



OPW

Oifig na
nOibreacha Poiblí
Office of Public Works



Dungarvan Castle, Dungarvan Co. Waterford X35 DV58.

Social Guide - A Trip to Dungarvan Castle.

INTRODUCTION:

We are going on a trip to Dungarvan Castle.

It is an amazing old military site.

Dungarvan Castle is located in Dungarvan town. It was built around 1209 under the orders of King John of England. Dungarvan Castle overlooks the River Calligan as it enters Dungarvan Harbour.

In this story we will learn where to park the car before entering Dungarvan Castle. We will discover how to enter the Castle and we will meet the people who work there. They will tell us what we can expect to see and hear during our visit.

WHERE TO PARK:

There are a number of car parks around Dungarvan. Sometimes they can be busy, especially during the Summer. Dungarvan Castle is a short walk from the town centre.

HOW TO ENTER DUNGARVAN CASTLE:



This is a picture of the Main Gate.

We are allowed to enter Dungarvan Castle every day between 10am and 5.15pm, from May to September.

If we are visiting Dungarvan Castle we do not have to pay an admission fee.
We also do not need to pre-book our visit.

From here we enter through the Main Gate.



INFORMATION & TICKET OFFICE:

When we pass through the main gate we will see the Barracks building directly ahead. Friendly Guides are waiting inside to greet us.





They will assist us with our visit and provide us with an information map to help us find our way around.

DUNGARVAN GUIDE STAFF:

The staff at Dungarvan Castle are friendly, welcoming and helpful. They are Tour Guides.

Tour Guides will show us how to explore Dungarvan Castle. They can also help us with any questions we may have.

All of the Tour Guides will have a name badge.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

Dungarvan Castle is both an outdoor and indoor site. As some of the site is outdoors the Tour Guides recommend that that we bring a rain jacket, in case it rains, and comfortable walking shoes. We will see a notice outside the Ticket Office informing us of the Health and Safety rules of Dungarvan Castle.

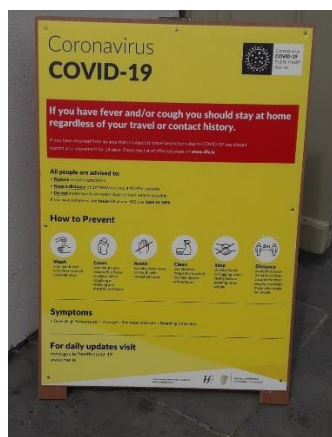
At the Ticket Office you will find a First Aid Station.

Dungarvan Castle is very old. Important restoration works may be in progress. We may see carpenters and stonemasons working on site. We may also hear noisy tools as we walk around the grounds.



WHY ARE THERE SIGNS:

As you walk around Dungarvan Castle you will see important signs. These are a friendly reminder to everyone to maintain a safe social distance when visiting the Castle.



A DRAWING OF THE CASTLE AS IT WAS IN MEDIEVAL TIMES:



BUILDINGS:

Some of the buildings that we will see are:

1) The Barracks Building



Inside the Barrack Building is an exhibition on the history of Dungarvan castle. This is a two-storey military barracks, which dates from the first half of the eighteenth century. It was used by the British Army and the Royal Irish Constabulary until 1922. During the Irish Civil War Dungarvan Castle was destroyed by the Anti-Treaty IRA. It was subsequently refurbished and served as the Headquarters of the local Garda Síochána. One of the rooms is the Audio Visual theatre. It is a little noisy and dark in that room.



2) THE SOUTH WEST CORNER TOWER:



The South West Corner Tower houses another exhibition. Weddings also take place here.



3) THE SHELL KEEP:



We cannot enter the Shell Keep but we can get a good view of it from the Castle Courtyard. This is the oldest part of the Castle. It is 800 years old.

GETTING AROUND DUNGARVAN CASTLE:

Inside the Exhibition there is a lift to the first floor. There is also a stairs so we can use whichever one we feel most comfortable with.



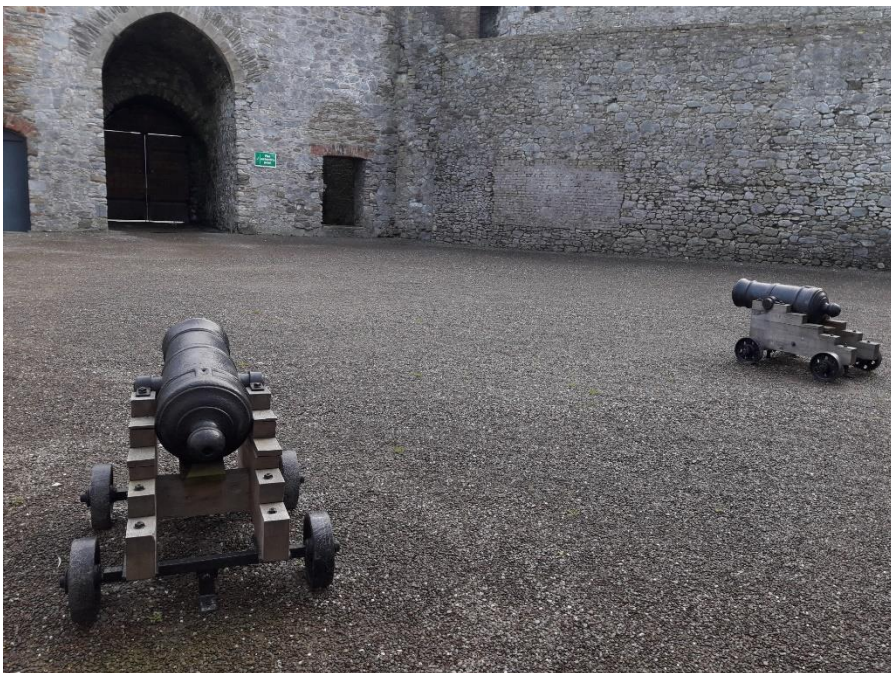
Art Exhibition



Soldiers Quarters



R.I.C. Exhibition





The courtyard is covered in gravel and it is best to walk and not to run around Dungarvan Castle. Following the pathways is a good idea. There are steps and uneven surfaces. There are high walls around the Castle. It is important that we do not climb onto these unprotected areas.

LEAVING DUNGARVAN CASTLE:



We exit Dungarvan Castle the same way that we entered. If we are leaving just before 6.00 pm one of the Tour Guides will let all the visitors know that it is time to leave.

