

HERITAGE IRELAND

Ireland's National Heritage
in the care of the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS

Trade Catalogue 2021



Ireland's Ancient East

Ireland's Hidden Heartlands Wild Atlantic Way Dublin



1. GROUPS AND TRADE ... EXPLORE MORE

Bring your group to visit an historic place for a great day out.

- If you are a public group or in the travel trade and have customers for group travel, FIT or MICE our staff are delighted to present memorable experiences at over 70 historic attractions.*
- Our guides excel in customer service and storytelling that enthrals and engrosses the visitor, while offering a unique insight into the extraordinary legacy of Ireland's iconic heritage.
- Join our mailing list for more information on heritageireland.ie
- Contact each site directly for booking details in Groups / Trade Catalogue
- * Due to COVID-19 restrictions some sites may not be open.

2. GROUP VISIT BENEFITS

- Group Rate up to 20% off normal adult admission rate.
 (min. 10 at most sites)
- One free tour leader per group booking
- Free once-off familiarisation visit
- Ability to amend/cancel bookings free of charge
- Coach parking at many of our sites
- Use of tour groups own wireless transmission whisper system allowed. (This does not include open audio loudspeakers.) Some of our sites have their own guided wireless transmission system/audio guide provided free of charge.
- Fast track admission for pre-booked groups
- Exclusive guided tours (some sites have specific language guided tours)

- Specific language audio-visual films in some sites for pre-booked tours
- Access to OPW Tour Operator Voucher Scheme (TOVS).
 Payment by monthly invoice.
 Email us at toursopsaccounts@opw.ie
- $\,^*$ Minimum numbers may vary at sites due to COVID-19 restrictions as at July 2020.
- $\ensuremath{^{*}}$ Some sites may not be fully accessible or closed due to COVID-19 restrictions as at July 2020.

3. PLAN YOUR ITINERARY

- For inspiration about passage tombs, historic castles,
 Christian sites and historic houses and gardens throughout
 Ireland
- From brunch to banquets find out about catering facilities at sites, events and more ...
- Wild Atlantic Way
- Ireland's Ancient East
- Dublin
- Ireland's Hidden Heartlands

4. TOUR OPERATORS VOUCHER SCHEME - CONTACT US

- Visitor Services, Office of Public Works,
 20 Lakeside Retail Park, Ballindine Road, Claremorris,
 Co. Mayo, F12 DK30, Ireland.
 T. 353 (1) 647 6000 / E. touropsaccounts@opw.ie
- Coming soon Holiday Pass. Explore more with a 2-week Holiday Pass. For use by FITs / individuals only.
- Join our mailing list for more information on heritageireland.ie



OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS

Ireland's Iconic Heritage Sites

Ireland's Ancient East

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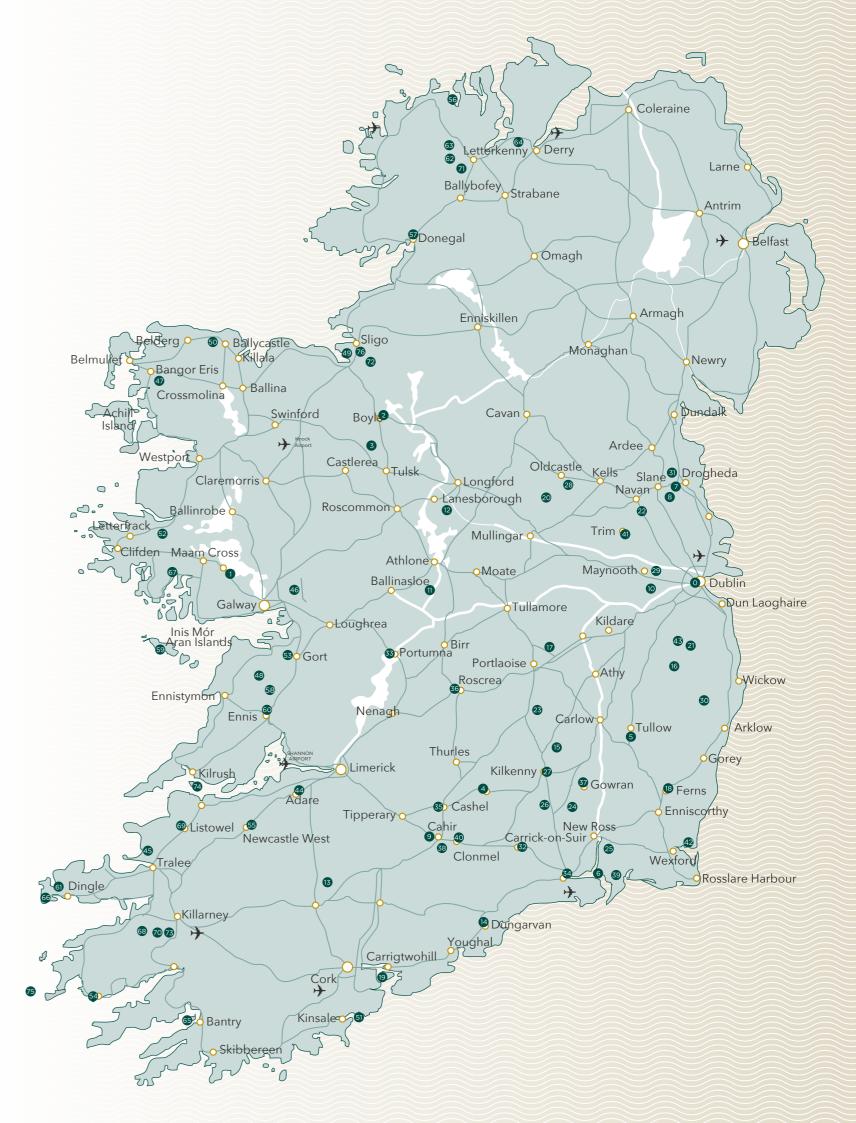
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From banquets to brunch ... enjoy catering facilities at our historic sites.



Clockwise from top left: Dublin Castle; Kilkenny Castle; Castletown House and Parklands; Farmleigh House









Altamont Tullow, Co. Carlow



Old world gardens with an atmosphere all of their own.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 09.00 - 18.30 times vary by season. All year round 2021 dates should be simliar.

ADMISSION

Free

HIGHLIGHTS

- Renowned ollection of over 200 varieites of snowdrop Visit in February for the Snow Drop Walk.
- Plant collection of the late
 Corona North, who bequeathed
 the property to the Irish State.
- Visit during Carlow Garden
 Festival Juy/ August for lectures,
 talks & walks.

A large and beautiful estate covering 16 hectares in total, Altamont Gardens is laid out in the style of William Robinson, which strives for 'honest simplicity'. The design situates an excellent plant collection perfectly within the natural landscape.

For example, there are lawns and sculpted yews that slope down to a lake ringed by rare trees and rhododendrons. A fascinating walk through the Arboretum, Bog Garden and Ice Age Glen, sheltered by ancient oaks and flanked by huge stone outcrops, leads to the banks of the River Slaney. Visit in summer to experience the glorious perfume of roses and herbaceous plants in the air.

With their careful balance of formal and informal, nature and artistry, Altamont Gardens have a unique and wholly enchanting character.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Garden Tour	Tour of Altamont Gardens, a must for garden lovers.	Moderate	numbers Min 5 Max. 25.		

BOOKING

т. 00353 (59) 9159444 E. altamontgardens@opw.ie

LOCATION

Altamont, Tullow, Co. Carlow R93 N882. Near Ballon, signposted off the N80 and N81 between Tullow and Bunclody.

FACILITIES

Car Parking

Coach Parking

Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities

TEA ROOMS

The Old Yard Tea Rooms are located in the gardens and serve a delicious selection of food and beverages. Contact directly for bookings:

т. 00353 87 906 4570 E. hello@theoldyard.ie

NEARBY

Huntington Castle and Gardens, Carlow County Msuuem and Dunmore Caves.







Ballyhack Castle Arthurstown, Co. Wexford





Founded by the knights Hospitaller in the 1450s.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Sat-Wed, 9.30-16.15 09.05.20-26.08.2020 2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Free

HIGHLIGHTS

- 15th century Medieval Castle
- Free Guided tours
- Try on replica armour
- Take a selfie dressed as a knight!
- Located on The Hook Peninsula

Ballyhack Castle was founded by the Knights Hospitaller of St. John, one of the two great military orders founded at the beginning of the 12th century at the time of the Crusades.

This tower house is located in a commanding position overlooking Waterford Estuary, one of the great trade routes of medieval Ireland.

Take time to hear about the escapades of the Knights and the Crusades. Hear about the many defensive features of the castle. Try to avoid the murder hole and machicolaton, and navigate the steep stairs. The castle also has a chapel, a secret room and plenty of space for prisoners!

The site has a display of replica armour for visitors to try on. Learn what it was like to be a knights squire. Find out how to dress a knight and prepare him for battle; and then how clean up afterwards!

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Guided Tour of Castle	In the expert hands of the guide, enjoy a tour of the castle, learn of the architecture and art of the Middle Ages and the de Birmingham family history.	Wheelchair access to the ground floor only. Guides provide a booklet of photos and points of interest in the interior for those who cannot access the floors above.	Min. 10. Max. 40	45 minutes	€4.00 Group Rate
Audio Visual Presentation		Wheelchair access to the ground floor only. Guides provide a booklet of photos and points of interest in the interior for those who cannot access the floors above.	Max. 50	20 minutes	As part of admission fee

BOOKING

т. 00 353 (0) 51 389 468 E. jerpointabbey@opw.ie

LOCATION

Ballyhack, Arthurstown, Co. Wexford, Y35 TN56. On the Hook Peninsula in Ballyhack village (off R733), Arthurstown, Hook Peninsula, Co. Wexford.

FACILITIES

Car Parking available in the Ballyhack village, Coach Parking available in the Ballyhack village, Coaches can drop and collect, Reception in the lower floor of the tower house, No café on site, Small shop and public house serving food in the village, approx, 2 minute walk, Tea-room facilities at Dunbrody Abbey (6km) and Ramsgrange (7km) No public toilets.

NEARBY

Close to Tintern Abbey,
Hook Lighthouse, Loftus
Hall, Duncannon Fort, JFK
Memorial Park & Arboretum,
Dunbrody Abbey, Duncannon
Village, various beaches.





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Battle of the Boyne – Oldbridge Estate

Drogheda, Co. Louth





Largest battle on Irish soil in 1690, at stake were English throne, French dominance of Europe and control of Ireland.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 - 17.00 01.05.20 - 30.09.20

Daily, 09.00 - 16.00 01.10.20 - 30.04.20

Open all year.

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult €5.00, Group/ Senior €5.00, Student/Child €3.00, Family €13.00. Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Events calendar: outdoor theatre, walks, talks, family events, music events
- Tea Room serving delicious fare located in Victorian Walled Garden
- Original and replica weaponry from the 17th century
- Laser model of the battle field

The Battle of the Boyne, between King William III and his father-in-law King James II, was fought on July 1st 1690. It was the largest battle ever fought on Irish soil with 60,000 troops deployed around Oldbridge Village on the banks of the River Boyne. As part of the wars of the Grand Alliance, 13 different nationalities were present on the day. The three main issues were, the throne of England, French dominance in Europe and power and control in Ireland.

Situated on 500 acres that take in much of the original battlefield, Oldbridge House today provides an interpretative centre for those who wish to learn more about the battle and explore the battlefield itself.

The extensive gardens have been restored and feature an unusual sunken octagonal garden, a peach house, an orchard and herbaceous borders, while the tearoom has been created adjacent to the old stable block. Throughout the year, outdoor theatre, workshops and events such as cavalry displays and musket demonstrations help to recreate a sense of what it might have been like on the fateful day in July 1690.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre – Indoor Guided Tour	Pre-booked guided tours of the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre. In the expert hands of an engaging Battle of the Boyne guide, the highlights tour showcases background and day of the Battle in 1690, bringing to life the three kings and armies who engaged on the banks of the Boyne. Original, replica weaponry and art. A state of the art laser model of the battlefield explains the logistics on the day. The tour finished with an award winning audio visual film in the fully seated AV Room.	On flat surface – indoors Wheelchair accessible	Min 10. Max. 50	45 minutes	Group Rate €4.00
Living History Displays	Interactive 17th Century Military and Social Living History. Be transported back to the time of the Battle of the Boyne and witness for yourself the skills of a well-trained Musketeer and hear about the regiments who fought at the battle in 1690. Experience Social Living History and meet some of the characters that would have had roles at the battle, such as the Sutler, Barber Surgeon, Paymaster and Gunsmith	On flat surfaces – paved or grass. Wheelchair accessible on paved surfaces.	Min. 10. Max. 50	30 mins. Selected Sundays and bank Holidays during summer season.	Group Rate €4.00

HIGHLIGHTS continued

- Award winning Audio visual in Irish, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Hindi and Mandarin
- Beautiful battle site walks on historic 18th century landscape and adjacent to the Boyne Blue Way - canal and river walks

LOCATION

Oldbridge, Drogheda, Co. Meath, A92 CY68. Exit 9 - 5 km off M1 Motorway 9 Dublin - Belfast.

BOOKING

т. 00353 (0) 41 9809950 E. battleofteboyne@opw.ie www.battleoftheboyne.ie

FACILITIES

Car Parking and Coach Parking on site. Tea Room in Victorian Walled Garden. Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities, Gift Shop

NEARBY

Close to Bru na Boinne
(Newgrange and Knowth
and Old Mellifont Abbey).
Near to the historic town of
Drogheda, picturesque Slane
Village, Franics Ledwidge
Musuem and Slane Castle and
Whiskey Museum.

TEA ROOMS

in Victorian Walled Garden. Groups bookings to be made in advance.

т. 00 353 (0) 41 9842921 E. customercare@brambles.ie

PARK LANDS

Self guiding walks through the battlesite and 18th century estate, adjacent to the Boyne Blue Way - canal and river.

LANGUAGES

Award winning Audio visual in Irish, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Hindi and Mandarin. Handouts in same languages.







Bru na Boinne

Donore, Drogheda, Co. Meath







Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre is situated on the south side of the River Boyne overlooking the core of the World Heritage Site. It opened in 1997.

OPENING HOURS 2020

March & April 2020 -

Open: 9:30 - Last shuttle to monuments 15.00 - Last admission to Visitor Centre 16.45

May, June, July & August 2020 -

Open: 9:00 - Last shuttle to monuments 16:30 - Last admission to Visitor Centre 18:15

September 2020 -

Open: 9:00 - Last shuttle to monuments 15:30 - Last admission to Visitor Centre 17:15

October 2020 -

Open: 9:30 - Last shuttle to monuments 15:00 - Last admission to Visitor Centre 16:45

November & December* 2020 -

Open: 9:00 - Last shuttle to monuments 14:30 - Last admission to Visitor Centre 16:15

CLOSED 24th - 27th December inclusive.

2021 dates should be similar.

The entire complex of monuments at Brú na Bóinne was added to the World Heritage List in 1993.

Newgrange is the best known Irish passage tomb and dates to c.3,200BC. The large mound is approximately 80m in diameter and is surrounded at its base by a kerb of 97 stones. The most impressive of these stones is the highly decorated Entrance Stone.

The new state of the art, immersive visitor experience, opened in 2020, focuses on the monuments of the World Heritage Site during the Neolithic period. It transports visitors back 5000 years to the pinnacle of passage tomb building when Brú na Bóinne contained some of the largest buildings in the world.

The exhibits explore the seasonal nature of Stone Age society, the significance of the solar cycle, ceremonies and the monument building process.

On 1 st March 2020 new tour options begin that include visiting both Newgrange and Knowth as standard. The previous options of visiting Knowth or Newgrange only are no longer available.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Brú na Bóinne Tour – Outside Only	This is a visit to Knowth and Newgrange exterior only.	See below under: Accessibility	Groups of 15 or more must pre-book one of our group time slots by emailing brunaboinne@ opw.ie for availability.	2 hours 45 minutes including the visitor centre exhibitions.	€10.00 Group rate
Brú na Bóinne Plus Newgrange Chamber Tour	This is a visit to Newgrange and Knowth, which includes access to the chamber at Newgrange.	See below under: Accessibility	Groups of 15 or more must pre-book one of our group time slots by emailing brunaboinne@ opw.ie for availability.	2 hours 45 minutes including the visitor centre exhibitions.	€16.00 Group Rate
Visitor Centre Only	This is a visit to the Bru na Boinne Visitor Centre only.	See below under: Accessibility	Groups of 15 or more must pre-book one of our group time slots by emailing brunaboinne@ opw.ie for availability.	60 mins.	€4.00 Group Rate

ADMISSION

Brú na Bóinne Tour - Outside Only:

Adult €12 Senior/Group €10 Children (12-17) €8 Family* €28

Brú na Bóinne Plus - Newgrange Chamber Tour:

Adult €18 Senior/Group €16 Children (12-17) €12 Family* €48

Visitor Centre Exhibition Only:

Adult €5 Senior/Group €4 Children (12-17) €3 Family* €13

Children under 12 are free but still require a ticket. *Family is 2 adults and up to 5 children

BOOKING

т. 00353 (41) 9880300 E. brunaboinne@opw.ie

All groups of 15 people or more must book well in advance.

There are limited slots each day for groups.

The maximum number allowed per group is 48 including leaders/guides.

All groups must report to the Visitor Centre at their allotted time, not directly to the Monuments.

Groups are brought by shuttle bus to and from the Visitor Centre.

It is not always possible to accommodate unbooked groups or late arrivals.

LANGUAGES

All tours are conducted through English, as there can be many different nationalities on each tour. The Exhibition and the audio-visual in the Visitor Centre are translated into Irish, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Free leaflets are available in the Visitor Centre in the same languages as well as in Japanese.

Translations of the text of the exhibition are available to borrow in French, German, Italian and Spanish.

If a group is visiting and they have their own leader, we are more than happy to accommodate the group leader translating the tour.



ACCESSIBILITY:

The passage and chamber at Newgrange is low and narrow and maybe not suitable for visitors with claustrophobia or mobility issues. The tours of the sites are outdoors so it is extremely important to wear appropriate clothing.

Wheelchair Accessibility:

Newgrange - The chamber at Newgrange is not accessible to wheelchairs and there are some steps on the path at the back of the mound. A full scale replica of the chamber forms part of the exhibition at the visitor centre. It is wheelchair accessible.

Knowth - The chamber of Knowth is not accessible. All of the tour is wheelchair accessible except the small exhibition room & the top of the mound.

Visitor Centre - Is fully wheelchair accessible. Wheelchairs are available to borrow during your visit.

Shuttle Bus - Is fully wheelchair accessible.

CAFE

Located in the Visitor Centre and open all year round.

т. 00353 (41) 9814888

NEARBY

Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre -Oldbridge House, Old Mellifont Abbey, Slane Village, Slane Irish Whiskey Distillery, The Francis Ledwidge Museum.







Cahir Castle

Cahir, Co. Tipperary





One of the best preserved medieval castles in Ireland showcasing the skill of the medieval craftsmen.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily: 09.30-16.45 01/03/20-03/06/20

Daily: 09.00 - 17.45 04/06/20-30/08/20

Daily: 09.30 - 17.00 01/09/20-24/10/20 Daily: 09.30 - 15.45 25/10/20-28/02/21

CLOSED ANNUALLY 24th - 30th DECEMBER INCLUSIVE

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult €5.00, Senior/ Group €4.00, Student/ Child €3.00, Family €13.00. Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Period furniture
- The 1599 artillery (culverin) ball embedded in the walls.
- Portcullis rare in Ireland
- Exhibition and model of the 1599 siege

Begun in the early 13th century and enlarged in subsequent centuries, Cahir Castle stands on a rocky island in the River Suir which has been fortified since the 3rd century AD. Its well preserved curtain walls, courtyards and buildings are wonderful examples of the craftmanship of the medieval builders. Exploring the castle, it doesn't take much to imagine what daily life was like in this medieval fortress.

Cahir Castle's formidable defenses proved to be impregnable until 1599, when it was successfully taken by the forces of Queen Elizabeth I, following a three day siege. Learn about the event, the politics of this turbulent period and the characters involved. The Siege exhibition and model help to recreate a sense of what it might have been like on these fateful days in May 1599.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Cahir Castle – mainly outdoors	The highlights tour brings to life the long fascinating history, stories and characters. A model and exhibition of the 1599 siege explains what was probably the most important event in the history of the castle. The audio visual film in the fully seated AV Room can be viewed either at the start or end of the tour.	On mainly flat but varied surfaces – mainly outdoors. Wheelchair accessible	Min 10. Max. 50	35 minutes	€4.00 Group Rate
Cahir Castle – indoors	Upper levels of buildings – self guiding. Exhibitions – Women in Medieval Ireland, The 1599 Siege of Cahir Castle and lastly The 1916 Rising	Access by spiral stairs and straight stairs	Min 10. Max. 50	30 minutes	€4.00 Group Rate
Audio visual	"Cahir Castle and the Story of Irish Castles" a presentation in our AV theatre with commentary available in Irish, English, French, German, and Italian	On flat surfaces – ground floor Wheelchair accessible	Min 10. Max. 60	15 mins.	€4.00 Group Rate

BOOKING

т. 0353 52 7441011 E. cahircastle@opw.ie

LOCATION

Castle St., Cahir, Co. Tipperary, E21 P652. Junction 10 (2 km) off M8 Motorway (Dublin -Cork) and Junction 11 (4 km) off M8 (Cork - Dublin)

LANGUAGES

Audio visual (Cahir Castle and the Story of Irish Castles) in Irish, English, French, German, Italian

FACILITIES

Public Car Parking directly adjacent to castle. Public Coach Parking directly adjacent to castle. Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities. Book Shop, Model and Exhibitions, Audio Visual. No Tea Room on site.

NEARBY

In the historic town of Cahir, close to Swiss Cottage, the Rock of Cashel and Ormond Castle Adjacent to the Suir Blue Way, canoeing and river walk







Castletown House

Celbridge, Co. Kildare





OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 - 17.00 01.03.20 - 31.10.20

Wed-Sun, 10.00 - 17.00 01.11.20 - 31.12.20

earlier / later opening is available by appointment.

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Group rates vary by experience - see overleaf.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Architectural gem in the Italianate palace style, with extraordinary plasterwork
- Colourful Characters from William Conolly to the indomitable spirit of Lady Louisa
- Stunning collection of furniture, decorative and visual arts
- Focus on Native Irish Materials including Kilkenny marble fireplaces and limestone floors

Castletown House is Ireland's first and finest Palladian style mansion. Built in the 1720s for William Conolly, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, Castletown House was constructed to exemplify its owners' influence and immense wealth. In the second half of the eighteenth century, William's grand – nephew Tom and his wife, Lady Louisa, created the grand interiors that visitors can still enjoy today. Remaining in the Conolly family until its sale in 1965, the estate was ultimately acquired by the state in 1994.

A tone of grandeur is immediately set upon arrival into the magnificent double height Entrance Hall of Ireland's first and finest example of Palladian style architecture. This theme of opulence continues through multiple ornate rooms (including Ireland's only surviving eighteenth century Print Room) that boast a clear commitment to the use of native Irish materials. Feel the weight of history in a house that was once occupied by the prestigious Conolly family including William, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons and the indomitable Irish noblewoman, Lady Louisa.

In 2020, a new immersive tour tells the story of Ireland's equine tradition, including the equine story of Castletown in its own right as one of the finest private stables in the world and a leader of equine fashion in eighteenth century Ireland.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Guided House Highlights Tour	A highlights tour takes in the magnificent double height Entrance Hall, lavishly decorated reception rooms and breathtaking Long Gallery. Followed by unlimited time to explore the 120 acres of parklands	limited accessibility to museum rooms. no wheelchair access to the first or second floor of the main house or the Hunting Room in the Stable Wing.	Min.8. max. 50	30 minutes	Group Rate €8.00
Guided Full House Tour	A full tour with insights into the estate's history, owners (the Conolly family), architectural and decorative art gems. Followed by unlimited time to explore the 120 acres of parklands	limited accessibility to museum rooms. no wheelchair access to the first or second floor of the main house or the Hunting Room in the Stable Wing.	Min.8. max. 50	1 hour	Group Rate €10.00
Stables Tour (New in 2020)	Learn the story behind Ireland's earliest surviving vaulted stables. Dating from the 1720s, the stables have been an integral part of life at Castletown for 300 years Followed by unlimited time to explore the 120 acres of parklands	limited accessibility to museum rooms. no wheelchair access to the first or second floor of the main house or the Hunting Room in the Stable Wing.	Min.8. max. 50	30 minutes	Group Rate €8.00
VIP House Tour experience with exclusive viewing of the Conolly archive (New in 2020)	A VIP tour experience takes in Castletown's luxury interiors, tells the houses fascinating stories and offers an exclusive peek at some of the highlights from the Conolly archive and access to the Irish Portrait Miniatures collection.	limited accessibility to museum rooms. no wheelchair access to the first or second floor of the main house or the Hunting Room in the Stable Wing.	Min.2. max. 4	1 hour 30 minutes	Group Rate €80.00

HIGHLIGHTS continued

- Conolly Family Archive with highlights available to view as part of an intimate VIP tour
- Parklands with meadows, waterways, woodlands, a classical temple and gothic lodge
- Ireland's earliest surviving vaulted stables

BOOKING

T. castletown@opw.ie E. www.castletown.ie

LOCATION

Celbridge, Co. Kildare, W23 V9H3 20 minutes from Dublin City, at Exit 6, M4.

FACILITIES

Car Parking, Coach Parking, On site Courtyard Café, Wi-Fi, Toilets on site.

TEA ROOMS

The Courtyard Cafe. Bookings in advance.

т. 00353 1 6279498

E. castletown@thecaterers.ie

ACCESSIBILITY

Disabled parking is available at the Kitchen Wing/Café side of the house (the far side of the house as you approach by car). Please note there is limited accessibility of the museum rooms, and no wheelchair access to the first or second floor of the main house or the Hunting Room in the Stable Wing. Prams and buggies are not allowed in the museum rooms and must be left at reception.

NEARBY

Kildare Village Shopping, Maynooth Castle, Carton House, Leixlip Castle.

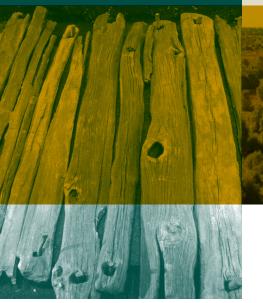




Ireland's National Heritage
in the care of the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS

Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre

Co. Longford





The centre interprets an Iron Age bog road, the largest of this kind to be uncovered in Europe dating from 148 BC.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 - 17.15 21.04.20 - 06.10.20 2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Free

HIGHLIGHTS

- 18 metre stretch of ancient wooden structure permanently on display
- Exterior walkway on the surrounding raised bog (located directly over the existing buried roadway)

Hidden away in the boglands of Longford, not far from Kenagh village, is an inspiring relic of prehistory: *a togher* – an Iron Age road – built in 148 BC. Known locally as the Danes' Road, it is the largest of its kind to have been uncovered in Europe.

Historians agree that it was part of a routeway of great importance. It may have been a section of a ceremonial highway connecting the Hill of Uisneach, the ritual centre of Ireland, and the royal site of Rathcroghan.

The trackway was built from heavy planks of oak, which sank into the peat after a short time. This made it unusable, of course, but also ensured it remained perfectly preserved in the bog for the next two millennia.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Corlea trackway visitor centre	Pre-booked guided tours of the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre offering a unique insight into the pathway to the past. The guided tour includes access to the original trackway which is preserved in a specially controlled environment.	On flat surface – indoors Wheelchair accessible	Min 10. Max. 50	45 minutes	Free
Audio Visual	Self guided visit to the exhibition area is also available Audio-visual available (ENGLISH ONLY) detailing the discovery & excavation of the trackway.	On flat surfaces, paved or grass. Wheelchair accessible on paved surfaces.	Max. 61	17 minutes	Free
Walk	A section of the guided tour takes place on the raised bog; highlighting the flora & fauna.	On flat surfaces Wheelchair accessible.			Free

BOOKING

т. 00 353 (43) 332 2386 E. corlea@opw.ie

LOCATION

2 Cartron Rd, Cloonbreany, Keenagh, Co. Longford, N39 XT18

3km from Kenagh village and accessed on the Longford-Kenagh road, R357. 15km from Longford or from the Mullingar-Lanesboro road R392.

FACILITIES

Car parking (50 m from entrance to visitor centre entrance), coach parking (50m from visitor centre entrance, over flat ground), toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities, picnic tables. No Tea Room on site.

WALKS/NEARBY

Adjacent to the 5km looped canal and bogland walkway, cycleway, Greenway, Ballymahon (5 minute drive), Centreparcs (10 minute drive), Adjacent to the Royal Canal cycleway.

LANGUAGES

Leaflet and audio visual in English only.







Doneraile Estate

Doneraile, Co. Cork





A cultural landmark in the heart of North Cork.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 09.00 - 17.00 26/03/20 - 01/11/20 2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult €8.00, Senior/ Group €6.00, Child/ Student €4.00, Family €20.00. Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

- A walk through a historic landscape
- Beautiful vistas of the house and a chance to view the Red, Sika and Fallow deer in their natural environs throughout the parkland
- New events programme for 2020 with links to Doneraile's literary past

Located in County Cork, Doneraile Court was the home of the St Leger family from 1645 until 1969 when it came into State care and is now managed by the OPW. The house is set in a magnificent 18th century Capability Brown–style landscape, which frames it from different vistas within the park. The landscape has many specimen trees dating from this period, including many Oak, Beech, Spanish Chestnut and Lime. Some Larch trees on the estate are believed to be the first specimens planted in the 1730s. There are also many water features on the estate. The River Awbeg flows through the middle of the park and is considered to be one of the keystones of Capability Brown's design.

The house was built by the St Leger family around 1645 on the site of a ruined castle. By the time it was refurbished in the mid-eighteenth century it had become an outstanding example of Georgian architecture. Its associations range from links to the famous St Leger Stakes in horse racing and literature, with famous Irish writers such as Elizabeth Bowen.

Thirteen generations of the St Leger family lived at Doneraile over three centuries. The family had some extraordinary members. For example, Elizabeth St Leger made history when she became the first woman Freemason in the world in 1712.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Tour of the House.	Join our expert guides for an informative and entertaining tour of Doneraile House, detailing the family history of the St. Legers and restoration of the house, which was completed in 2019.	Moderate. Stairs. Access for those with disabilities to ground floor only.	Min. 10. Max. 30	45 minutes	Group Rate €6.00
Self Guiding Walks	The house is set in a magnificent 18th century Capability Brown-style landscape, which frames it from different vistas within the park. Enjoy the majestic specimen tress and deer herd.	Moderate.Gravel and tarmac surfaces, graded walks.	Unlimited	60 minutes	Free

BOOKING

т. 00353 (0) 22 24771 E. doneraile@opw.ie www.doneraileestate.ie

OPENING HOURS

Daily, 09.00 - 17.00 26/03/20 - 01/11/20

2021 dates should be similar.

LANGUAGES

English

LOCATION

Doneraile, Co. Cork, P51 XR66.

FACILITIES

Car and coach parking on site. Toilets on site. Parklands for walks.

ACCESSIBILITY

Separate wheelchair access to house, please request before visit. Some steps into house moderate difficulty. Gravel and tarmac surfaces, graded walks.

TEA ROOMS

When you've seen life above stairs, come below stairs for a treat in the 19th century kitchen wing. Relax in the courtyard under blue skies or settle in with a hot drink by the stove. Contact Mint Catering.

Tel: 00 353 22 24448

NEARBY

Desmond Castle, Cahir Castle, Swiss Cottage, the Main Guard, Blarney Castle, Cork City, Limerick City, Bunratty Castle.







Jerpoint Abbey

Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny





The extensive remains of a 12th century Cistercian monastery with an unrivalled collection of figurative sculpture dating from the 12th to 16th centuries.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 9.30 - 17.30 03.20 - 30.09.20

Daily, 09.30 - 17.00 01.10.20 - 31.10.20

Weekends, 10.00 - 16.00 01.11.20 - 26.11.20

December, January and February pre booking only, closed weekends

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult € 5.00, Senior/ Group € 4.00, Student/ Child € 3.00, Family € 13.00. Accompanied Under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

 Extensive remains of a 12th century monastery, sculpture dating from the 12th to 16th centuries, medieval wall painting Set in a beautifaul tranquil location, Jerpoint Abbey was founded c. 1160 as part of the 12th century reforms of the Irish Church. The abbey was founded by a gaelic (native Irish) King for the Cistercian Order. The monks settled on the shore of the little Arrigle river and began establishing Jerpoint Abbey. This monastery would evolve to accumulate an extensive holding of land comprising 20,000 acres at it's peak. The story of Jerpoint is the story of the rise and fall of the medieval Irish economy and the impact of these fluctuations on society as a whole.

The monasteries of the Cistercian Order were known for their clean lines and simplicity which reaches a crescendo in the beautiful sculpture at Jerpoint. The sculpture culminates in the early fifteenth century cloister arcade where patorns, lay people, religious, saints, mythical figures, animals and foliage all vie for your attention.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Jerpoint Abbey. Guided Tour	Pre-booked guided tours of Jerpoint Abbey with trained tour guide. The tour discusses architecture, general medieval social history, art and sculpture. We offer guided tours tailored to special interest groups, e.g. religious, pilgrimage, medieval interest, celtic/Christianity groups, architectural interest and general interest.	Indoors & outdoors with some uneven surfaces. Wheelchair accessible	Min. 10. Max. 50	45 minutes	€4.00
Display of sites to visit in the area. Self guided visit	Display in the visitor centre depicting other National Monument sites to visit in the locality. This is a permanent static display.	Indoors	Min. 10. Max. 50	15 minutes	Free
Film display of other Cistercian monasteries and OPW sites across the country. Self– guided visit	Display in the medieval Chapter House depicting other Cistercian monasteries and OPW National Monument sites to visit in Ireland. This is a permanent static display. Take time to savour the quiet and calm atmosphere of the monastery and wander and photograph at your leisure.	Indoors	Min. 10. Max. 20	15 minutes	Included in general admission

HIGHLIGHTS continued

- Display showing other unstaffed National Monument sites in the area
- Short film depicting other
 Cistercian monasteries
 in Ireland, and other
 locations to visit, located in
 the Chapter House of the
 medieval monastery
- Treasure Hunt available for children and families

BOOKING

т. 00353 56 7724623 E. jerpointabbey@opw.ie

LOCATION

Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, R95 P523. 2km south of Thomastown on the R448, close to Exit 10 off the M9 motorway

FACILITIES

Car Parking, Coach Parking, Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, picnic area. No Tea Room on site.

NEARBY

Kells Priory, St Mary's Church Gowran, Kilkenny Castle, Dunmore Cave, Mt Juliet Hotel, Jerpoint Glass, Nicholas Mosse Pottery, Knocktopher village, Thomastown 2km, Kilkenny City 17km, Waterford City 37km





Ireland's National Heritage
in the care of the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS

National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

Kilmacurragh, Co. Wicklow





21st Century Conservation and Planting within a 52 acre Victorian Plant Collectors Garden.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 9.00 - 18.00Summer (mid-February to October)

Daily, 09.00 - 16.30
Winter (October to mid-February)
2021 dates should be simliar.

ADMISSION

Free

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hidden gem in the garden county of Ireland.
- Pathways strewn with rhododendron petals.
- Avenues of palm trees, monkeypuzzles, oaks and yew trees.
- Ancient oaks and enjoy the newly planted Irish native plants such as holly and hazel.
- Sumptuous double herbaceous border during summer time.
- Wildflower meadows and see spot the profusion of tiny native orchids growing there.

The National Botanic Gardens, Kilmacurragh, is in the heart of the garden county of Ireland, Co. Wicklow. It has one of the most important plant collections in the country. Famous for its towering rhododendrons, with wonderful blooms that herald in the spring and early summer, Kilmacurragh is also famous for its wildflower meadows and double sided herbaceous borders.

The garden was mainly planted in the 1800's and restoration work has been ongoing on this wonderful old estate for a number of years now. The initial emphasis is on renewing the gardens with many innovative new planting schemes including the monkey puzzle avenue, the Chilean Ravine, the fossil lawn and the oak avenue.

The original Queen Anne House is still standing, but now sadly in disrepair, and is awaiting its restoration. There is also evidence that a monastic community was established by Saint Mochorog on the site in the early 7th century with the abbey surviving until the early 16th century.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Kilmacurragh Guided Tour	Wander through the meadows with our trained horticultural guides to learn all about the wildflowers including yellow rattle, blue cornflowers and our native orchids.	moderate	Min. 5. Max. 50	45 minutes	Free
Display of sites to visit in the area. Self guided visit	Spring time and early summer in Kilmacurragh is a special time with the ancient rhododendron trees in flower. Join one of our themed tours to explore the gardens at the height of this colourful season.	moderate	Min. 5. Max. 50	1 hour	Free
Meadows & Hedgerows, Borders & Avenues. Tea and Scones (charge applies)	With such a significant plant collection, a visit to Kilmacurragh is a pleasure at any time of the year whether self-guided or with one of our trained horticultural guides. Pop into our tearooms afterwards where lunch and a selection of confectionary is served all day.	moderate	Min. 2. Max. 20	1 hour	Free

BOOKING

т. 00353 (0)404 48844 E. botanicgardens@opw.ie

LOCATION

Kilmacurragh, Kilbride, Co. Wicklow, A67 YR12.

FACILITIES

Tearooms, gardens, free coach & car parking. Free Guided Tours twice daily at 12.00 pm and 3.00pm. Guided Tours can be pre booked. Toilets on site. Car and Coach parking on site.

TEA ROOMS

Acton Cafe. Seating capcaity: 30 indoors, 16 outdoors. T. 00353 (0)404 48842.

NEARBY

Dwyer Mc Allister Cottage, Glendalough, Wicklow Mountains National Park, Kilruderry House and Gardens.







Ormond Castle

Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary





Ireland's finest Tudor Manor House, which was fit for a Queen.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 - 17.15 27.03.20 - 24.10.20

Daily, 09.30 - 16.15 25.10.20 - 01.11.20

ADMISSION

Adult € 5.00, Senior/Group €4.00, Student/ Child € 3.00, Family € 13.00, Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The 30 metre Long Gallery with it's stunning plasterwork
- The attic with its original roof timbers
- Period furniture

Ormond Castle is the best example of an Elizabethan manor house in Ireland. It was built by Thomas, 10th Earl of Ormond in the 1560s. Closely integrated into the manor house are two 15th century towers. The state rooms in the manor house contain some of the finest decorative plasterwork in the country, which features plasterwork portraits and many period motifs.

This Renaissance building was unusual in Ireland in what was a period of political upheaval. Its design and interior decoration was influenced by contemporary European trends and showcases the craftsmanship of the period.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Ormond Castle – Indoors	Pre-booked guided tours of the Castle with a trained tour guide offering a unique insight into the extraordinary legacy of this historic manor house. Learn about Black Tom Butler, 10th Earl of Ormond who build the manor house in 1565 in honour of his friendship with his distant cousin Queen Elizabeth I of England.	Upper floors accessed by spiral stairs and further stairs to attic - Not wheelchair accessible. Griund floor is accessible.	Min 10. Max. 25	55 minutes	€4.00
Exhibition Audio visual	Touch screen displays 2 X 7 minute AV presentation. This award winning audio visual features the two main characters associated with the building of the Tudor manor house and their individual views of the this period; Black Tom Butler 10th Earl of Ormond and his first wife Elizabeth Berkeley.	On flat surfaces/ground floor. Wheelchair accessible	Min 10. Max. 30	15 minutes	Included in above admission charge

BOOKING

т. 00353 (0) 51640787 E. ormondcastle@opw.ie

LOCATION

Castle Street, Carrick on Suir, E21 CX59 on N24 from Waterford (27 km)

FACILITIES

Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities, Public Car Parking nearby, Public Coach Parking nearby, No Tea Room on site.

LANGUAGES

Award winning audio visual available in Irish, and English, with subtitles in French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish, and Chinese

Model and touch screen exhibition with text in Irish, English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish, and Chinese

NEARBY

Adjacent to the Suir Blue Way - river and pathway which caters for cycling, walking and canoeing

Close to Curraghmore House & Mount Congreve Gardens





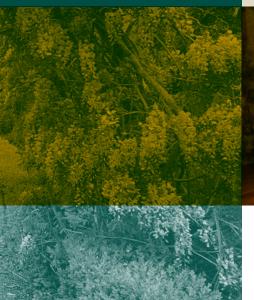


HERITAGE IRELAND

Ireland's National Heritage
in the care of the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS

Portumna Castle & Gardens

Co. Galway





Portumna Castle and Demesne occupy a magnificent location on the shores of Lough Derg on the River Shannon.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 9.30 - 17.00 26.03.20 - 30.09.20

Daily, 9.30-16.00 01.10.20-04.11.20 2021 date should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult €5.00, Senior/ Group €4.00, Child/ Student €3.00, Family €10. Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

Wisteria Arch in Garden.
 Portumna Castle's walled kitchen garden was created in the
 17th Century to provide fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers for daily use in the grand house.
 For generations it remained hidden and neglected until in
 1997 a local community group formed a unique partnership with the OPW to restore it.
 Having determined the original pathways, steps were taken to restore the garden to its original layout and plantings replaced.

Although gutted by fire in 1826, the Castle is still an imposing example of Irish architecture of the early 17th Century. Built before 1618 by Richard de Burgo, 4th Earl of Clanricarde, the castle became the main seat of the de Burgo family for over 200 years.

Architecturally, the building marks the transition from the medieval Tower House to the Renaissance style manor house with complimentary influences from both periods. In 1968, the Office of Public Works re-roofed the building and based on extensive archaeological and historical research, other major conservation and partial restoration works continue to be carried out by a team of skilled artisans.

The ground floor of the castle is open to the public and houses an exhibition on the history and restoration of the building and the de Burgo family. The virtual reality DVD presentation adds to the exhibition, bringing the story to life.

The imposing façade of the castle faces north and is approached by a long avenue and formal gardens. The dramatic approach has three formal enclosures which contain geometric and regular plantings, an old shrub rose garden and a walled kitchen garden, all combining to re-create a sense of the original 17th century setting.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Castle Tour	Tour of partially restored ground floor and formal gardens. Learn of the deBurgh/Burke family history.	No wheelchair access to the ground floor. Guides provide a booklet of photos and points of interest in the interior. There is wheelchair access through the grounds and gardens.	Min. 10. Max. 40	45 minutes	€4.00
Garden Tour	Our Craft Gardener will give you a tour of 17th century working walled kitchen garden. Pre– booking essential.	Access to gardens and grounds.	Min. 10. Max. 40	45 minutes	€4.00

BOOKING

т. 00353 (0) 90 9741658 E. portumnacastle@opw.ie

LOCATION

Portumna, Co. Galway, H53 YK27.

LANGUAGES

Leaflet available in Irish, English, German and French.

FACILITIES

Exhibitions, shop, gardens, toilets/toilet for visitors with a disability, car/coach parking close to the site.

THE COURTYARD CAFÉ

Tea Rooms. Group bookings in advance.

т. 00353 (0) 909 9741667

E. catocafinefoods@gmail.com

NEARBY

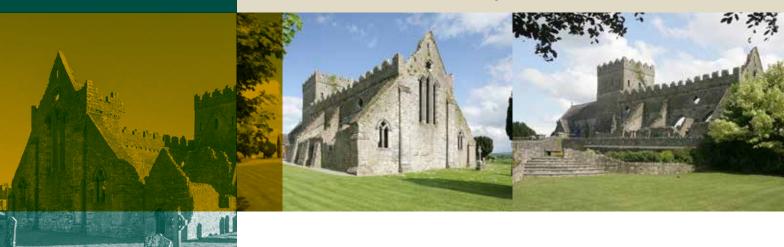
Lough Derg, the River Shannon, Portumna Forest Park and the Irish Workhouse Center.





St Mary's Church

Gowran, Co. Kilkenny



Knights, Ladies, Saints and Sinners.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Wed-Sun: 10.00-17.30 24.03.20-26.08.20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Senior/ Group €4.00

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ogham stone dating to the 4th/5th Century
- O'Tunney tombs from the hands of a master mason
- An Túr Gloine stained glass windows
- Butler Family (Kilkenny Castle)
 Knights Effigies
- Cadaver tomb

St Mary's Church was built in the late thirteenth century as a collegiate church and was served by a college – clerics who lived in a community but did not submit to the rule of a monastery.

The church was patronised by the powerful Butler family of Kilkenny Castle and many early family members are commemorated here with elaborate medieval tombs. The impressive ruins were decorated by the Gowran Master whose stone carvings are immortalised in the poetry of Nobel Laureate Séamus Heaney.

The once medieval church was later partly reconstructed in the early 19th century and functioned as a Church of Ireland church and adding to its already impressive collection of memorials two stained glass windows created by the prestigious cooperative studio An Túr Gloine (The Glass Tower) one commerting Aubrey Cecil White who died the 1st day of the Battle of the Somme WWI. The church was gifted to the state as a National Monument in 1970s.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Tour of Sligo Abbey Guided Walking Tour	Pre-booked guided tours of Sligo Abbey Outside walking tour with a trained guide. Hear all about the dramatic history of the site. Find which parts of the structure were built in which century, learn the identities of the figures in the O'Crean tomb, hear the story behind the mysterious "Love Knot" and discover the Dracula connection.	Some stairs and uneven ground. Stones may be slippery when wet.	Min 10 Max. 40.	30 minutes.	€4.00 Group Rate

BOOKING

т. 00353 56 772 6894 E. stmaryschurch@opw.ie

Out of season contact information:

т. 00353 56 772 4623

E. breda.lynch@opw.ie

LOCATION

Main St., Gowran, Co. Kilkenny, R95 CV0Y. In the centre of Gowran town. Follow the R448 from Carlow south towards Thomastown

FACILITIES

Toilet, No wheelchair accessible toilet. Free parking nearby.
No Tea Room on site.

NEARBY

Close to Jerpoint Abbey Thomastown and Kilkenny Castle and Dunmore Cave (10mins away from the medieval city of Kilkenny).







Swiss Cottage

Cahir, Co. Tipperary





One of the finest cottage ornés of the late 18th and early 19th Centuries Picturesque Movement.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily: 10.00 - 17.15 27/03/20-24/10/20

Daily: 09.30-16.15 25/10/20-1/11/20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Adult €5.00, Senior/ Group €4.00, student/ Child €3.00, Family €13.00. Accompanied under 12s go free.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wonderfully decorated interiors,
 Original Dufour wallpaper, Period furniture
- Adjacent to historic 19th century wooded landscape and to the Suir Blue Way - river walk
- Rose and wisteria clad exterior in early summer

The Swiss Cottage was built in 1810 by Richard Butler, 1st Earl of Glengall and his wife Emily, a high society couple and members of the Prince Regent's set. They engaged the foremost architect of the day, John Nash, to design a cottage orné to reflect the characteristics of the in vogue Picturesque Movement. This movement was characterized by a preoccupation with the combined pictorial values of architecture and landscape.

Situated within their private demense in picturesque and wooded surroundings, overlooking the River Suir, the cottage with enveloping thatched roof, its rustic rose and wisteria clad exterior and its sumptiously decorated interiors gladdens the eye. Swiss Cottage was used for fishing and hunting parties and as a romantic location for summer soirées.

Experience	Description	Fitness Level	Min. / Max. numbers	Duration (approx.)	Price per person
Guided Tour – Indoors	Guided tours of Swiss Cottage with trained tour guide. Access by guided tour only. Pre-booking required for all groups. In the expert hands of an engaging Swiss Cottage guide, the highlights tour showcases the background to the Georgia/regency period, bringing to life characters associated with the cottage.	Located on an elevated site with external and internal stairs. Wheelchair accessible – first floor only.	Min 10 Max. 15.	30 - 40 minutes.	€4.00 Group Rate

BOOKING

T. 00353 (0) 52 7441144 E. swisscottage@opw.ie

LOCATION

Ardfinnan Rd., Cahir, Co.
Tipperary, E21 DX07.
Off Junction 10 (4 km) M8
Motorway (Dublin - Cork) and
Junction 11 (6 km) M8 (Cork Dublin). Close to Cahir Castle
(2 km), the historic town of
Cahir and the Rock of Cashel
(23 km)

FACILITIES

On site Car Parking. On site Coach Parking. Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities. No Tea Room on site.

NEARBY

Cahir Castle, the Main Guard in Clonmel, St. Patrick's Well, Mitchelston Cave.

Swiss Cottage is adjacent to the Suir Blue Way - canoeing and riverside walk.

