Coast Charter, Youghal | 087 2657177 www.charterangling.ie | Sea Angling |
| T.W Murray, Cork City | 021 4271089 www.fishinginireland.info | Permits/Tackle |
| West Cork Coastal Tours & Charter Fishing, Schull | 087 0969824
www.westcorkcoastaltours.com | Charter Fishing / Scenic Tours |
| Wreck Hunter, Cork | 087 2302362 www.wreckhunter.ie | Sea Angling |
| Youghal Deep Sea Angling | 024 90437
www.youghaldeepseaangling.com | Sea Angling |

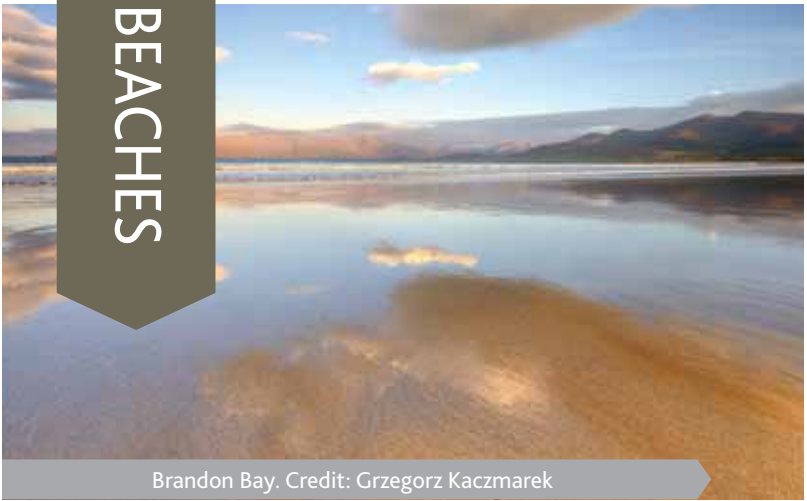
Kerry

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| Anchorsiveen, Cahersiveen | 066 9472049 www.fishinginireland.info | Sea Angling |
| Ballinskelligs Boats | 086 4176612 www.skelligboats.com | Sea Angling |
| Brian O' Sullivan, Fenit | 087 2600066 www.fishinginireland.info | 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 Bay Charters | 066 9151344
www.dinglebaycharters.com | Sea Angling |
| Eureka Lodge, Waterville | 066 9475248
www.salmonandseatrout.com | Angling |
| Garvey's Sports Shop, Dingle | 066 9151248 www.garveygroup.ie | Tackle
& Frozen Bait
Fishing Tackle |
| Halpins Fishing Tackle, Listowel | 068 22392 www.fishinginireland.info | Fishing Tackle |
| Joe Roddy & Sons, Portmagee | 087 1209924 www.skelligstrips.com | Sea Angling |
| Jack O'Shea, Sneem | 087 6329950 www.fishinginireland.info | Sea Angling |
| John O'Shea, Caherdaniel | 087 6898431 www.skelligtours.com | Sea Angling |
| Kenmare Angling | 087 2592209
www.kenmareanglingandsightseeing.com | Sea Angling |
| Kenmare Fishing Tours | 087 3748985
www.fishwithus.blogspot.com | Sea Angling |
| Kerry Boat Angling, Cahersiveen | 087 2571024
www.kerryboatangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Kerry Sea Angling, Cahersiveen | 087 2843283
www.kerryseaanglingcharters.com | Sea Angling |
| Killarney Lakeland Boat Trips | 087 2789335 www.discoverireland.ie | Angling |
| Landers Outdoor World, Tralee | 066 7126644 www.landere.ie | Tackle Supplies |
| Michael Moriarty, Fenit | 066 7136303 www.discoverireland.ie | Sea Angling |
| O'Neill's, Killarney | 064 6631970 www.fishinginireland.info | Permits / Tackle |
| Padraig O'Sullivan, Ballydavid | 087 9475141 www.fishinginireland.info | Sea Angling |
| Richard & Kevin O'Leary, Valentia Island | 087 1274558
www.ccangling.com | Sea Angling |
| Sea Quest, Valentia Island | 066 9476214 www.skelligsrock.com | Sea Angling |
| Sheen Falls River, Kenmare | 064 6641600 www.sheenfallslodge.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 9474433 www.fishinginireland.info | Permits/Tackle |
| Waterville Boats | 087 2202355 www.discoverireland.ie | Angling |

A list of fisheries, fishing guides, ghillies, instructors and boat hire can be obtained on:

www.fishinginireland.info

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



Brandon Bay. Credit: Grzegorz Kaczmarek

Beaches in the South West Region

The South West Region with over 1000 kilometres of coastline has numerous beaches to choose from, these include 17 Blue Flag beaches (Year 2014).



The Blue Flag is an international, voluntary eco-label for beaches and marinas and is awarded to beaches and marinas that meet a specific set of criteria: Environmental Information & Education; Water Quality; Safety & Services; and Environmental Management.



Green Coast Awards are awarded to beaches for their natural beauty, clean environment and water quality. These beaches may not have the necessary built infrastructure as to meet criteria set for Blue Flag status; however Green Coast Award beaches are exceptional places to visit and to enjoy our rich coastal heritage and diversity.



Barley Cove Beach. Credit: Raymond Fogarty

Blue Flag Beaches

| NAME | LOCATION |
|-------------|---------------|
| Cork | |
| Barleycove | Crookhaven |
| Garrylucas | Ballinspittle |
| Inchydoney | Clonakilty |
| Owenahincha | Rosscarbery |
| Tragumna | Skibbereen |

Kerry

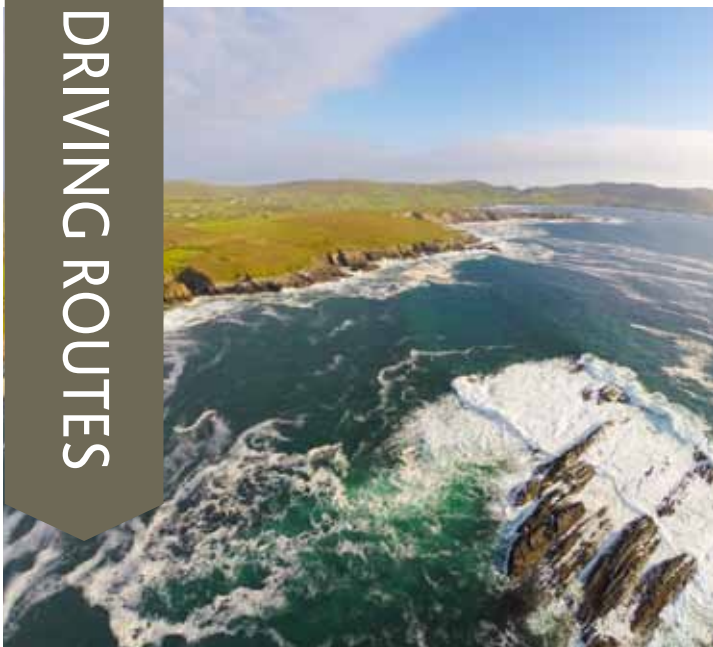
| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Ballinskelligs | Ballinskelligs |
| Ballyunion North | Ballyunion |
| Ballyunion South | Ballyunion |
| Ballyheigue | Ballyheigue |
| Banna | Ardfert |
| Derrynane | Caherdaniel |
| Fenit | Fenit |
| Inch | Inch |
| Kells | Cahersiveen |
| Magherabeg | Castlegregory |
| Ventry | Ventry |
| White Strand | Cahersiveen |

Green Coast Beaches

| NAME | LOCATION |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Cork | |
| Ardnahinch | Shanagarry |
| Ballyrisode | Schull |
| Dooneen Pier | Kilcrohane |
| Galley Cove | Crookhaven |
| Garnish | Beara |
| Inch Strand | Inch, East Cork |
| Oysterhaven | Oysterhaven |
| Ring | Ballymacoda |
| Rocky Bay | Carrigaline |

Kerry

| | |
|----------|---------------|
| Béal Bán | Ballyferriter |
|----------|---------------|



Wild Atlantic Way, Allihies. Credit: Raymond Fogarty

Coastal Driving Route

The **Wild Atlantic Way** stretches for 2,500 km (1,500 miles) along Ireland's western seaboard. From Malin Head in County Donegal down to Kinsale in County Cork and passing along by famous landmarks and film locations, this is the longest defined coastal drive in the world.

You'll drive on routes that ring great peninsulas, reaching out into the ocean. Tiny roads hug the shoreline then switch back high above the Atlantic swell. You'll want to 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. Maybe you'll hunker down and stay a night or two to get to know the places and the people... Pick your part of the **Wild Atlantic Way** to explore!

Please note, some sections of these Driving Routes may not be suitable for buses.



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Ireland / Government
of Ireland

Some Discovery Points along the Way!

Killimer-Tarbert Ferry - This pleasant, 20 minute journey across the Shannon Estuary provides a car ferry bridge between counties Kerry and Clare.

Ballybunion Beach - The sandy beaches near Ballybunion attract many families and are a popular surfing site. The famous Seaweed Baths are also in demand on the Ladies Beach. Dolphins may be seen from the nearby cliffs as well as excellent scenery.

Castlegregory Beach - Castlegregory Beach is a 4 - 5km stretch of interconnected beaches around Tralee Bay.

An Chonair - The Conor Pass is the highest mountain pass in Ireland, and provides the most dramatic and scenic way of entering or leaving Dingle. This narrow, twisting road runs between the town of Dingle and Kilmore Cross on the north side of the peninsula.

Radharc na mBlascaodaí (Blasket's View) - Although now uninhabited, the Blasket Islands were once home to a thriving community, cut off from the rest of Ireland by the two miles of sea forming the Blasket Sound. (For more details see pages 5 & 155 of this guide.)

Inch Strand - Where the infamous 'Ryan's Daughter' was filmed. Take a walk on this beautiful sandy beach, where Sarah Miles as Rosy Ryan met Robert Mitchum as Charles Shaughnessy.



Ordnance Survey
Ireland Permit No.8738
© Ordnance Survey
Ireland / Government
of Ireland

Some Discovery Points along the Way!

Rossbeigh Strand - The 7km sandy expanse of this blue flag beach has been officially declared as a Special Protection Area (SPA), and proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA), with important habitats and flora and fauna present.

Geokaun Mountain - At the peak of Geokaun Mountain there are three viewing areas - The Miner's View, The Shepherd's View and Carraig na Circe. There are 34 information plaques relating to the views.

Scelig Mhichil (Skellig Michael) - The Skellig Islands, Skellig Michael and Small Skellig, stand aloof in the Atlantic Ocean some 12km southwest of Valentia Island. (For more details see pages 6 & 156 of this guide.)

Ballinskelligs - A seaside resort on the edge of Ballinskelligs Bay (Bá na Scealg) with lots of sandy beaches, Ballinskelligs is part of the Gaeltacht where the Irish language is spoken.

Com an Chiste (Coomakista Pass) - From the Coomakista Pass you can take in the spectacular views over the Kenmare River, Ballinskelligs Bay, Caherdaniel, Scariff and Deenish Islands.

Kenmare River View - From Kenmare the N70 runs west along the north side of the inlet known as the Kenmare River. On the right can be seen the foothills of MacGillycuddy's Reeks, on the left, over the water, the Caha Mountains.



Some Discovery Points along the Way!

Dursey Island - The most westerly of West Cork's inhabited islands, Dursey lies across a narrow sound and is accessed via Ireland's only cable car, which runs about 250m above the sea. (For more details see pages 7 & 153 of this guide.)

Bere Island - lies at the entrance to the spectacular Bantry Bay and guards the deep water harbour of Berehaven, in West Cork. Bere Island has been voted Ireland's tidiest Island for the past five years. (For more details see page 152 of this guide.)

Whiddy Island - Only a short ferry ride from Bantry Town, in West Cork, lies Whiddy Island. This Island is a haven for wildlife and a great place to spend a day wandering. (For more details see page 154 of this guide.)

Garinish Island - (Innacullin) is world renowned for its gardens which are laid out in beautiful walks and it has some stunning specimen plants which are rare in this climate. (For more details see pages 7 & 153 of this guide.)

Sheep's Head - Measuring roughly 21km in length and just 4km across its widest point, this undulating ridge jutting out from the Atlantic is a beautiful place to explore. With wild scenery, picturesque loughs and fantastic coastal views, the Sheep's Head Peninsula is one of Ireland's treasures.



Some Discovery Points along the Way!

Cléire (Cape Clear Island) - Only 5km long and 2km wide Cape Clear or Oileán Chléire, is a Gaeltacht island 13km off the coast of West Cork. It is Ireland's southernmost inhabited island. (For more details see page 152 of this guide.)

Sherkin Island - Across from the fishing village of Baltimore is Sherkin Island, one of Carbery's Hundred Isles. Sherkin is the ancestral home of the O'Driscoll clan whose castle lies just above the pier. (For more details see page 154 of this guide.)

Heir Island - Sometimes referred to as Hare Island, is located in the spectacular Roaringwater Bay, surrounded by a panorama of Sherkin Island, Cape Clear, Calf Islands, Skeams and Mount Gabriel. (For more details see page 153 of this guide.)

Lough Hyne - Tidal currents rush in from the Atlantic to feed Lough Hyne, a marine lake whose warm salt waters support a rich habitat of plants and creatures. (For more details see page 8 of this guide.)

Mizen Head - One of the main transatlantic shipping routes passes close by to the south, and Mizzen Head was, for many seafarers, the first (or last) sight of Europe. (For more details see page 8 of this guide.)

Old Head of Kinsale - Home to one of the world's most spectacular golf courses and notable for being the nearest land point to the site of the sinking of the RMS Lusitania in 1915. (For more details see page 9 of this guide.)

East Cork Driving Route



East Cork Drive

Distance: 93km (58 miles approx)

Cork » Cobh » Midleton » Cloyne » Shanagarry » Ballycotton » Killeagh » Youghal

The East Cork Drive takes you on a picturesque journey with harbour, coastal and stunning rural landscapes. As you head east, stop along the way to see the cheetahs and giraffes at Fota Wildlife Park or visit Fota House & Gardens. Picturesque **Cobh** is the first town on the route and you may spot a Cruise Liner berthed there. Attractions include St. Colman's Cathedral with its beautiful stained glass windows and harbour views, the Cobh Heritage Centre, the Titanic Trail Walking Tour, Cobh Museum and the Titanic Experience attraction where it tells the story of Titanic through the eyes of the Queenstown passengers.

On the way to **Midleton**, you can visit the grounds of Barryscourt Castle. In Midleton you can watch and even sample how one of Ireland's most famous brands of whiskey, Jameson, is made at the Jameson Experience. Long renowned for food and drink, Midleton holds a Farmers' Market every Saturday which attracts many artisan food producers. Continue on to the small and ancient cathedral town of **Cloyne** to see one of the few surviving round towers in Ireland.

Shanagarry is associated with William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania in the United States. Home to the internationally renowned Ballymaloe Cookery School and Gardens and the world famous Stephen Pearce Pottery. Enjoy a lovely, refreshing cliff walk at near by **Ballycotton**, one of the most scenic fishing ports in the area, or relax on the beautiful blue flag beach at **Garryvoe**. Glenbower Wood in **Killeagh** Village is a great spot for a family picnic and a woodland walk, before you venture east to **Youghal**, one of the last walled towns of Ireland. Youghal is a designated 'Family Fun' location and also a Heritage Town, you can relive its colourful past by following the Youghal Heritage Trail. (For detailed information on places to visit on this route, see pages 22-33 of this guide.)

EQUESTRIAN



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.

With its miles of sandy beaches, forest trails and national parks, the South West region is a wonderful place to ride a horse. This is just a sample of the equestrian adventures awaiting you.

Follow the Shamrock



Independently Assessed and Quality Assured by Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority. 'Whenever you see this symbol you can be assured this Equestrian Centre is visitor friendly and committed to delivering high quality services and facilities. Visit: www.discoverireland.ie/equestrian for current listings.

Horse Racing in Ireland's South West

Racing is also a pre-occupation of many, with regular race meetings held in Cork, Killarney and Listowel, giving ample opportunity to experience the unmistakable sounds and sights of horses straining their way to the finishing line. For more informal horse racing why not attend the Ballyheigue Festival with horse racing on the beach during the summer months or the Inch International Polo festival or traditional 'Point to Point' meetings across the South West region. Great fun for all as the horses thunder across the sands chasing a small ball or just racing each other.

For local fixtures and information, visit one of our Discover Ireland Centres or Tourist Offices (Please see inside front cover of this Guide or visit: www.discoverireland.ie).

Horse Racing Ireland, visit: www.goracing.ie

For Road Trotting info, visit: www.irishtrotting.com

Equestrian

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS |
|---|--|
| Cork | |
| Ballywilliam Riding Centre, Ballywilliam, Cobh | :086 1966127 www.aire.ie |
| Bridestown Towers Equestrian Centre, Glenville | :087 9627302 www.bridestownequestrian.com |
| Castlemore Riding School, Knockshanavee, Farnanes | :086 4013001 www.aire.ie |
| Castlewhite Riding Centre, Waterfall, Near Cork | :087 2747053 www.aire.ie |
| Churchtown Riding School, Churchtown, Mallow | :086 8821189 www.aire.ie |
| Dunsfort Equestrian Centre, Dunsfort, Middleton | :086 0886896 www.aire.ie |
| Eden Hill Language & Equestrian Centre, Mallow | :086 8057616 www.edenhillireland.com |
| Fermoy Equestrian Centre, Knock, Fermoy | :087 2941043 www.aire.ie |
| Follyfoot Riding Farm, Shanbally, Riverstick | :086 8322795 www.aire.ie |
| Glen Aire Stables, Lavally, Mallow | :087 2280747 www.aire.ie |
| Hawthorn Villa Stud & Riding Centre, Innishannon | :086 8525795 www.aire.ie |
| Hitchmoughs Riding School, Monkstown | :086 8395989 www.hitchmoughsridingschool.ie |
| Hop Island Equestrian Centre, Rochestown, Cork | :087 4173770 www.hopisland.com |
| Hyde Equine, Caherlag, Glanmire | :087 7828172 www.hydeequine.com |
| Kinsale Equestrian Centre, Cappagh, Kinsale | :086 8530894 www.kinsale-equestrian.com |
| Schull Equestrian Centre, Derryleary, Schull | :087 4163563 www.schullec.ie |
| Skevanish Equestrian Centre, Innishannon | :085 1326225 www.skevanish.com |
| Tulligmore Equestrian Centre, Ballinhassig | :086 2597664 www.tulligmoreequestrian.com |
| Valley View Equestrian Centre, Newmarket | :087 9883167
www.valleyviewequestriancentre.webs.com |

Kerry

| | |
|--|---|
| Blackwater Stables, Blackwater Bridge, Killarney | :087 6203627 www.blackwaterstables.eu |
| Dingle Horse Riding, Ballinaboola, Dingle | :086 8211225 www.dinglehorseriding.com |
| Eagle Rock Equestrian Centre, Caherdaniel | :087 2462981 www.eaglerockcentre.com |
| Killarney Riding Stables, Ballydowney, Killarney | :087 2606366 www.kerrytrailride.com |
| Longs Horse Riding, Kilcolman, Ventry | :087 2250286 www.longsriding.com |
| Muckross Pony Trekking Centre, Muckross, Killarney | :087 0576703 www.aire.ie |
| Muckross Riding Stables, Mangerton Road, Muckross, Killarney | :087 7549859 www.muckross-stables.com |
| Pony Tales Stables, Laham, Faha, Killarney | :086 2236762 www.ponytalesstables.com |
| Ring of Kerry Equestrian Centre, Waterville | :087 6353999 www.aire.ie |
| River Valley Stables, Lounihan, Kilgarvan | :087 9585895 www.aire.ie |
| Tralee Equestrian Centre, Tonevane, Tralee | :066 7117800 www.traleeequestriancentre.com |

Horse Racing

| | |
|--|---|
| Cork Racecourse, Mallow, Co. Cork | :022 50207 www.corkracecourse.ie |
| Killarney Racecourse, Killarney, Co. Kerry | :064 6631125 www.killarneyraces.ie |
| Listowel Racecourse, Listowel, Co. Kerry | :068 21144 www.listowelraces.ie |

FAMILY FUN



Family Fun

The South West region offers plenty of choice when it comes to entertaining the family and boasts a fantastic array of activities from coastal adventures to action packed festivals and award winning museums.

The long undulating coastline along the South West shore is home to a host of sandy beaches and sheltered coves, many with Blue Flag status. Safe, fun, swimming conditions can easily be found and many beaches are popular for kayaking, windsurfing, horse-riding, sailing and diving.

Younger visitors will enjoy a selection of family-oriented farms to visit where you can even adopt a sheep. See rescued donkeys at the Donkey Sanctuary, explore the treasures of the deep sea at Dingle Oceanworld or discover the excitement of wild animals and big game at Fota Wildlife Park.

Take a look at Victorian engineering at the Lifetime Lab, get an insight into the life of 19th-century prisoners at Cork City Gaol, or glimpse the heavens at the Schull Planetarium. Alternatively, Blackrock Castle Observatory with its high-tech exhibits and interactive displays will indulge armchair astronauts of all ages.

You can enjoy the parades, fireworks and free entertainment at the many regional festivals or just take it easy in a city park as the children enjoy the playgrounds. For thrill seekers you can hone your driving skills at Kart World, take to the hills on a quad bike, explore the subterranean world of Crag Caves, splash around at the Aqua Dome or enjoy the region's many indoor play areas. Whatever your interests you can sit back, relax and plan your trip knowing that the South West region offers something for every member of the family.



Kerry County Museum



Derrynane Beach

Family Fun

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cork | | |
| Awesome Walls, Cork City | :021 4867060
www.awesomewalls.ie | :Climbing Centre /
:Playzone |
| CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory, Cork City | :021 4357917 www.bco.ie | :Interactive Astronomy |
| Chuckies Playzone, Cork City | :021 4344112 www.chuckies.ie | :Play Centre |
| Cobh Heritage Centre, Cobh | :021 4813591 www.cobheritage.com | :Heritage Centre |
| Cork Butter Museum, Cork City | :021 4300600 www.corkbutter.museum | :Museum |
| Cork City Gaol, Cork City | :021 4305022 www.corkcitygaol.com | :Gaol Museum |
| Cork Vision Centre, Cork City | :021 4279925 www.corkvisioncentre.com | :Visitor & Exhibition
:Centre |
| Fota Wildlife Park, Carrigtwohill | :021 4812678 www.fotawildlife.ie | :Wildlife Park |
| Go Safari, Carrigtwohill | :021 4389222 www.gosafari.ie | :Play Centre |
| Jungle World, Midleton | :021 4637055 www.jungleworld.ie | :Play Centre |
| Kartmania, Little Island | :021 2408000 www.kartmania.ie | :Indoor Karting |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Kartworld, Watergrasshill | 021 4889477 www.kartworld.ie | Adventure Centre |
| Leahy's Farm, Dungourney | 021 4668461 www.leahysopenfarm.ie | Visitor Farm |
| LeisurePlex, Cork City | 021 4505155 www.leisureplex.ie | Indoor Games Centre |
| Lifetime Lab, Cork City | 021 4941500 www.lifetimelab.ie | Interactive Exhibition |
| Little Rascals, Mallow | 022 51408 www.littlerascals.ie | Play Centre |
| Loughbeg Farm, Schull | 086 8197188 www.localcampus.com | Visitor Farm |
| Millstreet Country Park | 029 70810 www.millstreetcountrypark.com | Country Park |
| Monkey Maze, Glanmire | 021 4820674 www.monkeymaze.ie | Play Centre |
| Perks Entertainment, Youghal | 024 92438 www.perksfunfair.com | Funfair & Indoor Games |
| Planet Entertainment Centre, Blackpool, Cork City | 021 4300700 www.planetleisure.ie | Indoor Games Centre |
| Play Gaelic Games, Cork City | 086 1520046 / 086 1506041 | Hurling / Gaelic Football |
| Prince August Toy Soldier Factory, Kilmartryra | 026 40222 www.princeaugust.ie | Toy Soldier Factory |
| Rumley's Open Farm, Cork City | 021 4885122 www.rumleysfarm.ie | Visitor Farm |
| Smugglers Cove Adventure Golf, Rosscarbery | 023 8848054 www.rosscarberygolf.com | Golf & Adventure Centre |
| Supernova, Ballincollig | 021 4826905 www.supernova.ie | Play & Activity Centre |
| The Donkey Sanctuary, Liscarroll | 022 48398 www.thedonkeysanctuary.ie | Donkey Sanctuary |
| The Farm, Grenagh | 021 4629816 www.visitthefarm.ie | Visitor Farm |
| The Treehouse, Skibbereen | 028 48264 www.thetreehouse.ie | Play Centre |
| The Glen Resource Centre, Cork City | 021 4550511 www.glencentre.ie | Sports & Adventure Centre |
| Trabolgan Holiday Village, Whitegate | 021 4661551 www.trabolgan.com | Adventure Centre |
| West Cork Model Railway Village, Clonakilty | 023 8833224 www.modelvillage.ie | Railway Exhibition |

Kerry

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Aqua Dome, Tralee | 066 7129150 www.aquadome.ie | Indoor Waterworld/
Aqua Golf |
| Blennerville Windmill, Tralee | 066 7121064 www.discoverireland.ie | Windmill & Visitor Centre |
| Bowling Buddies, Tralee | 066 7197007 www.bowlingbuddies.ie | Bowling Centre |
| Buddies, Killarney | 064 6639080 www.buddies.ie | Play Centre |
| Coolwood Park, Killarney | 064 6636288 www.coolwoodwildlifepark.com | Wildlife Park |
| Crag Cave, Castleisland | 066 7141244 www.cragcave.com | Caves, Play Centre |
| Crazy Golf, Ballybunion | 087 2723650 | Miniature Golf Course |
| Dingle Dolphin Boat Tours, Dingle | 066 9152626 www.dingledolphin.com | Boat Trip |
| Kennedy's Pet Farm, Killarney | 064 7754054 www.killarneypetfarm.com | Visitor Farm |
| Kerry Bog Village, Glenbeigh | 066 9769184 www.kerrybogvillage.ie | Bog Village Museum |
| Kerry County Museum, Tralee | 066 7127777 www.kerrymuseum.ie | Museum |
| Kingdom Falconry, Crag Cave, Castleisland | 087 0552313 www.kingdomfalconry.com | Falconry |
| Lartigue Monorail, Listowel | 068 24393 www.lartiguemonorail.com | Monorail & Museum |
| Louis Mulcahy Pottery, Dingle | 066 9156229 www.louisulcahy.com | Pottery |
| Mór Active Adventure Park, Waterville | 086 3890171 www.moractive.com | Adventure Park |
| Oceanworld Aquarium, Dingle | 066 9152111 www.dingle-oceanworld.ie | Aquarium |
| Play at Height, Dingle | 066 9152822 www.playatheight.com | Play at Height
Climbing Wall |
| Scanlon's Pet Farm, Dingle | 066 9155135 www.discoverireland.ie | Visitor Farm |
| Seafari, Kenmare | 064 6642059 www.seafariireland.com | Eco Cruises |
| Skellig Experience, Valentia Island | 066 9476306 www.skelligexperience.com | Heritage Centre |

FOOD AND CULINARY



Food & Culinary

Food is a big part of everyone's holiday and whether you're on a budget or willing to splurge, the South West region of the country has some of the best options for feeding a family.

From friendly pub grub, family-owned restaurants and cafés all the way up to award-winning eateries you'll find the very best in fine dining, organic home made cooking and the freshest local produce.

A visit to the English Market in Cork City is a must for any food lover. Here you can sample the wares of the many local artisan food producers, and appreciate the skills of the market's traditional butchers and fishmongers. There are also numerous farmers' markets which take place throughout the region. There is a friendly, cosmopolitan atmosphere at the markets, whether in winter or summer – a pleasant mingling of locals, food producers and visitors.

The quality and variety of the South West coast's seafood and shellfish is renowned near and far. Some of the finest smoked salmon and mussels come from here and much of the cuisine reflects a Mediterranean style, inherited long ago from Spanish fishing boats visiting the local harbours. If you so much as try sizzling prawns, crab claws in garlic and olive oil, or a monkfish stew, you'll never want to go home.

So whether you are eating a simple bar food lunch, or a formal five course dinner, you will find the food in the South West is fresh, wholesome and flavoursome!

For more inspiration, choose from these great food websites:

www.discoverireland.ie/food

www.wheretoeat.ie

www.goodfoodireland.ie

www.menupages.ie

www.ireland-guide.com

www.tripadvisor.ie/restaurants



Dingle Food Festival



Midleton Food & Drink Festival. Credit: Cathy Donovan



A Taste of West Cork Food Festival. Credit: Emma Jervis

Taste is all around you... so tantalise your taste buds at one of our food festivals taking place this year.

Food Festivals 2015

Kerrygold Ballymaloe Literary Festival of Food & Wine,
15 - 17 May, www.litfest.ie

Seafood Festival, Baltimore, 22 - 24 May, www.baltimore.ie

Listowel Food Fair 18 - 21 June, www.listowelfoodfair.ie

Shandon Street Festival & Food Fair
20 June, www.shandonstreetfestival.com

Valentia Island King Scallop Festival, 11 - 12 July, www.valentiaisland.ie

A Taste of West Cork Food Festival, Skibbereen
4 - 13 September, www.atasteofwestcork.com

Flavour of Killorglin, 11 - 13 September, www.flavourofkillorglin.com

Midleton Food and Drink Festival, 12 September,
www.midletonfoodfestival.ie

Macroom Food Festival, 25 - 27 September, www.macroomfoodfestival.com

Dingle Food Festival, 2 - 4 October, www.dinglefood.com

Kinsale Gourmet Festival, 9 - 11 October, www.kinsaleresaurants.com

Note: Dates may change, please check before attending.



Flavour of Killorglin



The Good Things Café



Lettercollum Kitchen Project



Inish Beg Estate Cookery School

Cookery Schools

Enhance your South West holiday by learning a new skill or improving an old one. Find out what our cookery schools have to offer the budding chef. Many are located in idyllic locations using the produce from their kitchen gardens to create dishes.

Ballymaloe Cookery School, Shanagarry, Co. Cork.

Tel: 021 4646785. www.cookingisfun.ie

The world renowned Ballymaloe Cookery School is situated in the picturesque East Cork countryside.

Dingle Cookery School, Dingle, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 087 9177700 / 086 8723521 Email: martinbealin@hotmail.com

Dingle Cookery School offers exciting lessons in the Art of Irish Cooking which includes a lesson in the making of Traditional Pork Sausages and Colcannon.

Inish Beg Estate Cookery School, Baltimore, Co. Cork.

Tel: 028 21745. www.inishbeg.com

Inish Beg Cookery School is located on the Inish Beg Estate with a variety of cookery courses on offer.

Island Cottage Cookery School, Heir Island, Skibbereen, Co Cork.

Tel: 028 38102. www.islandcottage.com.

Probably the smallest Cookery School in the world. Specialising in 2 Day Cookery Courses for two people.

Just Cooking, Killahane, Furies, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

Tel: 066 9793660. www.justcooking.ie.

This small cookery school caters for up to 10 - 12 people at a session, so classes are small and friendly.

Lettercollum Kitchen Project, Lettercollum, Timoleague, Co. Cork.

Tel: 023 8846251. www.lettercollum.ie.

A small team of chefs run a series of cooking classes in their garden and kitchen at Lettercollum.

Rory O'Connell Cookery School, Snugboro, Ballybraher, Ballycotton, Co. Cork.

Tel: 086 8516917. www.rgoconnell.com.

Chef and Teacher Rory O'Connell trained at Ballymaloe House with Myrtle Allen, the grand-dame of Irish country house cooking.

The Firehouse Bakery & Bread School, Heir Island, Co. Cork

Tel: 085 1561984 www.thefirehouse.ie.

Offering one day courses which aim to take the fear out of bread making and return bread to its rightful place as king of the table.

The Good Things Café Cookery School, Ahakista Road, Durrus, West Cork.

Tel: 027 61426. www.thegoodthingscafe.com.

Small classes, fantastic ingredients, personal tuition, a great location and competitive prices – the cookery school that has it all.

Farmers' Markets

Farmers' Markets are a great opportunity to take in the atmosphere of cities, towns and villages in the South West. You can buy delicious local, organic and artisan foods, many of which you can snack on there and then making for an original lunch or brunch!

Farmers' Markets in County Cork

Ballincollig Shopping Centre Plaza: Wednesday: 10.00 - 14.30

Bandon Old Market Garden: Saturday: 9.30 - 13.30

Bantry The Square. Friday: 9.30 - 13.00

Bishopstown Beside Outpost Bar, Curraheen Road: Thursday 9.00 - 13.00

Blarney Woollen Mills Thursday: 9.30 - 15.30

Clonakilty Behind O'Donovan's Hotel: Friday & Saturday: 9.00 - 15.00

Cobh Sea Front Promenade: Friday: 10.00 - 13.30

Cornmarket Street Market Cork City: Saturday: 8.30 - 15.00

Crosshaven Saturday: 10.00 - 14.00

Douglas Court Shopping Centre Saturday: 10.00 - 14.00

Duhallow Behind Super Valu, Kanturk: Thursday & Saturday: 10.30 - 13.30

English Market Princes Street, Cork City: Monday - Saturday: 9.00 - 17.30

Killavullen Nano Nagle Centre, Mallow: Every 2nd Saturday: 10.30 - 13.00

Kinsale Short Quay; Wednesday: 9.00 - 14.00

Mahon Point Shopping Centre Thursday: 10.00 - 15.00

Macroom The Square; Tuesday: 9.00 - 15.00

Mallow Co-Op Superstores Car Park: Friday: 10.00 - 13.00

Midleton Fair Field; Saturday: 9.30 - 13.00

Skibbereen Fairfield, off Bridge St: Saturday: 9.30 - 13.30

Schull Pier Road Car Park: Sunday (Easter - end Sep & Christmas): 10.00-14.00

Wilton Shopping Centre Tuesday 10.00 - 14.00

Farmers' Markets in County Kerry

Ardfert Community Centre: May to end December: Sunday: 10.00 - 13.00

Blennerville Windmill Car Park: Sunday: 11.00 - 15.00

Castlegregory Community Centre: Easter to end September:
Sunday: 10.00 - 13.00

Castleisland Market Cross: Thursday 9.00 - 14.00

Dingle Holy Ground: Friday (April - October) 10.00 - 14.00

Kenmare Market Square: Wednesday: 10.00 - 16.00

Killarney Natural Food Market Killarney Outlet Centre: Friday 12.00 - 17.00

Killorglin Artisan Food & Craft Market CYMS Hall; Friday: 10.00 - 14.30

Listowel The Square; Friday: 10.00 - 14.00

Milltown The Old Church: Saturday: 10.00 - 14.00

Rathmore Community Centre: Saturday: 10.00 - 13.00

Tralee Market Princess Quay: Saturday: 11.00 - 15.00

Note: Market Days may change, please check before attending.

For more information log on to; www.bordbia.ie/aboutfood/farmersmarkets
www.westcorkmarkets.com www.facebook.com/kerryfarmersmarkets



English Market, Cork City

GARDENS



Gardens

There's something about a summer afternoon spent wandering among flowers, hedgerows and woodland that ignites the senses, conjuring up a long-forgotten childhood summer in simpler times.

The South West offers a great variety of designs and styles of gardens for the enthusiast and for those that simply appreciate good gardens and want to enjoy the natural environment.

Gardening and gardens are now one of the foremost hobbies in Ireland and internationally. Many gardens in the region offer guided tours which help to give a better and more informed insight into the plants and varieties being viewed. What better way to spend a summer afternoon or two than taking a stroll through some of the most beautiful gardens that the South West has to offer?

For the dedicated gardener there are Garden Trail Guides available, free of charge from Tourist Offices in the South West. These guides give more details on each of the gardens and are also available to download: www.westcorkgardentrail.com www.ringofcork.ie

Enjoy your visit to the wonderful gardens of the South West, where you will be sure to see the fuchsia Deora Dé in Irish, which translates as God's Tears, a plant that is synonymous with West Cork and Kerry.

Please note that many of the gardens are open by appointment only, so it is advisable to make contact with the garden before you visit. For further information visit: www.discoverireland.ie



Bantry House Gardens



Ilnacullin, Garinish Island Temple



Fota House Arboretum

Gardens

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS |
|---|---|
| Cork | |
| Agharinagh Inspirational Gardens, Dripsey | :021 7334286 www.griffinsgardencentre.ie |
| Aultaghreagh Cottage Garden, Dunmanway | :023 8855307 www.aultaghreaghcottagegarden.com |
| Ballymaloe Cookery School Garden, Shanagarry | :021 4646785 www.cookingisfun.ie |
| Ballyvolane House & Garden, Castlelyons | :025 36349 www.ballyvolanehouse.ie |
| Bantry House & Garden, Bantry | :027 50047 www.bantryhouse.com |
| Beechwood, Glanmire | :021 4884489 www.beechwoodgarden.com |
| Blackwater Castle, Castletownroche | :022 26333 www.blackwatercastle.com |
| Blarney Castle Gardens, Blarney | :021 4385252 www.blarneycastle.ie |
| Bluebell House & Gardens, Ballydehob | :087 6886032 www.bluebellhouseandgardens.com |
| Carraig Abhainn Gardens, Durrus Village, Bantry | :027 61070 www.carraigabhainngardens.com |
| Cedar Lodge Garden, Midleton | :021 4613379 www.ringofcork.ie |
| Coosheen, 15 Johnstown Park, Glounthaune | :021 4353855 www.hesterfordegarden.com |
| Doneraile Wildlife Park, Turmpike Road, Doneraile | :087 2515965 www.heritageireland.ie |
| Drishane House, Castletownshend | :028 36126 www.drishane.com |
| Dromboy Gardens, Carrignavar | :021 4884555 www.ringofcork.ie |
| Dunsland Gardens, Dunkettle, Glanmire | :021 4354949 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Ewe Sculpture Garden & Gallery, Glengarriff | :027 63840 www.theewe.com |
| Fota House, Arboretum & Gardens, Fota Island, Carrigtwohill | :021 4815543 www.fotahouse.com |
| Garra Fado Garden, Eyerics, Beara | :086 8397149 www.garrafadogarden.com |
| Glengarriff Bamboo Park, Glengarriff | :027 63007 www.bamboo-park.com |
| Glebe Gardens, Baltimore | :028 20579 www.glebegardens.com |
| Glenview Gardens, Desert, Enniskeneane | :023 8847230 www.glenviewgardenswestcork.com |
| Heron Gallery Gardens, Ahakista, Durrus | :027 67278 www.herongallery.ie |
| Hillside, Annmount, Glounthaune | :021 4353119 www.hillsidegardens.ie |
| Inacullin, Garinish Island, Glengarriff | :027 63040 www.heritageireland.ie |
| Inish Beg Gardens, Baltimore | :028 21745 www.inishbeg.com |
| Lag Bridge Garden, Rath, Baltimore | :028 20148 www.westcorkgardentrail.com |
| Lakemount Garden, Barnavara Hill, Glanmire | :021 4821052 www.lakemountgarden.com |
| Lissanroe Garden, Lissanroe, Skibbereen | :028 22563 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Liss Ard Gardens, Liss Ard Estate, Skibbereen | :028 40000 www.lissardestate.com |
| Lisselan Gardens, Lisselan, Clonakilty | :023 8833249 www.lisselan.com |
| Mardyke Gardens, Fitzgerald's Park, Cork City | :021 4270679 www.corkcity.ie |
| Mill Cove Sculpture Gardens, Castletownbere | :027 70393 www.millcovegallery.com |
| Millennium Garden of Time, Youghal | :024 92447 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Millstreet Country Park, Millstreet | :029 70810 www.millstreetcountrypark.com |
| Pip's View Garden, Ahakista, Durrus | :027 67263 www.westcorkgardentrail.com |
| Ravens' Oak Garden, Derryishal, Bantry | :027 53809 www.ravens-oak.com |
| Ringfield House, Watergrasshill | :021 4889175 www.thegardensdesigncentre.ie |
| Stepside Garden, Ahaliskey, Ballinascarthy | :023 8839224 www.westcorkgardentrail.com |
| St. Mary's College Garden, Emmett Place, Youghal | :024 20170 www.ringofcork.ie |



Dhu Varren Garden



Garden of the Senses, Tralee. Credit: Cathy Donovan



Kells Bay Gardens



Muckross House Gardens

Cork

| | |
|---|---|
| Templebreedy Grounds Experience, Crosshaven | :021 4831480 www.templebreedy.com |
| The Old Deanery, Kilboe, Cloyne | :021 4652204 www.theolddeanerygardens.com |

Kerry

| | |
|--|---|
| Derreen Gardens, Lauragh | :064 6683588 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Derrynane House, Caherdaniel | :066 9475113 www.heritageireland.ie |
| Dhu Varren Garden, Milltown | :087 7596414 www.dhuvarrengarden.com |
| Garden of Europe, Listowel | :068 21004 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Garden of the Senses, Tralee | :066 7121633 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Glanleam Gardens, Valentia Island | :066 9476176 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Kells Bay House & Gardens, Kells | :087 7776666 www.kellsgardens.ie |
| Knockreer House & Gardens, Killarney National Park | :064 6635960 www.killarneynationalpark.ie |
| Muckross House Gardens, Killarney National Park | :064 6670144 www.muckross-house.ie |

Please note that some Gardens are open by appointment only, so it is advisable to check directly with the garden before you visit. For further information, visit www.discoverireland.ie

GOLF



Golf

For sheer drama and romance, the ancient landscape of Cork and Kerry is hard to beat; instantly evocative of all the history and emotion that make Ireland so special, it is home to some of the country's most cherished courses. From peninsulas and beaches to medieval ruins and secluded towns, Cork and Kerry can offer visiting golfers an experience like no other!

Take your pick from the magnificent 18-hole Waterville Golf Links, the two challenging Ballybunion Links Courses or the sensational Arnold Palmer designed links course in Tralee. Play the most westerly golf course in Europe, the magnificent links course at Dingle Golf Club. Killarney's three superb championship courses overlook the majestic lakes. Test out the challenging Old Head Golf Links in Kinsale, a remarkably dramatic course, protruding over two miles into the Atlantic Ocean. Or play the superb parkland course in the wonderful surroundings of Fota Island Resort which hosted the 2014 Irish Open!

For more information on courses and details of golf passes in the region, call in to your nearest Discover Ireland Centre / Tourist Office or visit www.golf.discoverireland.ie

Quality Assured Courses - Choose the Shamrock



Whenever you see this symbol you can be assured this golf club is visitor friendly and the club is committed to delivering high quality services and facilities. Ireland is the first country to set up such a nationwide approval scheme for golf courses. This scheme was launched by Fáilte Ireland in 2010 to navigate consumers towards an excellent Irish golfing experience. Visit www.golf.discoverireland.ie for current listings.

Golf

| NAME & LOCATION | CONTACT DETAILS | HOLES |
|---|--|-------|
| Cork | | |
| Bandon Golf Club, Bandon | 023 8841111 www.bandongolfclub.com | 18 |
| Bantry Bay Golf Club, Bantry | 027 50579 www.bantrygolf.com | 18 |
| Berehaven Golf Club, Castletownbere | 027 70700 www.berehavengolf.com | 9 |
| Blarney Golf Resort, Blarney | 021 4384477 www.blarneygolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Castlemartyr Resort Golf Club, Castlemartyr | 021 4219000 www.castlemartyrresort.ie | 18 |
| Charleville Golf Club, Charleville | 063 81257 www.charlevillgolf.com | 27 |
| Cobh Golf Club, Cobh | 021 4812399 www.cobhgolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Cork Golf Club, Little Island | 021 4353451 www.corkgolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Doneraile Golf Club, Doneraile | 022 24137 www.donerailegolfclub.com | 9 |
| Douglas Golf Club, Douglas | 021 4895297 www.douglasgolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Dunmore Golf Club, Clonakilty | 023 8834644 www.dunmoregolfclub.ie | 9 |
| East Cork Golf Club, Midleton | 021 4631687 www.eastcorkgolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Fermoy Golf Club, Fermoy | 025 32694 www.fermoygolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Fernhill Golf & Country Club, Carrigaline | 021 4372226 www.fernhillcountryclub.com | 18 |
| Fota Island Resort, Carrigtwohill | 021 4883700 www.fotaisland.ie | 18 |
| Glengarriff Golf Club, Glengarriff | 027 63150 www.glengarriffgolfclub.com | 9 |
| Kanturk Golf Club, Kanturk | 029 50534 www.kanturkgolf.com | 18 |
| Kinsale Golf Club, Kinsale | 021 4774722 www.kinsalegolf.ie | 18 |
| Lee Valley Golf & Country Club, Ovens | 021 7331721 www.leevalleygcc.ie | 18 |
| Lisselan Golf Club, Clonakilty | 023 8833249 www.lisselan.com | 9 |
| Macroom Golf Club, Macroom | 026 41072 www.macroomgolfclub.com | 18 |
| Mahon Golf Club, Blackrock | 021 4292212 www.mahongolfclub.com | 18 |
| Mallow Golf Club, Mallow | 022 21145 www.mallowgolfclub.net | 18 |
| Mitchelstown Golf Club, Mitchelstown | 025 24072 www.mitchelstown-golf.com | 18 |
| Monkstown Golf Club, Monkstown | 021 4841376 www.monkstowngolfclub.com | 18 |
| Muskerry Golf Club, Carrigrohane | 021 4385297 www.muskerrygolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Old Head Golf Links, Kinsale | 021 4778444 www.oldhead.com | 18 |
| Raffeen Creek Golf Club, Ringaskiddy | 021 4378430 www.raffeen creek.ie | 9 |
| Skibbereen & West Carbery GC, Skibbereen | 028 21227 www.skibbgolf.com | 18 |
| Trabolgan Holiday Centre, Whitegate, Midleton | 021 4661551 www.trabolgan.com | 18 |
| Water Rock Golf Course, Midleton | 021 4613499 www.waterrockgolfcourse.com | 18 |
| Youghal Golf Club, Youghal | 024 92787 www.youghalgolfclub.ie | 18 |



Bantry Bay Golf Club



Tralee Golf Club



Kerry

| | | |
|--|--|----|
| Ardfert Golf Club, Ardfert | 066 7134744 www.ardfertgolfclub.com | 9 |
| Ballybunion Golf Club, Ballybunion | 068 27146 www.ballybuniongolfclub.ie | 18 |
| Ballyheigue Castle GC, Ballyheigue | 066 7133555 www.ballyheiguecastlegolfclub.com | 9 |
| Beaufort Golf Club, Killarney | 064 6644440 www.beaufort-golf-club.com | 18 |
| Castlegregory Golf & Fishing Club, Castlegregory | 066 7139444 www.castlegregorygolfinks.com | 9 |
| Castleisland Golf Club, Castleisland | 066 7141709 www.castleislandgolfclub.com | 18 |
| Castlerosse Golf Course, Killarney | 064 6631144 www.castlerosse.ie | 9 |
| Ceann Sibeal/Dingle Golf Links, Ballyferriter | 066 9156255 www.dinglelinks.com | 18 |
| Dooks Golf Club, Glenbeigh | 066 9768205 www.dooks.com | 18 |
| Dunloe Golf Course, Killarney | 064 6644111 www.dunloegolfcourse.com | 9 |
| Kenmare Golf Club, Kenmare | 064 6641291 www.kenmaregolfclub.com | 18 |
| Killarney Golf & Fishing Club, Killarney | 064 6631034 www.killarney-golf.com | 18 |
| Killorglin Golf Club, Killorglin | 066 9761979 www.killorglingolf.ie | 18 |
| Listowel Golf Club, Listowel | 087 2815605 www.listowelgolfclub.com | 9 |
| Parknasilla Golf Club, Sneem | 064 6645195 www.parknasillaresort.com | 12 |
| Ring of Kerry Golf & Country Club, Kenmare | 064 6642000 www.ringofkerrygolf.com | 18 |
| Ross Golf Club, Killarney | 064 6631125 www.rossgolfcourse.com | 9 |
| Skellig Bay Golf Club, Waterville | 066 9474133 www.skelligbay.com | 18 |
| Tralee Golf Club, Tralee | 066 7136379 www.traleegolfclub.com | 18 |
| Waterville Golf Links, Waterville | 066 9474102 www.watervillgolfinks.ie | 18 |

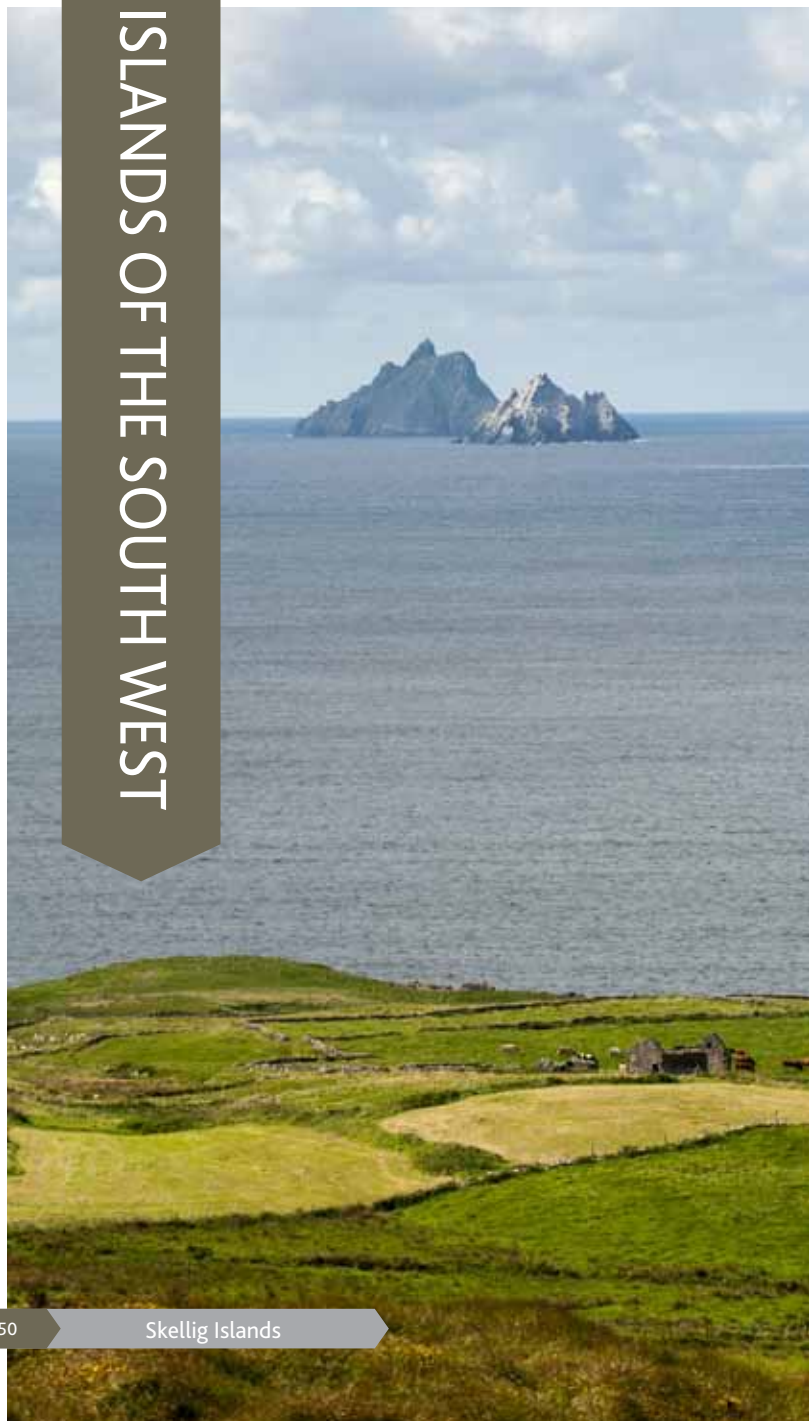
For Pitch & Putt Listings in the South West Region log on to the Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland website on www.ppu.ie

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



Irish Open, Killarney Golf & Fishing Club

ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH WEST



Islands of the South West



WILD ATLANTIC WAY

SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN

You could spend a lifetime exploring Ireland's south western islands, from the great, spiritual splinters of the Skelligs to the vibrant storytelling of Oileán Chléire.

You can still imagine holy men setting up sanctuary, or Peig Sayers pulling her shawl against a storm, but today's islands are alive with teeming regattas, lively céilís, buzzing pubs, burgeoning foodie scenes and year-round activities. There's an island for everyone. Find yours, and you'll find a place both apart and connected; a sanctuary within striking distance of the mainland. You could even try island-hopping to get a flavour of more than one magical offshore island.

Tips for your trip: It is always advisable to plan your visit as some of the islands are very busy in high season. Check sailing times before travelling. Most Irish islands have no ATM facilities, and some accommodation providers do not accept credit cards. Please leave the islands as you find them, taking nothing but photographs and leaving nothing but footprints. Respect monuments, habitats, dwellings, stone walls, plants and wildlife, and dispose of any litter in bins or take it away with you. See www.leavenotraceireland.org

Be safe; take care! The islands are fully exposed to the elements. Island terrain is mostly rugged and the surrounding seas can sometimes be wild. Always take the greatest possible care when exploring the islands and their waters. For more information, visit www.discoverireland.ie/islands



Cape Clear Island

Islands of Cork

Bere Island - Bere Island has been voted Ireland's tidiest Island for the past eight years. The 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. Ultimately Bere is a charming island away from the hustle and bustle of modern life, with its friendly people, Bere Island's greatest asset is its unspoiled and unpolluted environment.

Access: **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: 027 75014 / 087 2386095. www.murphysferry.com

Highlights: Military Fortifications; Archaeological Sites; Ring Forts; Lighthouse; Martello Towers; Walking; St. Michael's Holy Well; Signal Tower.

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 5000 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.

Access: **Cailín Óir Ferry & Cruise Service;** Daily service from Baltimore; Seasonal from Schull Tel: 028 39159/41923 / 086 3465110. www.cailinoir.com.

Highlights: Archaeological Sites; International Story Telling Festival; Walking; Birdwatching; Ecology; Irish Language Courses; August Regatta; Cape Clear Island Heritage boasts a fascinating range of artefacts from the Island's history including a multimedia display on the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse www.capeclearmuseum.ie



Heir Island

Dursey Island - Dursey 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.

Access: **Via Ireland's only island Cable Car**, a 10 minute trip which departs daily from Ballaghboy on the tip of the Beara Peninsula. www.discoverireland.ie

Highlights: Bird-watching; Hiking.

Garinish Island - Garinish Island or 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 46.

Access: **Bluepool Ferry;** Apr - Oct; from Glengarriff;
Tel: 027 63333 / 086 6013218. www.bluepoolferry.com

Harbour Queen Ferry; Apr - Oct; from Glengarriff;
Tel: 027 63116 / 087 2345861. www.harbourqueenferry.com

Highlights: Sub-tropical Gardens; Marine Life/Seals.

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 lots of safe sandy beaches ideal for sailing, windsurfing, swimming and diving. 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.

Access: **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

Highlights: Sandy beaches; Angling; Cookery Schools; Sailing School.



Sherkin Island

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.

Access: **Long Island Ferry and Water Taxi Service** departs from Colla Pier, 3 km west of Schull. Tel: 086 1721254. www.longislandferry.org

Highlights: White Tower Lighthouse; Landing Steps; Shingle Beaches, Wild Flora and Fauna.

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 will enchant all who visit. The gardens at Inish Beg Estate were listed in the Hundred Best Gardens in Ireland 2011.

Access: The island is linked to the mainland by a bridge off the Skibbereen-Baltimore Road.

Highlights: Cookery Courses, Gardens, Walks, Sea Kayaking, Yachting, Scuba Diving, Bird Watching.

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.

Access: **Sherkin Ferry;** Daily; from Baltimore; Tel: 028 20218 / 087 2447828. www.sherkinisland.eu

Highlights: Walking; Sherkin Family Regatta (July); Old Franciscan Friary; Ruins of O'Driscoll's Castle; Magnificent Beaches; Marine Wildlife.



Blasket Islands

🌊 **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.

Access: **Whiddy Island Ferries**; Daily; from Bantry; Tel: 086 8626734.
www.whiddyislandferry.com

Highlights: Nature Walking; Bird-watching; Cycling.

Islands of Kerry

🌊 **Blasket Islands** - Na Blascaodaí lie some 6 km 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. The island's population, which once boasted one hundred and seventy five residents, had steadily declined through emigration. 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 work have been translated into many languages. An Blascaod Mór remains uninhabited today but the island is open to visitors.

Access: **Bádóirí an Bhlascaoid Teo (Blasket Island Ferries)**; Apr - Sep.; from Dún Chaoin; Tel: 066 9156422. www.blasketisland.com

Blasket Island Dún Chaoin Ferry Co. Ltd; Daily; Apr - Sep; from Dún Chaoin; Tel: 087 2316131. www.blasketislands.ie

Dingle Bay Charters; Apr - Sep; from Dingle (An Daingean); Tel: 066 9151344 www.dinglebaycharters.com

Great Blasket Island Experience: Daily; Apr - Sep; From Dingle (An Daingean) Tel: 086 0572626 www.greatblasketisland.net

Stephen/Thomas Kavanagh; passenger boat to Great Blasket Island. May - end Sep; from Dún Chaoin; Tel. 087 7435442; 086 2321088

Highlights: Walking; Bird-watching; Picnicking; White Strand.



Skelligs Islands

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 archeological 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.

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

Highlights: Watch Tower; Ruined Monastery; Circular Stone Huts; Magnificent Beaches; Marine Wildlife; Historical Artefacts.

Skellig Islands - Na Scealga - Skellig Islands - Na Scealga lie thirteen kilometers off the coast of South Kerry, like floating pyramids of sandstone. The most spectacular of these islands, Sceilig Mhichil - Skellig Michael - is a peaceful spiritual idyll and a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. Over six hundred steps up a 1000 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 Sceilig 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.

Access: Numerous local boat owners operate boat trips to the spectacular Skelligs UNESCO World Heritage Site. The main departure points are Portmagee, Knightstown, Valentia Island, Baile an Sceilge (Ballinskelligs) and Caherdaniel. Tel: 066 9476306. www.skelligexperience.com. (A full list of boat operators is also available from: Killarney Discover Ireland Centre Tel: 064 6631633)

Highlights: Stone Beehive Huts, Oratories, Cemetery, Stone Crosses, Holy Wells; Church of St. Michael.

Additional Information: Skellig Michael is a wilderness site and a designated Nature Reserve. The site presents a unique landscape and visitors must take care at all times. A visit to the monastery will entail a demanding climb on 618 steps, ascending over 600 ft. (180 meters).



Beehive Huts, Skellig Michael



Valentia Island Lighthouse

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.

But the island's historical lineage goes back much further than that. Tetra pod footprints were found on the northern part of the island. These magnificent imprints of history are thought to date from Devonian times between some 350 to 370 million years ago. 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.

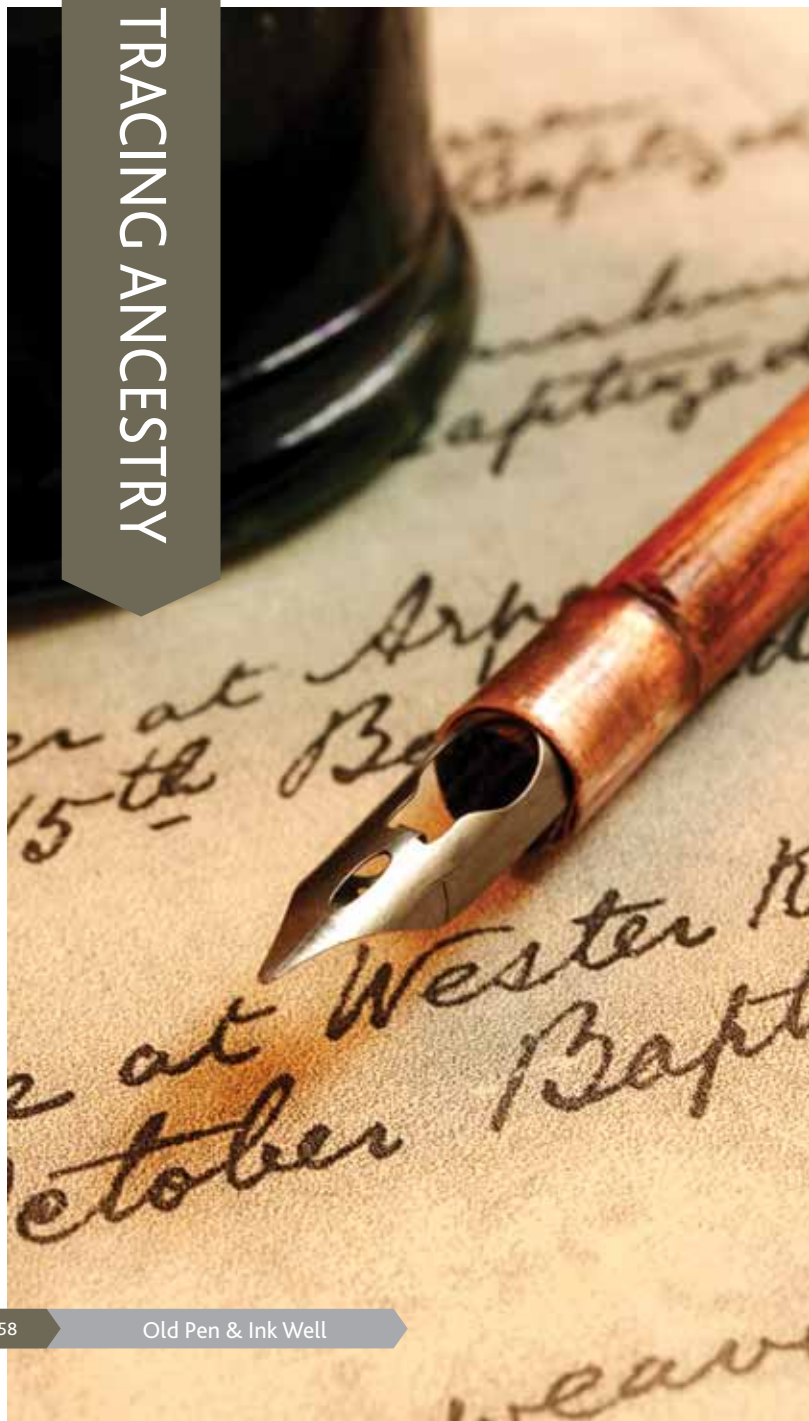
Access: The island is linked to the mainland by a bridge at Portmagee, a car ferry also departs from Renard Point, (5km from Cahersiveen) daily Apr - Oct; Tel: 066 9476141

Highlights: Knightstown; Tetra Pod footprints; Cromwell Point lighthouse; Valentia Slate Quarries; Skellig Experience Visitor Centre; Valentia Heritage Centre; Glanleam Estate & Sub-tropical gardens; Geokaun Mountain & Fogher Cliffs.



Indicates the island is located on the Wild Atlantic Way For more information, visit www.discoverireland.ie/islands

TRACING ANCESTRY



Tracing Ancestry

With around 80 million people around the world claiming Irish ancestry, why not take the opportunity to track down your own

Irish heritage. You may even be able to lay claim to the Irish Government's Official Certificate of Irish Heritage!

Visit: www.heritagecertificate.com

National Repositories

National Archives: Bishop St, Dublin 8. Tel: 01 4072300 www.nationalarchives.ie

National Library of Ireland: Kildare St, Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6030200 www.nli.ie

General Register Office: Werburgh St, Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6354000 www.groireland.ie

Cork

Cork City & County Archive: 33a Great William O'Brien Street, Blackpool, Cork. Tel: 021 4505876 Email: archivist@corkcity.ie

Cork City Library: 57 - 61 Grand Parade, Cork. Tel: 021 4924900
Email: libraries@corkcity.ie

Cork County Library: Carrigrohane Road, Cork Tel: 021 4546499
Email: corkcountylibrary@corkcoco.ie

Cork City Ancestral Project: Cork County Library, Carrigrohane Road, Cork
Tel: 021 4285648 Email: corkancestry@coco.ie

Mallow Heritage Centre: 27 - 28 Bank Place, Mallow, Co. Cork. Tel: 022 50302
Email: mallowheritage@gmail.com

Skibbereen Heritage Centre: Old Gasworks Building, Upper Bridge Street, Skibbereen, Co. Cork Tel: 028 40900 Email: info@skibbheritage.com

Kerry

Kerry County Library: Moyderwell, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Tel: 066 7121200
Email: info@kerrycolib.ie www.kerrylibrary.ie

Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages: St. Columbanus, Tralee Rd, Killarney, Co. Kerry Tel: 064 6632251

Local Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages: Rathass, Tralee, Co. Kerry
Tel: 066 7121566 Births from 1900's / Marriages 1950's / Deaths 1966

NKRO - North Kerry Reaching Out Heritage Project: Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre, The Square, Listowel, Co. Kerry Tel: 087 9089569
www.northkerryreachingout.com

TRAVEL OPTIONS



Travel Options

It's never been easier to get to the South West. The region has two International Airports one in Cork City and one in Co. Kerry. The region also has a Ferry port, which is located at Ringaskiddy, south east of Cork City.

Bús Éireann National Bus Company servicing all main towns and cities.
Tel: 01 8366111. www.buseireann.ie

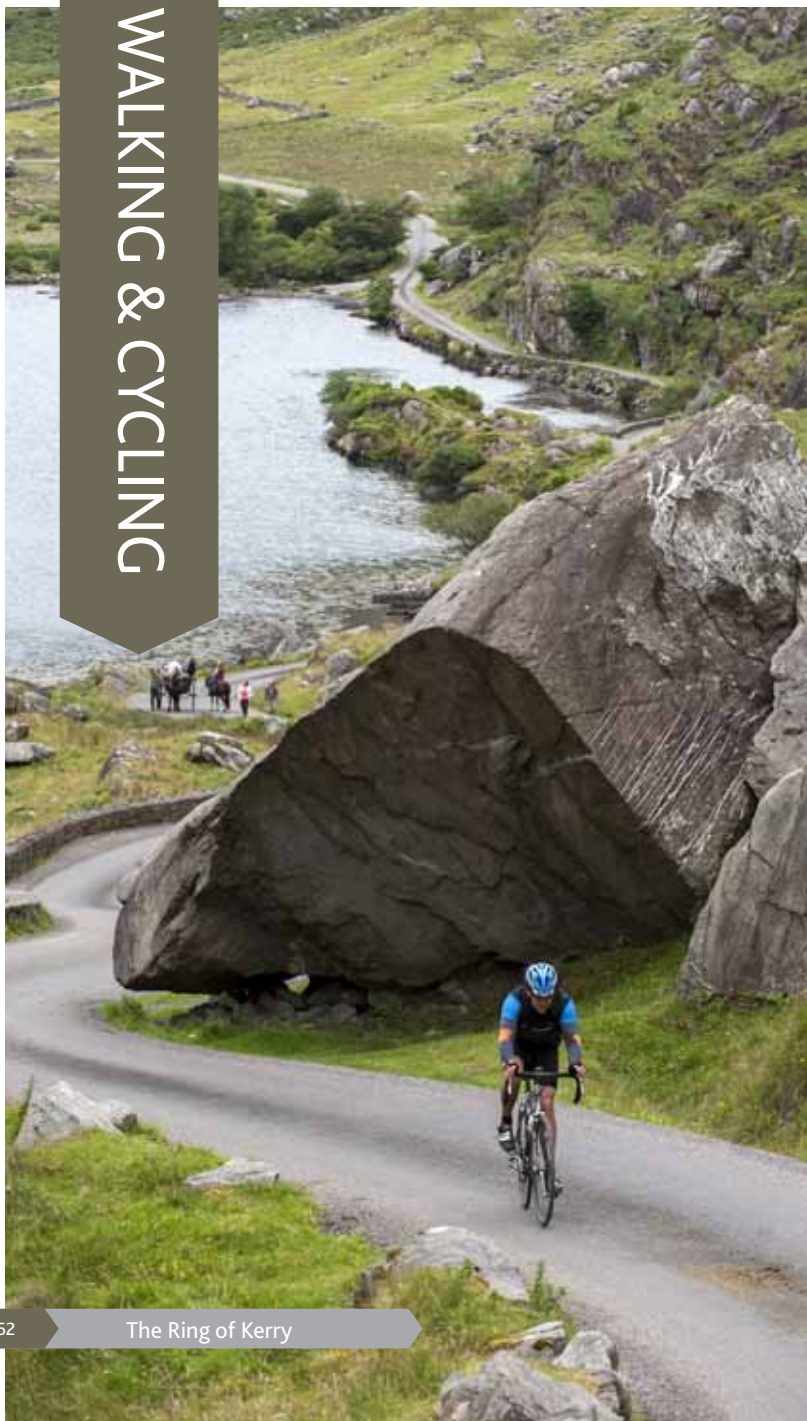
The Car Rental Council of Ireland is the representative trade organisation for the car rental industry in Ireland. www.carrentalcouncil.ie

Taxi Companies are available throughout the region, phone directory enquiries 11811 or 11850 for local operators. For details of taxis that provide a service to wheelchair users visit: www.wheelchairtaxi.ie

Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail Network. Tel: 1850 366 222. www.irishrail.ie
See map below for Rail Network Routes.



WALKING & CYCLING



Walking & Cycling

Cork and Kerry boast Ireland's most mountainous landscape. Over millennia the crumpled and folded land has been carved by ice ages, wind and rain to create a vista of airy peaks, dizzying ridges, brooding corrie lakes and narrow gullies.

Opportunities for mountainy highs also abound on the region's peninsulas. But you'll need to be an experienced mountain climber to go it alone on these peaks. If you're not au fait with compass, map reading and ropes, it's wise to travel with a guide who'll pick the best routes for your ability, teach you skills along the way and inspire you with titbits of history and folklore.

Imagine a cycling route on the wild Atlantic coast, a peninsula ringed with plunging cliffs, and a landscape so unspoiled it's often inaccessible by main road. So why not hire a bike for some off road mountain biking, go leisurely island hopping, or book a bespoke cycling holiday?

Whether you are on for a quick amble or a long day's hiking we have the route for you. Choose from looped walks, multi day waymarked trails or strolls through national parks and forests! Whatever your choice of walk or cycle from sandy shores to tussocky hillside, you'll feel the energy of nature reinvigorate... Your soul.

For further information & downloadable maps visit:

www.discoverireland.ie/walking

www.cyclingireland.ie

Waymarked Ways

These walking trails, signposted with way markers, are suitable for walkers of all ages and abilities. The trails can be walked from beginning to end, or in sections. For further information visit:

www.irishtrails.ie

» Ballyhoura Way

This 89km trail starts at St. John's Bridge, near Kanturk, in Co. Cork and ends in Limerick Junction, Co. Limerick. The route is divided into 8 sections and crosses four upland stretches, one long one over the Ballyhoura Mountains (highest point Seefin, at 510 meters).

» Beara Way

This 196 km 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.

» Blackwater Way

This 168km, long-distance walking trail is divided into 15 sections each representing a half days walking. The trail starts in Clogheen, Co. Tipperary and ends in Shrone, Co. Kerry.

» 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. (The Kerry Camino is a way marked way on part of the Dingle Way, visit www.kerrycamino.com)

» 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.

» North Kerry Way

This 48km, long-distance walking trail is divided into 6 sections each representing a half day walking. The trail starts in Tralee, Co. Kerry and ends in Ballyheigue, 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 Mhuscraí

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



Walking on Sheep's Head

Looped Walks

Other good alternatives for stretching your legs are the region's looped walks that range from a 2km stroll to 24km for the more energetic. Keep reading to see some samples of Looped walks that are waiting for you!

SOME LOOPED WALKS IN CORK

» Allihies - North Engine Loop

This loop takes you past Ballydonegan Strand and Quay to follow beautiful coastline before turning inland to head uphill through an area dotted with disused mine sites. It follows minor roads, coastline and hillside tracks with some great coastal scenery.

Start and end point: Heritage Centre, Allihies.

Grade: Moderate **Length:** 7Km **Estimated time:** 2 - 3hrs.

» Baran Loop - Sheep's Head

This loop follows minor roadways, laneways and mountain paths to the top of Ross Kerrig Mountain, following Ahakista Stream for part of the way. The ascent contains some fairly steep climbs. Wonderful mountain, coastal and sea views abound, particularly on the descent.

Start and end point: Arundel's Pub, Ahakista.

Grade: Moderate – Hard **Length:** 9Km **Estimated time:** 3hrs

» Ballycotton Head Looped Walk

Ballycotton Head Looped Walk is a relatively easy walk, it extends westward to Ballytrasna and is approximately 13km. The walk provides excellent opportunities to take photographs of the cliffs and seascapes and is rich in wildlife at any time of the year. There are also a great variety of birds to spot on this walk.

Start and end point: Ballycotton Village.

Grade: Easy **Length:** 13Km **Estimated Time:** 5hrs

SOME LOOPED WALKS IN CORK

» Doonbeg Loop - Bere island

This is a challenging but rewarding walk on the south side of Bere Island across open mountain. It can be difficult to follow in low cloud and the path is indistinct in places, but in fine weather from the slopes of Knockanallig there are wonderful views of the Sheep's Head and Mizen Peninsulas. There is an option to detour to Dun Beag promontory fort.

Start and end point: Close by the Gallan standing stone in the centre of Bere Island.

Grade: Strenuous **Length:** 5Km **Estimated time:** 3hrs

» Creha Quay Loop - Eyeries

This loop offers high quality scenic views of Coulagh Bay and, in the distance, the coast of Kerry. The loop traverses a large number of small farm holdings common to this area before reaching Creha Quay. The loop ascends again to enter the cheerfully painted Eyeries village at its northern end.

Start and end point: Sullivans shop in the heart of Eyeries Village.

Grade: Easy **Length:** 6Km **Estimated time:** 2hrs.

SOME LOOPED WALKS IN KERRY

» Ballybunion 'Walking the Beach' Looped Walk

This route passes along stunning beaches and through the world famous Ballybunion Links Golf Course. The area is within a designated natural heritage with an extensive dune system.

Start and end point: Ballybunion North Beach.

Grade: Easy **Length:** 7Km **Estimated time:** 2 hrs

» Beentee Loop - Cahersiveen

On minor road, track and mountain path this challenging loop climbs Beentee Mountain, from the summit there are spectacular views over Valentia Island and the Iveragh and Dingle Peninsulas.

Start and end point: The Fairgreen Car Park, Cahersiveen.

Grade: Hard **Length:** 9Km **Estimated time:** 4hrs.

» Derrynane Coastal Circuit

An old mass path, minor roads and the Kerry Way all provide passage along various sections of this route, with a variety of beautiful scenery including beaches, mountain shoulders and numerous offshore islands and islets.

Start and end point: Within the grounds of Derrynane National Historic Park.

Grade: Easy **Length:** 8Km **Estimated time:** 3hrs

» Fermoyle Loop - Sneem

The Sneem Fermoyle Loop Walk covers minor roads, farm tracks and way marked paths across hillsides and through farmland.

Start and end point: Sneem.

Grade: Moderate **Length:** 15.5Km **Estimated time:** 4 - 5hrs



Summit of MacGillycuddy Reeks

» **Glanageenty Loop - Tralee**

This loop follows forest tracks, riverbank and open country along the Glanageenty River and through woodlands. There are glorious vistas of Carrantuohill, the Gap of Dunloe and Mount Brandon.

Start and end point: Glanageenty (downloadable map/instructions at discoverireland.ie/walking.)

Grade: Moderate **Length:** 4Km **Estimated time:** 1 - 2 hrs

» **Lúb na Cille - Dún Chaoin**

This loop gives wonderful views over Clogher Beach, Ceann Sibeal, the headlands of Ceann Sratha, An Dún Mor, Mount Brandon, Eagle Mountain and the Blasket islands.

Start and end point: Car Park at The Blascaod Centre, Dún Chaoin.

Grade: Easy **Length:** 5Km **Estimated time:** 1hr 30mins - 2hrs.

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

Walking Operators

Why not have local guides to show you the best sights? Choose from 90-minute historical walking tours of local towns and cities, to full day excursions or walking holidays. For details of local Walking Tours and Guides, Call into one of our Discover Ireland Centres or Tourist Information Offices, or visit the Discover Ireland Walking Site.

Discover Ireland Walking Site

www.discoverireland.ie/walking

This website contains comprehensive information about walking, accompanied by route maps and details of starting points. Information on walking operators and guides is also available on this useful website.

Historic Town Walks

Enjoy a historic town walk as you breathe in the beauty of ancient Ireland and get lost in a different era as you stroll back in time. Visit www.discoverireland.ie/walking to download a map for the Historic Walking Tours of Bantry, Clonakilty, Cobh, Killarney, Kinsale, Listowel, Mitchelstown and Youghal.

Urban Walks

Not only can you experience walks in rural locations, but many urban areas offer guided walking tours. Alternatively follow the signed walking trails in many towns throughout the region. Cork City has the Flavours of Cork and Creative Cork iWalks which can be downloaded from www.discoverireland.ie/cork to your iPhone or iPod.

The Kerry Camino

The Kerry Camino walk consists of 3 sections: Tralee - Camp, Camp to Annascaul and Annascaul to Dingle. www.kerrycamino.com

Other Useful Websites

National Parks & Wildlife Service: www.npws.ie

Irish Forestry Walks: www.coillteoutdoors.ie

Slí na Sláinte (Path to Health): www.irisheart.ie

Irish Trails: www.irishtrails.ie

For local detailed information on the various routes and facilities along the way please call to one of our Discover Ireland Centres or Tourist Information Offices. (Please see inside front cover of this guide or visit: www.discoverireland.ie)

Safety

Walkers should wear adequate footwear (boots or cross – country trainers), carry wet weather gear and always respect the property of the landowners who gave access permission for this walk.

Cycling

For cyclists who long to really get away from it all, it doesn't get much better than the South West Region. Strewn with ancient burial sites, rock art, standing stones, stone circles, forts and Christian artefacts. One of the cycling highlights is a trip to the Gap of Dunloe, it's not your average cycle route, but then Killarney National Park isn't your average Park! Information on cycling operators, routes etc. is available on www.discoverireland.ie/cycling

Cycling Routes

| NAME | CONTACT DETAILS |
|---|---|
| Cork | |
| Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trail | :063 91300 www.visitballyhoura.com |
| Beara Way Cycling Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Sheep's Head Cycle Route | :027 67136 www.thesheepshead.com |
| Skibbereen Cycle Hub | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Blackwater Valley Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Aghinagh Way Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Cork City - Gougane Barra - Beara Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Duhallow Trail Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The East Cork - Cork City to Youghal Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Kerry | |
| 3 Cycling Trails of Ballybunion | :066 7121288 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Fenit Cycleway | :066 7121288 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Gap of Dunloe Cycle Route | :064 6631633 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Killarney Cycling Trail | :064 6631633 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Mouth of the Shannon Cycling Route | :066 7121288 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Blackwater Valley Cycle Route | :021 4255100 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Dingle Peninsula Cycle Route | :066 9151188 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Kerry Head Cycleway | :066 7121288 www.discoverireland.ie |
| The Ring of Kerry Cycle Route | :066 9151188 www.discoverireland.ie |

Public Bike Scheme – Cork City

Coca-Cola Zero Bikes, Cork is a self service bike rental system open to everyone from 14 years of age. It enables you to travel through the city and enjoy Cork City at your leisure. Stations are conveniently located throughout the City Centre. The service consists of stations with a terminal and stands for the bikes. For further information, please visit www.bikeshare.ie

Hire a bike and explore the South West on two wheels! There are lots of options to hire a bike with a range of hire companies to choose from across the region.

Bike Hire

NAME

CONTACT DETAILS

Cork

| | |
|---|---|
| Bike 'n Beara, Derymihan, Castletownbere | :086 1280307 www.bikenbeara.ie |
| City View Wheels Electric Bikes,
36 Blarney St, Cork City | :021 4304547
www.cityviewwheels.com |
| Cycle Scene, 396 Blarney St., Cork City | :021 4301183 www.cyclescene.ie |
| Cycle West Cork, Skibbereen | :087 3921894 www.cyclewestcork.com |
| MTM Cycles, 33 Ashe St., Clonakilty | :023 8833584 |
| Mylie Murphy's, 14 Pearse St., Kinsale | :021 4772703 |
| Nigel's Bicycle Shop, Glengarriff Road, Bantry | :027 52657 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Robbie's Bike Shop,
Unit 3, Carrig House, Kilnagleary, Carrigaline | :021 4373748
www.bicycleshop.ie |
| Roycroft Cycles, Heron Court,
Town Car Park, Skibbereen | :028 21235
www.westcorkcycles.ie |
| The Bike Shed, Barrack St., Cork City | :086 6028228 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Victoria Cross Cycles, Victoria Cross, Cork City | :021 4342240 www.vccycles.com |
| West Cork Bike Hire, Brosnan's Eurospar, Schull | :087 2330824 www.westcorkbikehire.com |

Kerry

| | |
|---|--|
| Casey's Cycles, New St., Cahersiveen | :066 9472474 www.bikehirekerry.com |
| Finnegan's Bicycle Hire, 37 Henry St., Kenmare | :064 6641083 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Foxy John Moriarty's Bicycle Hire, Main St., Dingle | :066 9151316 www.discoverireland.ie |
| Lyne's Rent-A-Bike, Ross Road, Killarney | :087 1221277 www.rentabikekillarney.com |
| O' Hallorans, 83 Boherbee, Tralee | :066 7122820 www.discoverireland.ie |
| O' Sullivan's Bike Hire,
Beech Road, High St & Muckcross Road, Killarney | :064 6631282
www.killarneyrentabike.ie |
| Paddy's Rent-a-Bike, Dykegate Lane, Dingle | :066 9152311 www.paddysbikeshop.com |
| The Mountain Man Outdoor Shop,
Strand St., Dingle | :066 9152400
www.themountainmanshop.com |
| Tralee Gas Supplies, High St., Tralee | :066 7122018 www.discoverireland.ie |



Cycling Sheep's Head

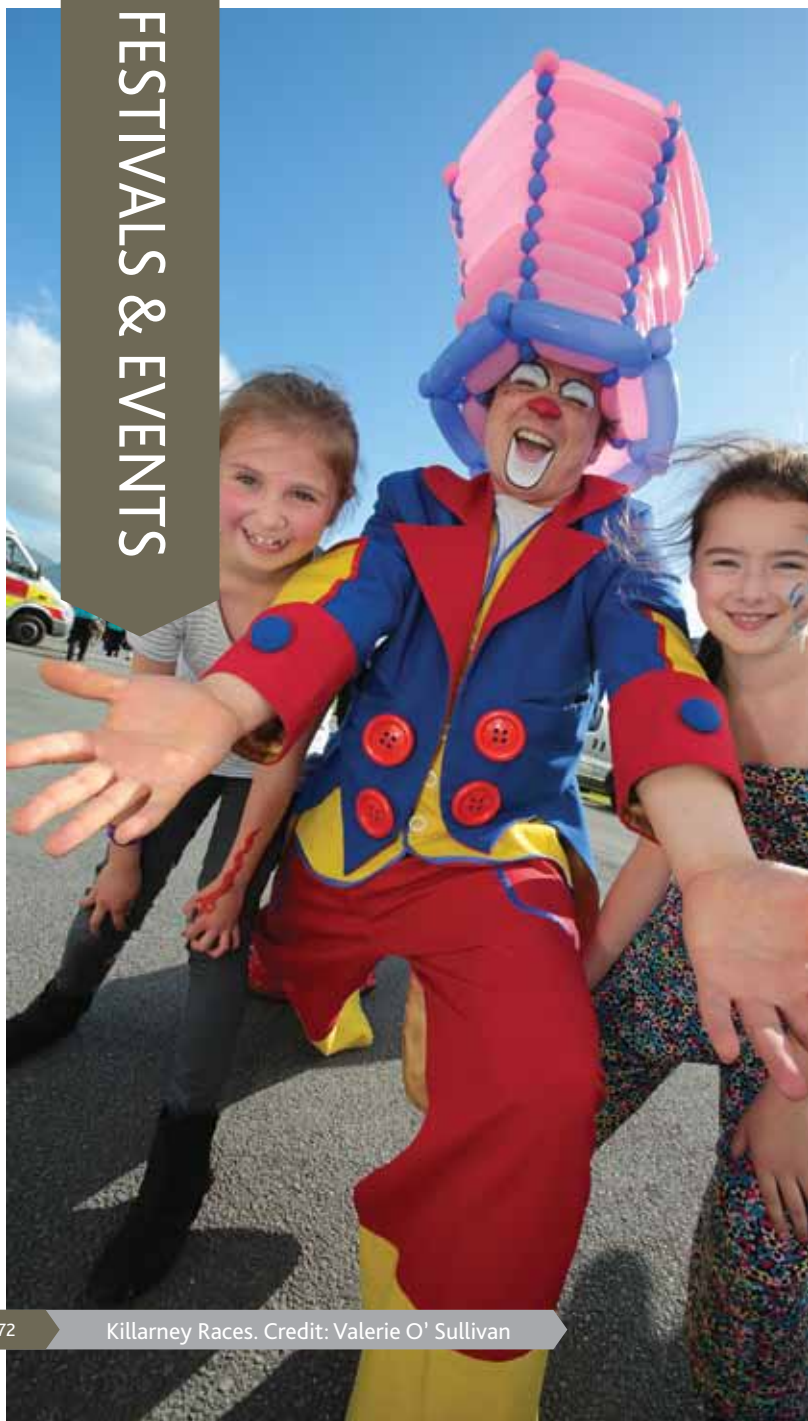


Coca-Cola Zero Bikes, Cork City. Credit: Eileen Coffey



Mountain Biking, Gougane Barra

FESTIVALS & EVENTS



Festivals & Events

The people of Cork & Kerry certainly know how to enjoy themselves. The South West region hosts some of the best festivals on the calendar. Sport, film, music, dance, the arts, literature and food are just some of the causes for celebration.

The region has an extensive festival calendar with internationally known major festivals such as Killorglin Puck Fair, Cork International Choral Festival, Listowel Writers Week, Dingle Féile na Bealtaine Arts Festival, Cape Clear International Storytelling Festival, West Cork Chamber Music Festival, Rose of Tralee Festival and the famous Guinness Cork Jazz Festival to name but a few!

For anyone interested in good food, the food festivals in the South West region are a true feast for the senses! With food trails, cookery demonstrations, seminars, tasting menus and food markets all showcasing an extensive collection of culinary delights to whet your appetite. **See page 133 for more details.**

With such a variety of events on offer, why not make the South West your sporting destination of choice for 2015? Gaelic Games, horseracing, road bowling, greyhound racing, marathons and other endurance events are just a selection of the great sporting occasions taking place throughout the year.

Let this be the year that you find your perfect festival, be it on land or sea! You'll soon discover that there is something exciting and memorable happening, there's plenty going on around the South West to keep you busy. So get out and about for a dash of culture and a sprinkling of fun, catch some festival fever and be a part of it!

For a full listing of festivals and events, visit: www.discoverireland.ie

Festivals and Events in the South West

SYMBOLS



Family



Music



Sport



Heritage



Educational



Food



Arts



Garden



Agriculture



Miscellaneous

MAY 2015

Portmagee Set Dancing and Music Weekend

1 - 3 May

Portmagee, Co. Kerry

www.moorings.ie

A great weekend of traditional music and set dancing, workshops, bar sessions and a mighty céilí!



WWII Military Festival

1 - 3 May

Listowel, Co. Kerry

listowelmilitarytattoo@gmail.com

The Festival commences on Friday where re-enactors invade the town with their military vehicles and set up their Living History display which is a live recreation of a wartime encampment.



Heineken Kinsale Sevens by the Sea

2 - 3 May

Kinsale, Co. Cork

www.kinsale7s.com

The 27th Heineken Kinsale Rugby 7's is Ireland's largest rugby festival with 90 teams from Ireland, Europe, Asia and the USA.



88th Cobh Carillon (Bell) Recital Season

May - September

(selected Sundays)

St. Colman's Cathedral,

Cobh, Co. Cork

www.visitcobh.com

Recitals of a wide variety of music on the 49-bell Cobh Carillon by the resident carillonneur and visiting guest carillonneurs from at home and abroad.



Cobh Commemorates the Sinking of the Lusitania

7 May

Cobh, Co. Cork

www.visitcobh.com

2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania as it approached Cork Harbour in 1915 and is commemorated in Cobh where both the survivors and bodies were brought ashore. It is a fitting memorial to all those who lost their lives.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Baltimore Fiddle Fair 2015

7 - 10 May

Baltimore, West Cork

www.fiddlefair.com

The Baltimore Fiddle Fair is a small festival with a big reputation. It features traditional and folk music from around the world in stunning settings!



Fleadh Cheoil Chorcaí

7 - 10 May

Ballincollig, Co. Cork

www.corkfleadh.ie

An annual celebration of Irish music and culture centred around the County Fleadh competitions along with a number of fringe events including Céilithe, concerts, exhibitions, sessions and street entertainment.



Sweets of May Set Dancing and Traditional Music Festival

8 - 10 May

Tralee, Co. Kerry

www.kerrydancers.com

Set dancing and traditional music festival with a Compose a New Set Competition, workshops, céilís and music sessions.



Kinsale International Car Rally

8 - 11 May

www.kinsalevintageclub.com

Car rally weekend including scenic driving around Cork County. Approx. 120 cars are expected to be in attendance. A great family weekend assured.



Kerrygold Ballymaloe Literary Festival of Food and Wine

15 - 17 May

Ballymaloe House & Ballymaloe Cookery School, Shanagarry, Co. Cork

www.litfest.ie

A literary festival dedicated to the celebration of food and wine.



Corona Fastnet Short Film Festival

20 - 24 May

Schull, Co. Cork

www.fastnetshortfilmfestival.com

An independent short film festival screening films in all sorts of weird and wonderful locations. The event focuses on the craft of film with participation from industry experts from all over the world.



Baltimore Wooden Boat Festival

22 - 24 May

Baltimore, Co. Cork

www.baltimorewoodenboatfestival.com

A celebration of traditional wooden boats and a 'must' for all those who own, sail and build boats, as well as anyone who enjoys the spectacle!



Sneem JFK 50 Mile Walk

23 May

Sneem and surrounds, Co. Kerry

www.sneemwalkingclub.com

A 50 mile walking challenge which has to be completed within 20 hours. Participants who complete this event receive either a gold, silver or bronze medal. Over 18's only.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Midleton Agricultural Show

24 May

Midleton, Co. Cork

www.midletonshow.com

A great day for all the family to enjoy with many animals, arts and crafts, cookery competitions, stalls and a kids' corner.



Listowel Writers' Week Literary Festival

27 - 31 May

Listowel, Co. Kerry

www.writersweek.ie

An internationally acclaimed literary festival devoted to bringing together writers and audiences at unique and innovative events in the historic and intimate surroundings of Listowel.



K-Fest Arts & Music

29 May - 1 June

Killorglin, Co. Kerry

www.kfest.ie

This music and arts festival is a jewel in the Kingdom's crown. Located in the centre of one of Ireland's most scenic and welcoming areas, there is something for everyone to enjoy.



Moby Dick Festival

29 - 31 May

Youghal, Co. Cork

www.youghal4all.com

This May, Youghal relives its close ties with Moby Dick as the town comes to life with a fantastic programme of free outdoor fun and frolics for young and old alike!



Ireland Bike Fest

29 May - 1 June

The Gleneagle Hotel, Muckcross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.irelandbikefest.com

The 9th annual Ireland Bike Fest promises to be bigger and better than ever. Get immersed in the Irish craic & chrome and experience the fun and festival atmosphere that truly makes this event unique.



Bandon Music Festival

29 - 31 May

Bandon, Co. Cork

www.bandonmusicfestival.com

The Bandon Music Festival attracts some of Ireland's leading musicians and performers with a line-up of concerts and also a festival music trail in the town.



Bantry Walking Festival

30 - 31 May

Bantry, Co. Cork

www.bantrywalkingfestival.com

A weekend of hiking, exploring, sightseeing and fun at the Bantry Walking Festival. Expert guides will lead treks on the Sheep's Head Way, around Whiddy Island, and along the shores of Bantry Bay to give you a taste of the walks West Cork has to offer.



Ocean to City - Cork Harbour Festival

30 May - 6 June

Cork City & Harbour

www.oceantocity.com

Ocean to City and Cork Harbour Open Day are delighted to announce that they will join forces and launch a new maritime festival by the name of "Ocean to City - Cork Harbour Festival".



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Festival by the Sea

30 May - 1 June (TBC)

Rosscarbery, Co. Cork

www.rosscarbery.ie

A fun filled weekend of activity for all the family with top Irish bands playing free open-air concerts, children's entertainment daily and country markets. All events are free!



JUNE 2015

Cork City Marathon

1 June

Cork City, Co. Cork

www.corkcitymarathon.com

Cork City Marathon, the 'Run for Everyone' welcomes first timers and experienced athletes alike to enter the marathon, half marathon or the team relay.



Dingle Adventure Race

6 June

Dingle, Co. Kerry

www.dingleadventurerace.com

A one-day, multi-activity adventure race consisting of three courses of biking, hiking, running and kayaking.



Live at the Marquee

11 June - 13 July

Cork City

www.aikenpromotions.com

2015 marks the 11th year of Live at the Marquee, which has seen many of the biggest names in entertainment perform at the Docklands venue each summer since 2005. Dates subject to change.



The Fastnet Maritime and Folk Fest

12 - 14 June

Ballydehob, Co. Cork

www.fastnetmaritime.com

An international festival based in picturesque Ballydehob, West Cork, featuring sea songs, shanties, dance and craft displays, workshops, busking, music in the pubs and outdoors.



West Cork Garden Trail

13 - 28 June

West Cork

www.westcorkgardentrail.com

The West Cork Garden Trail has welcomed thousands of visitors to some of the most beautiful gardens in Ireland since 1994. In association with the Harold Barry Trust the trail offers 16 gardens open to visitors in June 2015.



Fleadh Ceoil Chiarraí

16 - 21 June

Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry

www.kerrycomhaltas.ie

Fleadh Ceoil Chiarraí is a weeklong celebration of Irish music, song and dance with an array of events including workshops, street entertainment & ceilis.



Jim Dowling Uilleann Pipe & Trad Festival

18 - 21 June

Glengarriff, Co. Cork

www.jimdowlingfestival.eu

The festival looks to revive the tradition of Uilleann piping in the area and is a must for all piping and traditional music enthusiasts. Featuring workshops, concerts and sessions this year's line-up includes Lúnasa, Steve Cooney, Martin Hayes, the Friel Sisters and many more.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Cork Summer Show

19 - 21 June

Curraheen, Bishopstown, Co. Cork

www.corksummershow.com

A fantastic three day festival of agricultural showing classes - horses, cattle, sheep, goats, dog show, Farmer's Market and many more attractions for all the family.



Baltimore Pirate Festival

19 - 21 June

Baltimore, Co. Cork

www.baltimore.ie

Family fun festival with a Pirates' Gathering, best dressed competition, entertainment, challenges, music, drama, shanties and trips in and on the water!



Shandon Street Festival & Food Fair

20 June

Shandon, Cork City

www.shandonstreetfestival.com

A free family fun filled day, with entertainment to suit all ages. Salsa on the street or dance a jig to the sounds of the many musicians, sample the food and enjoy the colourful street decorations!



Cork Midsummer Festival

20 - 28 June

Cork City

www.corkmidsummer.com

A multi-disciplinary arts festival that uses Cork city as its backdrop and inspiration. Providing high-quality arts events, both national and international, for audiences of all ages.



West Cork Chamber Music Festival

26 June - 4 July

Bantry House & St. Brendan's Church, Bantry, Co. Cork

www.westcorkmusic.ie

West Cork Chamber Music Festival celebrates its 20th anniversary with a programme of glorious music performed by world-class musicians. Enjoy concerts from morning to late night featuring the finest music in repertoire.



O'Driscoll Clan Gathering

26 - 28 June

Baltimore, Co. Cork

www.baltimore.ie

The annual gathering gives O' Driscolls from other parts of the world the chance to rediscover their roots, but you definitely don't have to be an O'Driscoll to join in the festivities. There is a wide variety of happenings over the weekend, including cultural and educational events and entertainment.



Killarney Festival of Music & Food

27 - 28 June

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.killarneyfestival.ie

This family friendly boutique festival will take place at the picturesque Killarney House Demesne. Over 60 Irish and international musicians and bands will perform and there will also be a Comedy Tent, Food Village, Kids Zone and more.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Charleville Agricultural Show

27 - 28 June

Charleville, Co. Cork

www.charlevilleshow.com

Two day agricultural show with dairy, beef, sheep and horses showing; along with show jumping, dogs, trade stands, art, craft, cookery, flower arranging, a baby show and live entertainment. Fun for all!



Féile an Phráta

27 - 28 June

Ballydavid, Co. Kerry

www.facebook.com/FeileAnPhrata

A unique celebration of the potato and its important role in the lives and diet of the rural community, An Spud-off Mór challenges growers across the Dingle Peninsula to produce the perfect spud.



Dunmanway Agricultural Show

5 July

Dromleena Lawn (Racecourse),
Dunmanway, Co. Cork

www.dunmanwayshow.com

Agricultural Show with classes for horses, ponies, donkeys, cattle, sheep, goats, farm produce, cookery and arts and crafts.



Cuisle Chorca Dhuibhne:

Dingle's Global Rhythm Festival

10 - 12 July

Dingle, Co. Kerry

cuislecd2@gmail.com

The 4th Cuisle Chorca Dhuibhne will feature an eclectic mix of rhythm styles and percussive performances. Samba, jazz, Afro-Cuban, reggae, traditional Irish, West African drum and dance grooves will be heard over the weekend.



JULY 2015

Baltimore Secret Gardens Festival

4 - 5 July

Baltimore, Co. Cork

www.baltimore.ie

A gardening festival with a difference, offering a glimpse into one of the hidden treasures of this seaside village – its gardens. During the weekend visitors and gardening enthusiasts have the opportunity to explore some of Baltimore's beautiful gardens, large and small, most of which are not normally open to the public.



Queen of the Sea Festival

10 - 12 July

Youghal, Co. Cork

www.youghal.ie

Family festival where 'Queens' with a connection to Youghal compete to be crowned the Queen of the Sea 2015. Street party, live open-air music, fireworks, food festival, sandcastle competition & fun day.



Valentia Island King Scallop Festival

11 - 12 July

Knightstown, Valentia Island, Co. Kerry

www.valentiaisland.ie

The Valentia Island King Scallop Festival, now in its 6th year, promises visitors scrumptious food in beautiful secluded scenery. Entertainment includes live music, busking, fishing and sports competitions.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Blarney in Bloom 2015

11 July

Blarney Castle, Blarney, Co. Cork

www.blarneycastle.ie

Summer Garden Fair in aid of Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind. Featuring specialist plant nurseries, garden talks and demonstrations, arts and craft displays, children's entertainment, birds of prey and much more.



West Cork Literary Festival

12 - 18 July

Bantry, Co. Cork

www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

At the heart of the West Cork Literary Festival are its popular five day writing workshops. The programme is also packed with readings, seminars, main evening events, book launches and children's events.



Killarney's July Racing Festival

13 - 16 July

Killarney Racecourse, Ross Road,

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.killarneyraces.ie

This July racing festival is one of the highlights on Ireland's social calendar, with Thursday's Ladies Day renowned for its style and atmosphere.



Carbery Agricultural Show

16 July

Carbery Showgrounds,

Skibbereen, Co. Cork

www.skibbereen.ie

Carbery Agricultural Show is an annual agricultural show with family entertainment, stalls & much more.



St. Barrahanes Church Festival of Music

16 July - 7 August (Selected dates)

St. Barrahanes Church,

Castletownshend, Co. Cork

www.barrahanemusic.ie

A series of classical music concerts, held in a beautiful church with stained glass windows by Harry Clarke, in the historic village of Castletownshend.



Run Killarney Marathon

18 July

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.runkillarneymarathon.com

Run Killarney is an exciting festival of running with 3 great races on the same day to suit all levels of fitness.



Laya Healthcare City Spectacular Cork

18 - 19 July

Fitzgerald's Park, Cork City

www.cityspectacular.com

Ireland's biggest and best-loved free festival brings international street performers, a live music stage, the ever-popular Kid's Court and more to the streets of Cork.



Cork Cycling Festival

18 - 26 July

Cork City

www.corkcyclingfestival.com

A free, family-friendly celebration of bicycle culture. Join in and explore the city, tour the countryside, or sign up for a workshop – from beginner to expert, all are welcome!



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Ventry Regatta

18 - 19 July

Ventry, Dingle Peninsula, Co. Kerry

www.regattafiontra.org

Two days of traditional competition & activities for people of all ages, naomhóg (currach) racing, treasure hunt on bicycles, beach art, sports, poetry feis, Irish dancing and horse shoe throwing.



The Ring of the Reeks Cycle

25 July (TBC)

Beaufort GAA Club, Beaufort,

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.beaufortgaaclub.com

Cycle event to raise funds for Beaufort GAA Club with 3 routes: the spectacular and demanding 110km route, the 60km intermediate route & a shorter 35km route.



The Union Hall Festival by the Sea

22 - 26 July

Union Hall, Co. Cork

www.unionhall.ie

A fun-filled programme of events for all the family.



Duagh Summer Festival and BBQ

25 - 26 July

Duagh, Co. Kerry

www.discoverireland.ie

Duagh welcomes national and international BBQ aficionados who cook and share their insights during this weekend festival. This weekend is a BBQ lover's dream.



Sneem Family Festival

22 - 26 July

Sneem, Co. Kerry

www.sneemfamilyfestival.com

Five day family festival with something for everyone: a BBQ, funfair, guided walks, workshops, fun runs, the National Wife-Carrying Championship, craft market and much, much more!



Schull Agricultural Show

26 July

Schull Town Park, Schull, Co. Cork

www.discoverireland.ie

Schull Agricultural Show is a showcase for rural life and culture and a great family day out.



Skibbereen Arts Festival

24 July - 4 August

Skibbereen, Co. Cork

www.skibbereenartsfestival.com

This is the 7th Skibbereen Arts Festival. In these short few years it has grown a little in size and a lot in stature and is now firmly established as one of the best festivals of the year in West Cork.



The Spirit of Mother Jones

29 July - 1 August

Shandon, Cork City

www.motherjonescork.com

A 4 day festival celebrating the spirit of Mother Jones; one of Cork's most famous daughters, who was also described as being the "most dangerous woman in America". The festival will entail a range of concerts, talks, workshops and awards.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Cahersiveen Festival of Music & the Arts

31 July - 2 August

Cahersiveen, Co. Kerry

www.celticmusicfestival.com

A family friendly festival run over three days with open air concerts, children's entertainment, open air ceili, busking competitions, historical walks, fireworks, art exhibitions and much more.



Dan Paddy Andy Festival

31 July - 3 August

Lyreacrompane, Listowel, Co. Kerry

www.lyreacrompane.com

Ireland's real rural festival set in the Stacks Mountains of North Kerry. A great weekend of music, marquee dancing, ceili, song, drama, storytelling, bog walks, turf cutting and more.



Sean McCarthy Weekend Festival

31 July - 3 August

Teach Siamsa, Finuge, Lixnaw,
Co. Kerry

www.finugeweekend.com

A celebration of the enormous contribution Sean McCarthy made to his local community and his enduring legacy to the Irish ballad.



INDIEPENDENCE Music & Arts Festival

31 July - 2 August

Deer Farm, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork

www.indiependencefestival.com

Music and arts festival mixing top international & Irish acts with a friendly atmosphere. Previous acts include Editors, 2manydjs, Feeder, Ash, The Coronas, Ocean Colour Scene & Super Furry Animals.



AUGUST 2015

The Mick Dineen Cycle

2 August

Ballingeary, Co. Cork

www.valleywheelers.com

The Mick Dineen Cycle, now in its 6th year, is an annual leisure cycle through the beautiful scenery of West Cork and Kerry. There is a choice of 100km and 135km routes.



Cork Craft Month

4 August - 5 September

Various venues in Cork City &
County

www.corkcraftanddesign.com

A celebration of the amazing abundance of high quality craft in Cork City and County through exhibitions, workshops, pop up shops, craft fairs and open studios.



Rosscarbery Family Festival

7 - 16 August

Rosscarbery, Co. Cork

www.rosscarbery.ie

This ten-day annual family festival takes place in Rosscarbery this August with a jam packed programme of events to entertain the whole family!



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

For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Puck Fair

10 - 12 August

Killorglin, Co. Kerry

www.puckfair.ie

One of Ireland's most unusual street festivals - a wild mountain goat is crowned King of the town for three days and nights. Come along for twelve hours of free fun and family events each day.



Heir Island Regatta

13 August

Heir Island, Co. Cork

www.heirislandsailingschool.com

Annual regatta for traditional lobster boats, Heir Island sloops, topaz dinghies, drascombe luggers, Dublin Bay mermaids plus all in the dinghy category.



Rose of Tralee International Festival

14 - 18 August

Tralee, Co. Kerry

www.roseoftralee.ie

One of Ireland's largest and longest running family festivals connecting the global Irish community since 1959 through the annual selection of a Rose of Tralee.



Masters of Tradition

Bantry House & St. Brendan's Church, Bantry, Co. Cork

19 - 23 August

www.westcorkmusic.ie

Masters of Tradition is the festival which celebrates traditional music in its purest form. The finest of Irish traditional musicians perform for five evenings in St. Brendan's Church and Bantry House.



Killarney's August Racing Festival

19 - 22 August

Killarney Racecourse, Ross Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.killarneyraces.ie

Autumn racing festival which will combine horse racing with a festival atmosphere for all race-goers.



Charlie Chaplin Comedy Film Festival

20 - 23 August

Waterville, Co. Kerry

www.charliechaplincomedyfilmfestival.com

The festival includes a hugely entertaining range of events, screenings, workshops and Chaplin themed street entertainment and much, much more.



Hardman Triathlon

22 August

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.hardman.ie

The Hardman Triathlon offers both Iron and Olympic distance triathlons. Swim in the Lakes of Killarney, cycle the Ring of Kerry and run in Killarney's National Park.



Tri na Mona Sprint Triathlon

22 August

Tragumna, Skibbereen, Co. Cork

www.westcorktri.com

'Tri na Mona' Triathlon is a sprint distance triathlon, which consists of a 750m swim, 18.5km cycle and 5km run. This is a great event for beginners to the sport. Proceeds of the event go to local charities.



Festivals and Events in the South West

National Heritage Week

22 - 30 August

www.heritageweek.ie

Heritage Week is about bringing heritage to life with 1700 events taking place across Ireland - from medieval fairs to night-time bat walks and traditional music sessions to kids' workshops, there is something for everyone.



The 5th UnderGround Film Festival

Cork City, Co. Cork

22 - 29 August

www.undergroundshortfilmfestival.com

A Festival for Filmmakers, by Filmmakers, the UnderGround Film Festival celebrates five years of bringing shorts to the big screen and has something for everyone.



Youghal Medieval Festival

23 August

Youghal, Co. Cork

www.youghal.ie

9th annual Medieval Festival which truly brings Youghal's history and heritage to life. A free family day out, this festival will feature medieval battle re-enactments, food fair, arts & crafts.



Whale Watch Ireland 2015

23 August (TBC)

www.iwdg.ie

All-Ireland Whale Watch Day, land-based watches guided by IWDG personnel (no boats) at a local headland (to be allocated). Free event, open to everyone.



Baltimore Deep Sea Angling Festival

27 - 30 August

Baltimore, Co. Cork

www.baltimoreseaangling.com

Southwest Ireland's oldest sea angling competition noted for exciting fishing and great company. Catches include cod, shark, 'ton-up' skate and many other species. Cups, cash and other prizes. Open to all.



Daniel O'Connell Heritage Summer School

28 - 29 August

Cahersiveeen & Derrynane, Co. Kerry

www.derrynane.com

A series of lectures on the historical aspects of O'Connell's career as well as his relevance for modern Ireland.



SEPTEMBER 2015

The Kerry Ultra Way 2015

4 - 5 September

The Kerry Way, Co. Kerry

www.kerrywayultra.com

Over two days and one night in September, athletes will attempt to run the entire length of The Kerry Way without stopping, The Kerry Way Ultra!



A Taste of West Cork Food Festival

Skibbereen, Co. Cork

4 - 13 September

www.atasteofwestcork.com

A Taste of West Cork Food Festival is a celebration of all that is unique about the area - the world class food, the makers of this food, and the art and craft made in the area.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Cape Clear Island International Storytelling Festival

4 - 6 September

Cape Clear Island, Co. Cork

www.capeclearstorytelling.com

An annual storytelling festival in a stunning setting where Irish and international storytellers and musicians are invited to perform. This packed three day event includes walks, workshops and even set dancing!



Dingle Marathon 2015

5 September

Dingle, Co. Kerry

www.dinglemarathon.ie

This half, full and ultra-marathon takes place in Dingle each September - a 'must do' running event which takes in some of Ireland's most spectacular scenery.



Dingle Tradfest

10 - 13 September

Dingle, Co. Kerry

www.dingletradfest.com

An energetic music festival focusing on all forms of Irish and folk music. Set in the beautiful town of Dingle, it has garnered a reputation as one of the best-kept secrets of the festival circuit.



Flavour of Killorglin

11 - 13 September

Killorglin, Co. Kerry

www.flavourofkillorglin.com

A celebration of quality local food with a taste trail and farmers' market. Where local food can take you anywhere!



Singles Walking Festival Weekend

11 - 13 September

Sneem, Co. Kerry

kerrygeopark@gmail.com

The Singles Walking Festival Weekend in Sneem sees a variety of themed walks take place during this three day event; and music, poetry, storytelling and dance are part of the evening's entertainment.



Cork Small Boats Festival 2015

11 - 18 September

Cork Harbour, Co. Cork

www.skuaangling.net

A 'bring your own boat' angling festival! Bring your boat to Cork and enjoy a friendly fishing competition with other small boat owners from Ireland & the UK.



Courtmacsherry Storytelling Carnival

11 - 13 September

Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork

Tel: 023 8840100

A great weekend of stories, tall tales and songs in the seaside village of Courtmacsherry. It is a small event with a warm welcome for local and visitor alike. Come, enjoy and keep the tradition alive.



Listowel Horse Racing Harvest Festival

13 - 19 September

Listowel, Co. Kerry

www.goracing.ie

These seven days combine to make the last major festival of the Summer known widely as the Harvest festival. The highlight of the week is the Guinness Kerry National on the Wednesday and Ladies Day on the Friday.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Clonakilty International Guitar Festival

17 - 20 September

Clonakilty, Co. Cork

www.clonguitarfest.com

A celebration of one of the world's most versatile and influential of all musical instruments and pays tribute to all who strum those hallowed six strings.



Cork Culture Night

18 September

Cork City & County

www.culturenightcork.ie

www.culturenightcorkcounty.ie

Celebrate Culture Night and experience a wealth of free events, performances and exhibitions by artists and cultural organisations in various locations throughout Cork City & County.



Dingle Triathlon

19 September

Dingle Marina, Dingle, Co. Kerry

www.dingletriathlon.ie

Triathlon event, based at Dingle Marina, and consisting of a 1500m swim in the harbour, a 40km Sleah Head cycle and a 10km road run.



Youghal Celebrates History - The Fitzgerald Dynasty in the Blackwater Valley

19 - 20 September

Youghal, Co. Cork

www.youghalcelebrateshistory.com

A conference and field trip examining the legacy of the Fitzgerald dynasty in the Blackwater Valley, including poetry, antiquities and patronage.



Cork International Short Story Festival

23 - 26 September

Cork City

www.corkshortstory.net

An event dedicated to the celebration of the short story. The festival showcases readings, literary forums and workshops.



ENGAGE Arts Festival

24 - 27 September

Bandon, Co. Cork

www.engageartsfestival.com

A multi-disciplinary arts festival encompassing music, dance, theatre, literature, film, visual art and street activities, which allows participants to be engaged with and challenged by contemporary art.



Macroom Food Festival

25 - 27 September

Macroom, Co. Cork

www.macroomfoodfestival.com

This three day festival will be a feast for all the senses - food, drink, music, entertainment and fun for all the family are guaranteed in and around the streets of Macroom.



OCTOBER 2015

Cork Folk Festival

1 - 4 October

Cork City

www.corkfolksfestival.com

Cork Folk Festival is an annual gathering of some of the finest folk/traditional musicians from Ireland and beyond. The 4 day event is now in its 36th year and is regarded as one of the most important in Ireland.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Dingle Food Festival 2015

2 - 4 October

Dingle Peninsula, Co. Kerry

www.dinglefood.com

Highlights of the Dingle Peninsula Food Festival include a taste trail in over 60 outlets, where festival goers can purchase taste tickets and sample local cuisine delights in locations that vary from pubs and galleries to shops and restaurants. Plus lots of on street entertainment, music and fun for all the family!



Killarney Adventure Race

3 October

Killarney National Park, Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.killarneyadventurerace.com

Ireland's best one day multi-adventure sport race. Run, kayak and cycle some of the world's most dramatic landscapes in the wilds of Kerry with 3 different routes to suit all levels of fitness.



IndieCork Film Festival 2015

4 - 11 October

Cork City

www.indiecork.com

IndieCork presents short films, documentaries and features and a number of special events. It's all about creativity. Cinema that engages with social, political and cultural matters is also important and the opportunity for the audience to meet with filmmakers.



Kinsale Gourmet Festival

9 - 11 October

Kinsale, Co. Cork

www.kinsalarestaurants.com

A celebration of all the culinary delights that Kinsale has to offer with the infamous 'Mad Hatters' Taste of Kinsale; the renowned Fruits de Mer Luncheon; a celebrity chef cook-off; and a black tie dinner.



Baltimore Walking Weekend

10 - 11 October

Baltimore & surrounds, Co. Cork

www.baltimore.ie

Guided walks of different grades on coastal tracks, hills and islands in Roaringwater Bay in aid of Irish Heart Foundation.



Youghal Spooktacular

23 - 25 October

Youghal, Co. Cork

www.youghal4all.com

The most unique Halloween festival in Ireland - have the best time on the South-Ghost! One of the most unique and spectacular events in Ireland, the annual Halloween festival proudly hosts An Bhean Uisce from the underworld, spiritual convention, parades, haunted town centre and much more!



Guinness Cork Jazz Festival

23 - 26 October

Cork City, Co. Cork

www.guinnessjazzfestival.com

Internationally renowned, this festival features over 1,000 musicians in 400 sessions at 70 venues - with concerts, a Jazz Camp, a Jazz Choir, a singers' corner and a music trail.



Festivals and Events in the South West

Toughathlon – Premier Event Series 2015

24 - 25 October

Curraheen Park, Cork City

www.toughathlon.ie

Get your adrenaline pumping at Toughathlon 2015! Participants will be tested in terms of their overall strength, teamwork and toughness.



Kenmare Halloween Howl

24 - 31 October

Kenmare, Co. Kerry

www.kenmare.ie

6 days of Halloween celebrations in Kenmare with a Haunted Forest and House, spooky bus, storytelling, fancy dress discos, scary movies, and Halloween activities and camps on land and sea. It's going to be a scream!



Skibbereen Vintage Day

26 October

Skibbereen, Co. Cork

www.skibbereen.ie

Skibbereen's Annual Vintage Day is now a firmly established landmark event in Skibbereen's social calendar. Vintage cars & tractors, open feis, music, threshing, pig racing & much more.



The Dragon of Shandon Samhain Festival

29 - 31 October (TBC)

Shandon, Cork City

www.dragonofshandon.com

Walk with Ireland's last Dragon through the historic streets of Shandon in a fun family event and one of Ireland's largest street parade celebrations of the Irish tradition of Samhain.



15th World Ghost Convention 2015

30 October

Cork City Gaol, Sunday's Well, Cork City

www.worldghostconvention.com

At the World Ghost Convention, a colourful assortment of fascinating supernatural topics are explored by international guest speakers and personal supernatural experiences shared.



Hugh O' Flaherty Memorial Weekend & International Humanitarian Award

30 October - 1 November

Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.hughoflaherty.com

Annual commemoration of the WWII hero Msgr. Hugh O' Flaherty and the awarding of the Hugh O' Flaherty International Humanitarian Award.



NOVEMBER 2015

An Féile Bheag Filíochta - The Little Poetry Festival

6 - 8 November

Ballyferriter, Co. Kerry

www.feilebheagfiliochta.com

A bilingual festival of poetry, song and story; with workshops, lectures and open mic events. Conducted through Irish, but all languages welcome and catered for. By poets for both poets & would-be poets!



Sneem International Folklore & Storytelling Festival

6 - 8 November

Various venues in Sneem, Co. Kerry

www.sneemstorytellingfestival.com

A weekend of concerts, pub performances, workshops, walks and lectures themed on storytelling and folklore for all ages. Features storytellers and musicians from Ireland, the UK and the USA.



For more details on Festivals & Events, check out:

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Cork Film Festival

6 - 15 November

Cork City

www.corkfilmfest.org

The programme is wide-ranging, an eclectic mix of big budget pictures, world cinema, innovative independent films, documentaries and short films from all over the globe. The festival is a major showcase for Irish film production and is Ireland's oldest film festival.



National Circus Festival Ireland

12 - 15 November

Tralee, Co. Kerry

www.traleecircusfestival.com

For one weekend the town of Tralee runs away with the circus in an explosion of theatre, laughter, skill and absurdity!



Run the Gauntlet

15 November

Gap of Dunloe, Killarney, Co. Kerry

www.runthegauntlet.ie

Half marathon event, there and back, through the Gap of Dunloe. Open to walkers and runners. Are you tough enough?



Kenmare Choral Festival

27 - 29 November

Kenmare, Co. Kerry

www.kenmarechoralfestival.com

Festival celebrating choral music at its best through performances and competitions while showcasing Kenmare, a designated Heritage Town.



DECEMBER 2015

Éigse Dhiarmuid Uí Shúilleabháin

4 - 6 December (TBC)

Coolea / Ballyvourney, Co. Cork

www.eigse.ie

Traditional music, song and dance weekend to commemorate the life and work of Diarmuid Súilleabháin, singer and journalist.



Clonakilty Waterfront Marathon

5 December

Clonakilty, Co. Cork

www.runclon.ie

A full 26.2 mile marathon with a half marathon (13.1 mile) option or a mini (6 mile) run. Jones counter measured courses, AAI approved. Spectacular views on a testing course.



Nollaig Neidin

Kenmare, Co. Kerry

5 December 2015 - 1 January 2016

www.kenmare.ie

Kenmare has always been a special place to celebrate Christmas and the New Year. You'll be spoiled for choice!



Festivals and Events in the South West

A Cork Christmas Celebration

December (Dates TBC)
Grand Parade, Cork City
www.corkcity.ie

A Cork Christmas Celebration welcomes you home for Christmas with free family events including a festive lighting installation in Bishop Lucey Park and Christmas markets on the Grand Parade.



Christmas in Killarney 2015

December (Dates TBC)
Killarney, Co. Kerry
www.christmasinkillarney.com

Celebrating Christmas in beautiful Killarney with Santa, skating, markets, concerts and much more with emphasis on the theme of "Coming Home for Christmas."



Traditional Old Year Celebration

31 December
Portmagee, Co. Kerry
www.moorings.ie

For over a century and a half, the arrival of each New Year is celebrated in Portmagee with a unique custom called the Old Year.



COMING IN 2016

1916

'Ireland 2016' is a national government initiative to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising of 1916. This huge initiative will deliver a programme of activity and events to honour and remember those who fought and those who died in the 1916 Rising, and to reflect on the legacy of that period. A number of formal state events will be held over Easter weekend 2016, along with other events nationwide throughout the year. For full details, including an outline of the programme of events, please visit www.ireland.ie



Glow - A Cork Christmas Celebration



Cork Jazz Festival



Killarney Adventure Race. Credit: Valerie O' Sullivan



Moby Dick Festival

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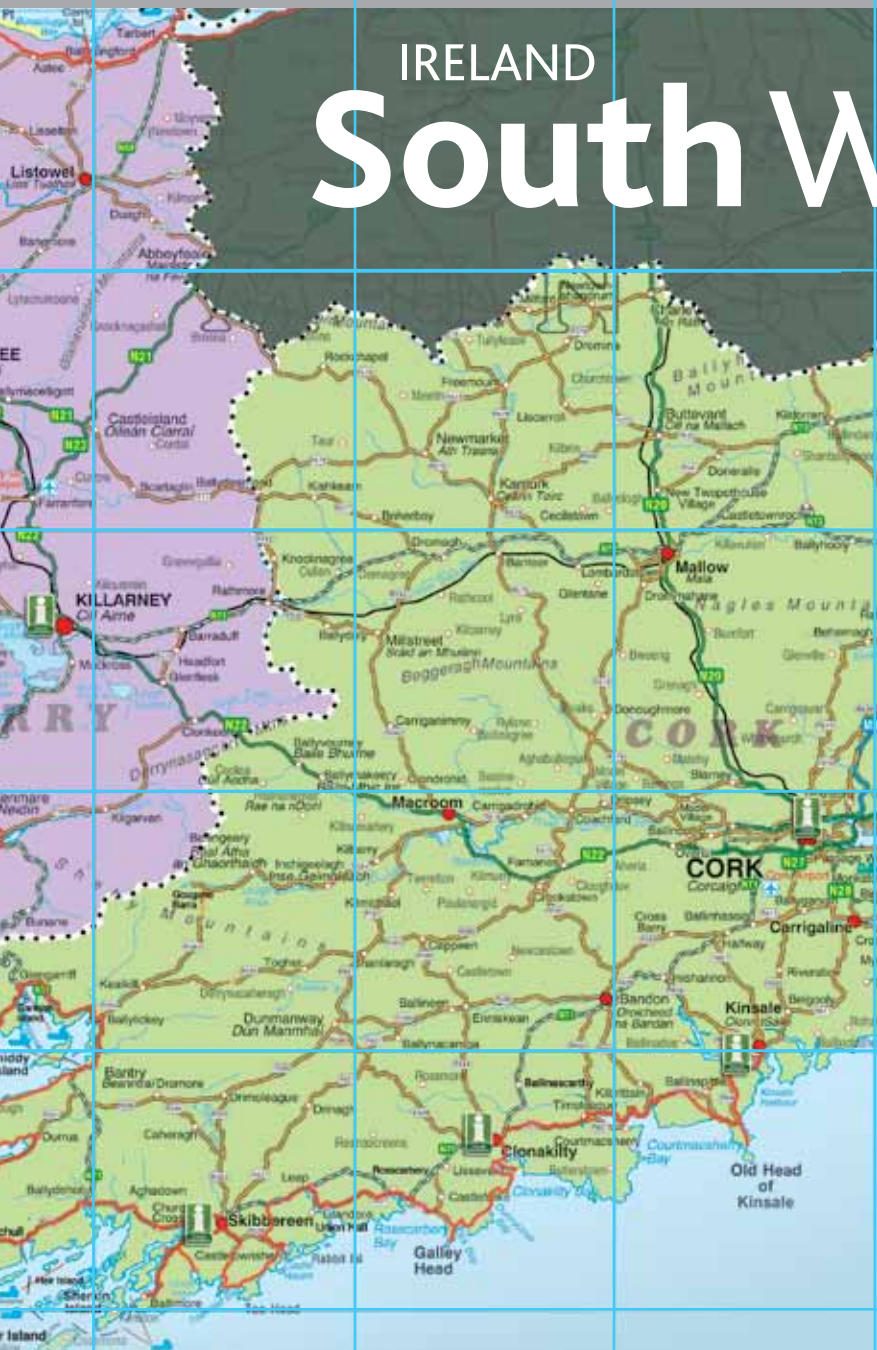
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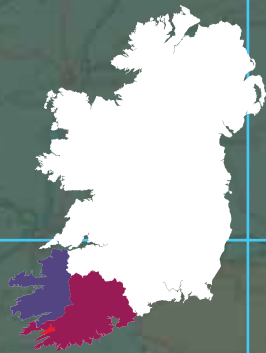
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Tourist Information



National Roads



Secondary Roads



Regional Roads



Rivers



Regional Border



Wild Atlantic Way
Driving Route

SYMBOLS



Ordnance Survey
Ireland Permit
No.8738

© Ordnance Survey
Ireland / Government
of Ireland

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THINGS TO DO



Entrance to English Market, Cork City

PLACES TO SEE



Other Voices, St. James' Church, Dingle

FAMILY FUN

EVENTS & MAPS

AND LOTS MORE...

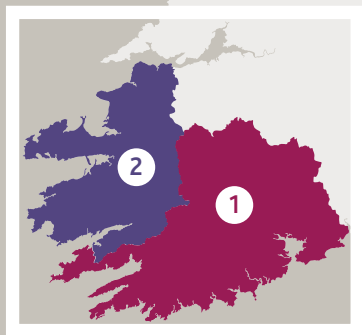


Beehive Huts, Skellig Michael

South West Region

1 CORK

2 KERRY



DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

WILD ATLANTIC WAY
SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH PHÁIN

Visitors - we welcome your feedback on this guide!

E: pocketguides@failteireland.ie



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