

Trade Catalogue 2021



Wild Atlantic Way

Dublin

Ireland's Ancient East

Ireland's Hidden Heartlands



OPW

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 enthralls 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 loud-speakers.) 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.

* 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. toursopsaccounts@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

Ireland's Iconic Heritage Sites

Wild Atlantic Way

IRELAND'S HIDDEN HEARTLANDS

- 1 Aughnanure Castle
- 2 Boyle Abbey
- 3 Rathcrogan Visitor Centre
- 4 Famine Warehouse 1848

WILD ATLANTIC WAY

- 44 Adare Castle
- 45 Ardferd Cathedral
- 46 Athenry Castle
- 47 Ballycroy National Park
- 48 Burren National Park
- 49 Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery
- 50 Céide Fields
- 51 Charles Fort
- 52 Connemara National Park
- 53 Coole
- 54 Derrynane House and Gardens
- 55 Desmond Castle
- 56 Doe Castle
- 57 Donegal Castle
- 58 Dromore Wood
- 59 Dun Aonghasa
- 60 Ennis Friary
- 61 Gallarus Oratory
- 62 Glebe House and Gallery
- 63 Glenveagh National Park
- 64 Grianán of Aileach
- 65 Innacullin (Garinish Island)
- 66 Ionad an Bhlascaoid
- 67 Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Conamara
- 68 Killarney National Park
- 69 Listowel Castle
- 70 Muckross House and Traditional Farms
- 71 Newmills Corn and Flaxmills
- 72 Parkes Castle
- 73 Ross Castle
- 74 Scatterry Island
- 75 Skelligs
- 76 Sligo Abbey

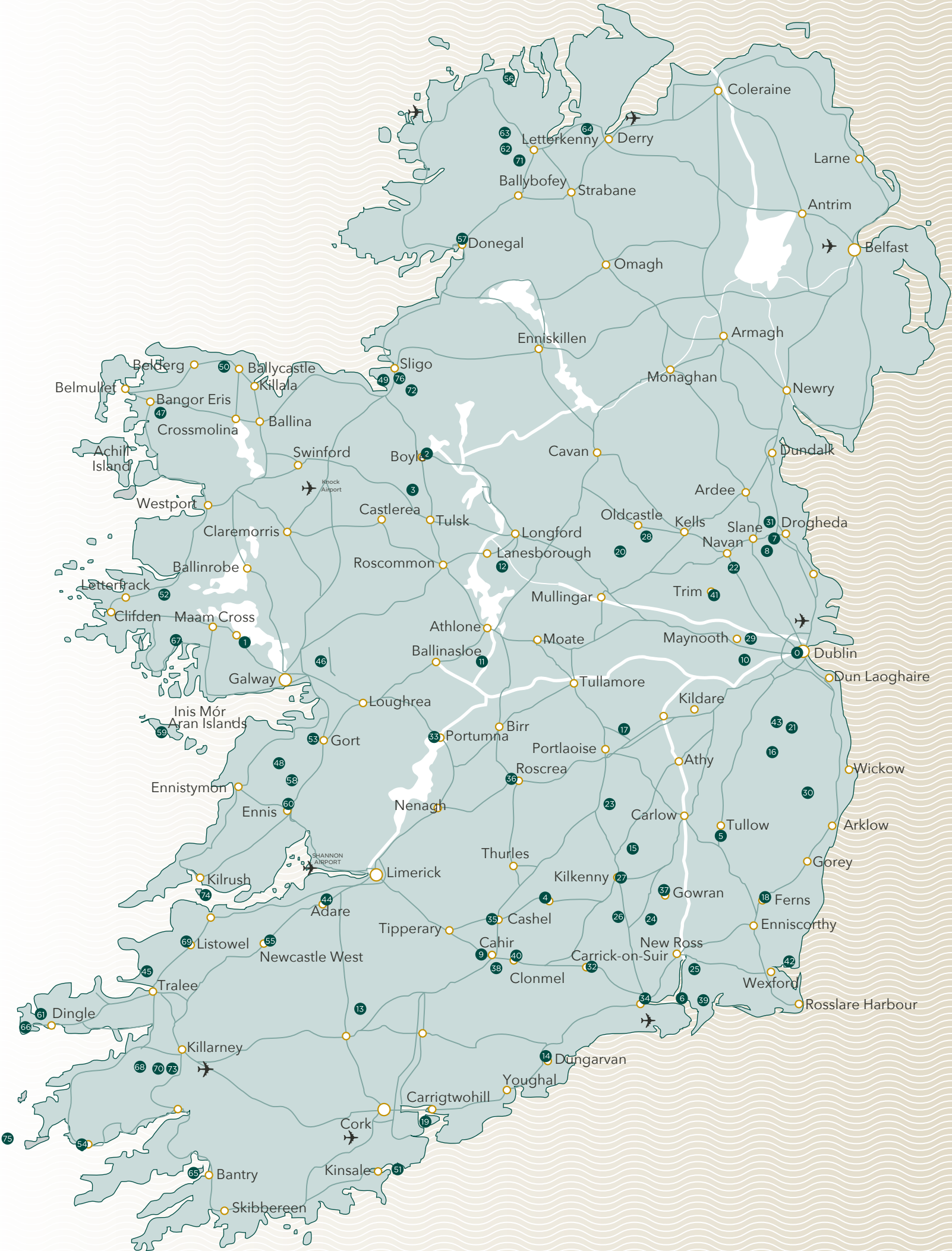
DUBLIN

- 0 Áras an Uachtarain
- 0 Arbour Hill
- 0 Casino Marino
- 0 Dublin Castle
- 0 Farmleigh House
- 0 Garden of Remembrance
- 0 Government Buildings
- 0 Grangegorman Military Cemetery
- 0 Iveagh Gardens
- 0 Kilmainham Gaol
- 0 National Botanic Gardens - Glasnevin
- 0 Pearse Museum & St. Enda's Park
- 0 Phoenix Park Visitor Centre & Ashtown Castle
- 0 Rathfarnham Castle
- 0 Royal Hospital Kilmainham
- 0 St. Audeon's Church
- 0 War Memorial Gardens
- 0 Islandbridge

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

- 5 Altamont Gardens
- 6 Ballyhack Castle
- 7 Battle of the Boyne - Oldbridge Estate
- 8 Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre
- 9 Cahir Castle
- 10 Castletown House and Estate
- 11 Clonmacnoise
- 12 Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre
- 13 Doneraile Court and Wildlife Park
- 14 Dungarvan Castle
- 15 Dunmore Caves
- 16 Dwyer Mc Alister Cottage
- 17 Emo Court and Gardens
- 18 Ferns Castle
- 19 Fota Arboretum and Gardens
- 20 Fore Abbey
- 21 Glendalough Visitor Centre
- 22 Hill of Tara
- 23 Heywood Gardens

- 24 Jerpoint Abbey
- 25 JFK Arboretum
- 26 Kells Priory
- 27 Kilkenny Castle
- 28 Loughcrew
- 29 Maynooth Castle
- 30 National Botanic Gardens - Kilmacurragh
- 31 Old Mellifont Abbey
- 32 Ormond Castle
- 33 Portumna Castle and Gardens
- 34 Reginald's Tower
- 35 Rock of Cashel
- 36 Roscrea Heritage (Castle & Damer House)
- 37 St. Mary's Church Gowran
- 38 Swiss Cottage
- 39 Tintern Abbey
- 40 The Main Guard
- 41 Trim Castle
- 42 Wexford Wildforest Reserve
- 43 Wicklow Mountains National Park





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



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Ardfert Cathedral

Ardfert, Tralee, Co. Kerry



A trio of medieval churches founded by St. Brendan 'The Navigator'

OPENING HOURS 2020

Sat - Wed, 10.00 - 17.15

02.04.20 - 30.09.20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

€5 Adult,

Group/Senior: €4.00

€3 Student,

€13 Family

(accompanied under 12's free)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Romanesque West Door with blind arcading similar to that found at Cormac's Chapel on the Rock of Cashel
- Temple-na-Hoe - a small masterpiece of Romanesque architecture
- Romanesque carvings - petalled flowers, geometric design & decorative bosses

For anyone with a passion for architecture Ardfert Cathedral will be a delight. St. Brendan 'The Navigator' was born in the Ardfert area in the sixth century. He founded the monastery not long before embarking on his legendary voyage. He was the subject of a medieval 'Life of St. Brendan' and the text known as 'Navigatio Brendani'. It was his cult which inspired the three medieval churches that stand on site today.

The earliest building is the cathedral begun in the twelfth century incorporating part of an earlier eleventh century church. It boasts some of the tallest thirteenth-century windows in Ireland and a spectacular row of nine lancet windows in the south wall. It is famed for its magnificent Romanesque West Door with blind arcading similar to that found at Cormac's Chapel on the Rock of Cashel

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|---|
| Ardfert Cathedral Guided Tour | Pre-booked guided tour. In the expert hands of an engaging Ardfert Cathedral guide with highlights of the medieval complex. Commencing at the display model of the site as it existed in the middle ages you are led through the site and the various phases of construction and architectural features are included along with historical references to the growth of Ardfert as a medieval corporation and diocese. | Moderate. Access for wheelchair is restricted to Transept and main body of Cathedral. Uneven terrain outside through centre on gravel paths. | Min. 10. Max. 40 | 45 minutes | €4.00 Group Rate |
| Self Guided Tour | Self-guided tour of the cathedral. Our guides can give a brief introduction to set you on your way. Commencing at the display model you get an overview of the medieval complex. There are very informative interpretation panels illustrating the development of the complex from Early Christian period to the seventeenth century. Much of the displayed stonework has its own description. | Moderate. Access for wheelchair is restricted to Transept and main body of Cathedral. Uneven terrain outside through centre on gravel paths. | | 3 – 60 minutes | €5 Adult, €4 Senior/ Group Rate €3 Student, €13 Family (accompanied under 12's free) |

HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

- Carved Ogham stone found locally is displayed in transept
- Effigies of two medieval bishops or abbots and selection of early Christian grave slabs, baptismal font and decorated corbel displayed in transept

BOOKING

T. 00 353 (0)66 713 4711
E. ardfertcathedral@opw.ie

LOCATION

Ardfert, Tralee, Co.Kerry,
V92 KR7P. Located 10km from
Tralee on R551 (Tralee to
Ballyheigue Road).

FACILITIES

Car Parking along the road
outside, Coach Parking (for
one coach), There are no public
toilets. No Tea Room on site.

NEARBY

Banna Strand, Ballyheigue Cliff
Walk, Kerry County Museum.

LANGUAGES

Information sheets are
available in French, German,
Italian and Irish.



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IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST®

HERITAGE IRELAND
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Athenry Castle

Athenry Town, Co. Galway



Athenry is one of the most notable medieval walled towns surviving in Ireland, owing its foundation to Meiler de Bermingham who built his castle there c.1250.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 9.30 - 17.15

26.03.20 - 30.09.20

Daily, 09.30 - 16.15

01.10.20 - 04.11.20

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

- Athenry is a Medieval Heritage Town
- Athenry Heritage Centre and the Medieval town walls and gates
- Athenry Dominican Priory

Athenry is one of the most notable medieval walled towns surviving in Ireland, owing its foundation to Meiler de Bermingham who built his castle there c.1250. The oldest part of the castle is the hall-keep. It is a large rectangular building originally containing only a hall at first-floor level and dark storerooms at ground level. For extra strength the lower part of the wall slopes out to form what is called a batter. The only original entrance was at first-floor level and would have been reached by an external wooden stairs similar to the present reconstruction. This gave direct access to the hall, the official and ceremonial reception room of the castle, where the lord received guests and tenants and presided over the manor court. Heat was probably provided originally by a brazier in the centre of the hall, with the smoke exiting through a louver or opening in the roof directly above. The garderobe or toilet is located diagonally across from the main entrance to the hall.

The fine carving on the exterior of the doorway and on the inner side of two of the window openings bears witness to the importance of the hall. The capitals in both cases are carved with floral motifs in local style, known as the "School of the West", dating from the late 12th and early 13th centuries.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| 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 | Recently re-roofed, the interior now contains an audio-visual room and exhibition. Fully seated, 15 minute AV that provides interesting information. | 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

T. 00 353 (91) 844797
E. athenrycastle@opw.ie

LOCATION

Court Lane, Athenry Town,
Co. Galway, H65 WP93.

LANGUAGES

Leaflet available in Irish,
English and German.
Audio Visual also available

FACILITIES

Exhibition panels, car/coach
parking close to the site.
Toilets on Site.

TEA ROOMS

Restaurants and tearooms
in the surrounding town
of Athenry outside the
castle gates. No Tea Rooms on site.

NEARBY

Athenry Heritage Centre,
Oranmore approx. 15 mins,
Galway City approx. 30 mins.



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www.heritageireland.ie



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Céide Fields

Ballycastle, Co. Mayo



Field systems from our earliest farmers, preserved beneath natural blanket bog.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 – 16.00

13.03.20 – 30.05.20

Daily, 09.00 – 17.00

01.06.20 – 30.09.20

Weekends, 10.00 – 16.00

01.10.20 – 28.10.20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Student €3 / Group €4 / Adult €5

Family €13 / Under 12s go free!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hear about the oldest known fossilised farmland and the latest discoveries on a guided tour.
- Admire the ever changing wild Atlantic from our glass rooftop whatever the weather.
- Tea Room serving delicious refreshments.
- Test your head for heights on our 110m high cliff edge platform.
- Amazing pine tree that grew on the bog 4,300 years ago.

Beneath the wild boglands of North Mayo lies a Stone Age farmed countryside that gives a unique insight into the sophistication of early farming nearly six thousand years ago.

The stone-walled fields, extending over hundreds of hectares, are the oldest known globally. Visitors can see the exposed field walls and dwelling enclosure on the neolithic surface and learn how these walls hidden under up to 4 metres of bog were located using a centuries old technique. They can also experience the natural blanket bog with its own unique vegetation and wildlife.

The award-winning visitor centre is set against some of the most dramatic Wild Atlantic Way coastline. A viewing platform on the edge of the 110-metre-high cliff will help you make the most of the breathtaking scenery.

Entirely new presentations including an exciting audio-visual immersive experience due to open in early 2021.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Céide Fields Guided Walking Tour | Guided walking tour of the site outside with trained tour guide. Hear how this landscape has changed from forest to farmland to bogland, and about the everyday lives of our neolithic ancestors. See the exposed field walls and dwelling enclosure and try being an archaeologist by probing for a hidden wall. Walk on the bog with its colourful mosses, heathers, lichens, sedges and insect-eating sundews, to the background music of the lark. | On boardwalk with a number of steps. Wet Weather clothing and sturdy footwear advised. The terrain and the weather can be challenging. | Max. 50 | 45 minutes | Group Rate €4.00 |
| Indoor Exhibitions | <p>Entirely new presentations including an exciting audio-visual immersive experience due to open in late summer 2020.</p> <p>Meet our ancestors from the hunter gatherers, to the first farmers and the metalworkers. See how the local environment and landscape has been ever changing.</p> <p>Experience the fascinating story of the ongoing discovery of the most extensive stone age landscape.</p> | Indoors fully accessible. | Unlimited | 30-60 minutes | Group Rate €4.00 |

HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

- See if you can spot hares, frogs and the elusive lizard in the natural bog vegetation.
- All new exhibitions due to open late summer 2020.
- Amazing pine tree that grew on the bog 4,300 years ago.

BOOKING

T. 00353 (96) 43325
E. ceidefields@opw.ie

LOCATION

Glenurla, Ballycastle, Co. Mayo, F26 PF66. On R314, 8kms west of Ballycastle, on Wild Atlantic Way. 14kms from Downpatrick Head.

FACILITIES

Car Parking, coach parking, tea room, toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities available on site.

TEA ROOMS

Due to upgrading works, Tea Room facility will not be available until August 2020.



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Charles Fort

Kinsale, Co. Cork



Ireland's finest example of a 17th century star-shaped fortification.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily: 10.00 – 18.00

Last Admission at 17.15.
Mid-March to End of October.

Daily: 10.00 – 17.00

Last Admission at 14.15.
November to End of Mid-March.
2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regular Guided tours.
- Multi-media Exhibition Centre.
- Tearooms with panoramic views of Kinsale Harbour.
- Charles Fort is located at the start of the scenic Wild Atlantic Way driving route. Scenic walkway from Kinsale town to Charles Fort along the 'Scilly Walk', circa 30-40 minutes'

As one of the largest military installations in the country Charles Fort has been associated with some of the most momentous events in Irish history. The most significant of these include the Jacobite Williamite War in 1690 and the Irish Civil War in 1922–23. Charles Fort was declared a National Monument in 1973. Across the estuary is James Fort, an earlier structure, designed by Paul Ive in 1602, in the aftermath of the 1601 Battle of Kinsale.

Protecting the town and harbour of Kinsale with its strong ramparts, bastions and outer defensives, Charles Fort will introduce you to the history of the making of modern Ireland. Here you will explore Ireland's heritage as a former British colony and its strategic maritime and historical connections with Europe.

Join one of our knowledgeable OPW guides to learn about Charles Fort's military architectural splendour. Discover what life was like for the enlisted soldier and his family and encounter the many interesting personalities associated with Charles Fort's military past.

Or you can meander around the site at your leisure and experience our multi-media exhibition within our restored Barrack Stores. After your voyage of discovery why not sit back and soak up the stunning views of Kinsale harbour from our Tearooms, while enjoying a selection of home-baked delights.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|--|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Charles Fort – Guided Tours | Guided tours for visitors by informed and trained OPW tour guides. Discover cutting edge military architecture from the 17th century. Explore the life of a British Army Redcoat in an Irish garrison town. Hear tales of ghostly apparitions, cruel punishments and scorched earth devastation. Groups must be pre-booked. Special tours for school groups (Free Educational visits – pre-booking is essential). | As a large military installation Charles Fort has uneven and sloped terrain and unprotected high walls. Suitable footwear is required. Not all areas are wheelchair accessible. | No Min Max. 45. | 40 minutes. | €4.00 Group Rate |
| Charles Fort – Self-Guided experience. | Explore the grounds of Charles Fort at your leisure. Experience our multi-media exhibition, WW1 and Royal Munster Fusiliers photographic exhibition. Seek out the legendary White Lady of Charles Fort while appreciating the impressive panoramic views of Kinsale Harbour. Don't forget to ask about our seasonal Children's trails. | As a large military installation Charles Fort has uneven and sloped terrain and unprotected high walls. Suitable footwear is required. Not all areas are wheelchair accessible. | Max. 30-35 | 40 minutes | €4.00 Group Rate |

HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

- Children's seasonal fun trails and treasure hunts.

BOOKING

T. 00353 (0)21 4772263
E. charlesfort@opw.ie

LANGUAGES

Leaflets in Irish, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Italian and Polish.

LOCATION

Summer Cove, Kinsale, Co. Cork, P17 AY18. Charles Fort is located circa 2 kilometres from Kinsale town. Divert from the R600.
Eircode: P17 AY18

FACILITIES

Off road Car & Coach Parking.
On site Tearoom serving delicious home-baked delicacies.
Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilet, & baby changing facilities.
Small Gift Shop.

TEAROOMS

Tea Rooms closed for 2020. Please contact site for 2021 details.

NEARBY

Kinsale Town, Old Head Signal Tower, The Ringfinnan Garden of Remembrance, local beaches and sailing.
Scenic coastal walk beyond Charles Fort to Preghane Headland (south-east from Charles Fort). Preghane Headland is the site of the former British and later the Irish Army's Firing Range.

Derrynane House & National Historic Park

Caherdaniel, Co. Kerry



Immerse yourself in Derrynane; breath-taking coastal retreat of Daniel O'Connell 'The Liberator'

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.30 - 17.15

17.03.20-30.09.20

Daily, 10.00 - 16.00

01.10.20-01.11.20

Weekends, 10.00 - 16.00

07.11.20-13.12.20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

€3 Student, €4 Group, €5 Adult,
€13 Family, under 12s go free

HIGHLIGHTS

- Informal woodland gardens with rare plant collection & endangered South American species

Derrynane House, the family home of Daniel O'Connell, showcases The Liberator's life and lasting impact on Irish culture, human rights and democracy. The original demesne landscape is set within Derrynane National Historic Park and covers over 120 hectares with extensive woodlands, informal gardens, spectacular coastline, archaeology, architectural features and internationally protected wildlife and habitats.

Derrynane is situated in the core zone of the Kerry Dark Sky Reserve, one of three Gold Tier Reserves in the world. Derrynane has a Green Flag award for meeting the highest international standards of quality, management, amenities and sustainability in public green spaces. Informal woodland gardens with rare plant collection & endangered South American species. Walks & Trails, Seashore Nature Trail, Fairy House Woodland Trail, Mass Path, Kerry Way. 300 acres of unspoilt Irish landscape with wildlife habitats of international importance. 1.5 km of coastline, breath-taking scenery, top-ten Blue Flag beach, Abbey Island.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--------------------|--|
| Derrynane House | Pre-booked guided tours of Derrynane House with tour guide. Explore the home of one of Ireland's great historic figures – Daniel O'Connell 'The Liberator'. See the house, private chapel and coach house and learn about O'Connell's life and far-reaching legacy. | On flat surface – indoors Wheelchair accessible | Min 10. Max. 45 (groups over 27 will be split) | 45 minutes | €4.00 Group Rate |
| Self Guided Tour | Self-guided family nature trail with 20 stops. Explore scenic coastal habitats, with European level protection, that provide a home for rich and diverse flora and fauna, including rare species such as the Natterjack Toad, Kerry Slug and Kerry Lily. The natural wildflower meadows display a range of native flowers including a suite of orchids. | On flat surface – indoors Wheelchair accessible | | 1 hour | €4 group, €5 Adult, €3 Student, €13 Family (accompanied under 12's free) |
| Woodland Fairy Trail | Self-guided fairy trails in the woodlands of Derrynane House. Explore the magical fairy trails in the woodlands of Derrynane House. Searching for the fairy homes is a great family fun adventure. Even on a rainy day, the shelter of the woods makes this a memorable day out for all. | Uneven surfaces. Moderate fitness level. Suitable footwear. | | | Free |

HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

- Walks & Trails , Seashore Nature Trail, Fairy House Woodland Trail, Mass Path, Kerry Way
- 300 acres unspoilt Irish landscape with wildlife habitats of international importance
- 1.5 km of coastline – breath-taking scenery, top-ten Blue Flag beach, Abbey Island

BOOKING

T. 00 353 (0) 66 9475113
E. derrynanehouse@opw.ie
www.derrynanehouse.ie

LOCATION

Caherdaniel, Co. Kerry,
V23 FX65. Located 3.5km from Caherdaniel (off the N70, the Ring of Kerry)

FACILITIES

Car Parking, coach parking, on site Tea Room in Courtyard, Toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities

AUDIO VISUAL

Fully Seated for 45 pax,
Available in Irish, English, French and German

NEARBY

Ring of Kerry, Skellig Michil, Kenmare Town, Ross Castle.

TEA ROOMS

Ahamore Tea Rooms
Open daily, 10.30 – 17.45
17.03.20 – 30.09.20
Open daily, 10.30 – 15.45
01.10.20 – 01.11.20
Groups must pre-book.
T. +353 (0) 87 2655920
E. d.corridan@gmail.com



OPW

www.heritageireland.ie

Glebe House & Gallery

Letterkenny, Co. Donegal



An artist's haven set in the Donegal Hills, with works by international artists.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Sat-Thurs, 11.00 - 17.30
01/06/20 - 31/06/20

Sat-Thurs, 11.00 - 11.30
01/07/20 - 31/08/20

Sat-Thurs, 11.00 - 17.30
01/09/20 - 31/10/20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Exhibitions and Education Programme for schools and students
- Art Workshops, Plein Air Painting
- Gardens and Tree Talks
- Family Events, Children's Arts & Crafts and Garden Trails

The Glebe House is the former home of the artist and collector Derek Hill. It is set on a hilltop sloping down to Lough Gartan, with the Derryveagh Mountains and Glenveagh National Park serving as a spectacular backdrop.

Derek Hill created a home for himself in the wilds of Donegal that was both unique and inspiring. It's often said that every picture tells a story; in the Glebe House, everything in the collection tells a story. The house is decorated with William Morris textiles and collections of Islamic and Oriental art. The full collection includes over three hundred works by leading twentieth century artists such as Picasso and Kokoshka. In addition there are wonderful collections of Irish, British and Italian works.

Derek Hill's studio and guesthouse was converted into a Gallery in the early 1980's by the OPW. It now displays a series of curated exhibitions each season.

The gardens at the glebe are an artist's haven a delightful blend of formal and informal gardens covering twenty acres on the banks of Lough Gartan. There are points of interest everywhere with its large swathes of plants and wonderful trees. The gardens are open all year round from dawn until dusk.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|----------------------------|---|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Glebe House Guided Tour | Join one of our knowledgeable guides for a tour of Glebe House that takes you from the early nineteenth century, when building commenced, right up to the present day. Hear the fascinating story of Derek Hill, and discover the incredible artwork of the Tory Islanders. | Universal access to the ground floor only. | Min. 10. Max. 15 | 45 minutes | Group Rate €4.00 |
| Glebe Gallery Self Guiding | Exhibitions throughout the year. | Universal access to the ground floor only. | | | Free |
| Glebe Gardens Self Guiding | A delightful blend of formal and informal gardens covering twenty acres on the banks of Lough Garten. Open from dawn til dusk. | Moderate, rough paths, uneven terrain. | | | Free |

BOOKING

T. 00353 (0) 74 913 7071
E. glebegallery@opw.ie
www.glebegallery.ie

Max per group in house is 15.
It is very important to book in advance so large groups can be accommodated.

LOCATION

Glebe House and Gallery,
Churchill, Letterkenny, Co.
Donegal, F92 WP70

FACILITIES

Exhibitions, toilets, and car/
coach park on site.

ACCESSIBILITY

Universal access to the
ground floor only of house
and gallery.

TEA ROOMS

Glebe Tearooms allow you to
enjoy a relaxing coffee or light
bite, in the wonderful setting
of a landscape largely
unchanged since the early
twentieth century.

Open 11.00 – 17.30. Vintage
Afternoon Tea is available from
14:00 to 17:00;
booking is essential. Contact
the Tearooms directly on
00353 87 329 7169.

NEARBY

Glenveagh Castle and
National Park.

Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir – Blasket Centre

Dingle, Co. Kerry



Visitor Centre and Viewing Point at the most westerly edge of Europe which tells the amazing story of an Island Community.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 – 17.15

13.03.20–28.09.20

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

- A powerful audio-visual presentation telling the Blasket story
- Historical artefacts.
- Absorbing displays
- Clifftop viewing point
- Beautiful cliff walk and viewing point

The Blasket Centre on the mainland in Dún Chaoin (Dunquin) on the tip of the Dingle Peninsula is an architecturally stunning building celebrating the unique culture and heritage of the famed but now long abandoned Great Blasket Island. It is a “must-see” destination along the Sleat Head Drive, the most westerly drive in Europe.

The Blasket Centre tells the story of island life, subsistence fishing and farming, traditional life including modes of work and transport, home life, housing and entertainment. A story unique to the Island and an extraordinary window into Irish tradition and culture.

The Blasket Centre details the community's struggle for existence, their language and culture, and the extraordinary literary legacy they left behind with a library of Blasket authors translated from the original Irish to many other languages. Their story is told using a variety of means – exhibitions, interactive displays, artefacts, audio visual presentations and artworks.

Summer 2020 sees the addition of an amazing clifftop Wild Atlantic Way Signature Viewing Point overlooking the Blasket Islands, a short and inspiring walk from the Centre itself.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|---|---|--|---------------------|----------------------|--|
| Blasket Centre | Visit the unique Blasket Centre, pre booking for groups or casual visitors welcome. A an absorbing, enjoyable experience which stylishly tells the tale of a unique Island community which wrote its own stories and is a window into their culture, tradition, language. | On flat surface – indoors Wheelchair accessible | Min 10. Max. 50 | 45 minutes | €5.00 per person, €4.00 per person (groups) |
| Clifftop Walk to WAW Blasket Centre Viewing Point | A short walk from the Blasket Centre to the spectacular Viewing Point overlooking the Blasket Islands and the most westerly point in Europe. | Wheelchair accessible on paved surfaces. | | 15 minutes to 1 hour | €4.00 Group Rate |
| Visit the Great Blasket Island | Take any one of the private ferries from Dingle, Dún Chaoin or Ventry to the Western Island. Our OPW Guides will show you the Blasket village and the restored home of Tomás Ó Criomhthain, the principal island author. | Not suitable for wheelchair or physically impaired visitors. Facilities on the island are limited and the terrain can be challenging. | Max. 30 | Half day or full day | Contact, Blasket Islands Ferry, Blasket Island Ferries, Dingle Bay Charters, Marine Tours, Dingle Bay Speedboat Tours. Fees Apply. |

BOOKING

T. 00 353 66 9156444
E. blascaod@opw.ie
www.blasket.ie

LOCATION

Dun Chaoin, Dingle, Co. Kerry,
V92 TH73. Sleah Head Drive –
23 km west of Dingle town

FACILITIES

Car Parking, coach parking, on site Tea Room in Courtyard,
Toilets, wheelchair accessible
toilets, baby changing facilities

AUDIO VISUAL

Fully Seated for 45 pax,
Available in Irish, English,
French and German. Leaflet:
Irish, English, French, German,
Italian and Spanish.

NEARBY

Dingle town, Daingean Uí
Chúis (23km via Sleah Head)
Sleah Head (6km) Ballyferriter,
Baile an Fheirtéaraigh village
(8km), Gallarus Oratory early
Christian church(13 km)
Kilmalkedar Early Christian
site (15km)

TEA ROOMS

Café- 'An tlascaire'
Open daily, 10.00 – 17.00
Groups must pre-book.
T. 0863896555
E. christymacg@gmail.com.



OPW

www.heritageireland.ie



OPW



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

Scattery Island Centre

Co. Clare



In the footsteps of St Senan.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily, 10.00 – 17.00

21.05.20 – 31.08.20

Sept. weekends only.

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

Free Guided Tours, admission fee applies to boat trip by local operator. Access is weather dependant.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the peace and tranquility which brought the monks to the island.
- Marvel at the monastery's ancient ruins including the 36m tall round tower.
- Enjoy the islands unspoilt natural beauty.
- Home to rare birdlife and schools of dolphins (during summer)
- Unique Location On Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way.

Off the northern bank of the Shannon Estuary lies Scattery Island, the site of an early Christian settlement founded by an extraordinary man. St Senan, who was born in the area, built his monastery in the early sixth century. It included a mighty round tower, which at 36 metres is one of the tallest in Ireland.

There are six ruined churches on the site too. The Church of the Hill stands on a high spot, the very place where, legend has it, an angel placed Senan so that he could find – and then banish – the terrible sea-monster called the Cathach. It is believed that Senan is buried beside another of the medieval churches.

Scattery was invaded many times over the centuries. The Vikings in particular believed that the monastery held many riches and returned several times to ravage it.

A short boat trip will take you to the island, where you can explore its multi-layered, 1,500-year history.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| Experience | Description | Fitness Level | Min. / Max. numbers | Duration (approx.) | Price per person |
|-------------------------|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|---|
| Ferry Journey to Island | Ferry journey to and from Scattery Island – during good weather seals and dolphins are often sighted on this journey. | Contact the ferry operator regarding accessibility. | Max. 55 | 30 minutes | Contact ferry operator 'Scattery Island Tours'. Fees Apply. |
| Guided Tour | Free guided walking tour of the island including the abandoned village and the 1,500 year old monastery. | moderate | Max. 55 | 1 hour | Free |

HIGHLIGHTS *continued*

- Grass land which is home to an array of wild bird, animal and plant life which is of great interest to ecologists who visit.

BOOKING

T. 00 353 (87) 995 8427
E. scatteryisland@opw.ie

LOCATION

Kilrush, Co. Clare.

FACILITIES

Car parking, coach parking, toilets, wheelchair accessible toilets, baby changing facilities, no Tearoom on site.

TEA ROOMS

Tea Coffee and packed lunches are available from Scattery Island Tours with advance booking.

WALKS/NEARBY

Access to the Island by booking directly with Scattery Island Tours
www.scatteryislandtours.com

Sligo Abbey

Abbey Street, Sligo Town, Co. Sligo



Where friars' prayers echo among the ruins.

OPENING HOURS 2020

Daily: 10.00 – 18.00

24/03/20–28/10/20

2021 dates should be similar.

ADMISSION

€ 5.00 Adult

€ 4.00 Group/ Senior rate

€ 3.00 Student/ Child – Accompanied under 12s go free.

€ 13.00 Family

HIGHLIGHTS

- Wealth of medieval carving
- Gothic and Renaissance tomb sculpture
- High altar – the only surviving example in an Irish monastic site
- Make a wish or maybe declare your love at the "Love Knot".
- Feel the tranquillity in Sligo town's only medieval structure
- Try to identify some of the figures on the O'Creehan tomb

This Dominican friary has dominated Sligo town centre since the mid-thirteenth century, when it was created by Maurice FitzGerald, the founder of the town itself. Some of the building from that period has survived the next nine centuries of turmoil.

The abbey was partially destroyed by burning in 1414, when it fell foul of an unattended candle, and suffered further mutilation following the Rebellion of 1641. According to legend, worshippers salvaged the abbey's silver bell at that time and threw it into Lough Gill. You can hear it peal even now – provided, that is, that you are wholly free from sin.

Despite the ravages of history, the abbey contains a great wealth of carvings, including Gothic and Renaissance tomb sculpture, a well-preserved cloister and a sculptured fifteenth-century high altar – the only such altar to survive in an Irish monastic church.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES

| 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'Crian 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

T. 00353 (71) 9146406
E. sligoabbey@opw.ie

LANGUAGES

Self guide leaflet in English,
French, Spanish, Italian,
German, Dutch.

LOCATION

Abbey St., Sligo, F91 K796.

FACILITIES

Small exhibition, toilets.
Public car park close to site.
No Tea Room on site.

ACCESSIBILITY

Wheelchair access to
visitor centre and toilet,
partial access to site.
Steps and stairs on site,
gravel paths, uneven surfaces.

NEARBY

Sligo Town on the banks of
the Garavogue River. Sligo
County Museum displays
memorabilia of local poet
W.B. Yeats, Carrowmore
megalithic cemetery 4kms.