



**OPW**

Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works

# Social Guide

## A Visit to Portumna Castle, Gardens and Tea Rooms.



### Introduction

#### WELCOME TO PORTUMNA CASTLE!

Portumna sits on the banks of the River Shannon and northern tip of Lough Derg. It is surrounded by Portumna Forest Park and lies close to the Galway/Tipperary boarder. Portumna is renowned for its famous Portumna Castle & Gardens.

The castle was built over 400 years ago in 1618 by Richard Burke, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Clanricarde and it was destroyed by an accidental fire in 1826. It fell to ruin, with only the four main walls standing after 150 years.

Today we see a partially restored castle with wonderful gardens. We will learn about the castle and how to find our way around the grounds.

## **Portumna Castle Gate Lodge**



As you come in from the street, on your left is The Gate Lodge.

This simple yet well designed gate lodge formerly controlled the main entrance gates leading to the farm courtyard and demesne of Portumna Castle.

## **Main Entrance Gates**



The main entrance gates are known as The Morrison Gates, built by a famous architect, Sir Richard Morrison.

## **Avenue to Main Reception**



Enjoy the beautiful walk up to our Main Reception where tickets can be purchased to enter our fantastic grounds and Castle. Our guides are always ready to help you with information about the Castle, Kitchen Garden and grounds. If you wish you can have a guided tour.

## **Tuscan Gates**



As you walk towards the Castle you will come to the Tuscan Gates. Look up to see the Burke family coat of arms.



## Ladies Garden



As you pass through the Tuscan Gates, you enter the Ladies Garden. The flowers here are 17<sup>th</sup> century variety of roses.

## Castle Interior



Inside the castle we have 26 information panels, some family portraits and a 4 minute DVD about the castle.

We also have a story to tell you about Fury the dog.

## Fury



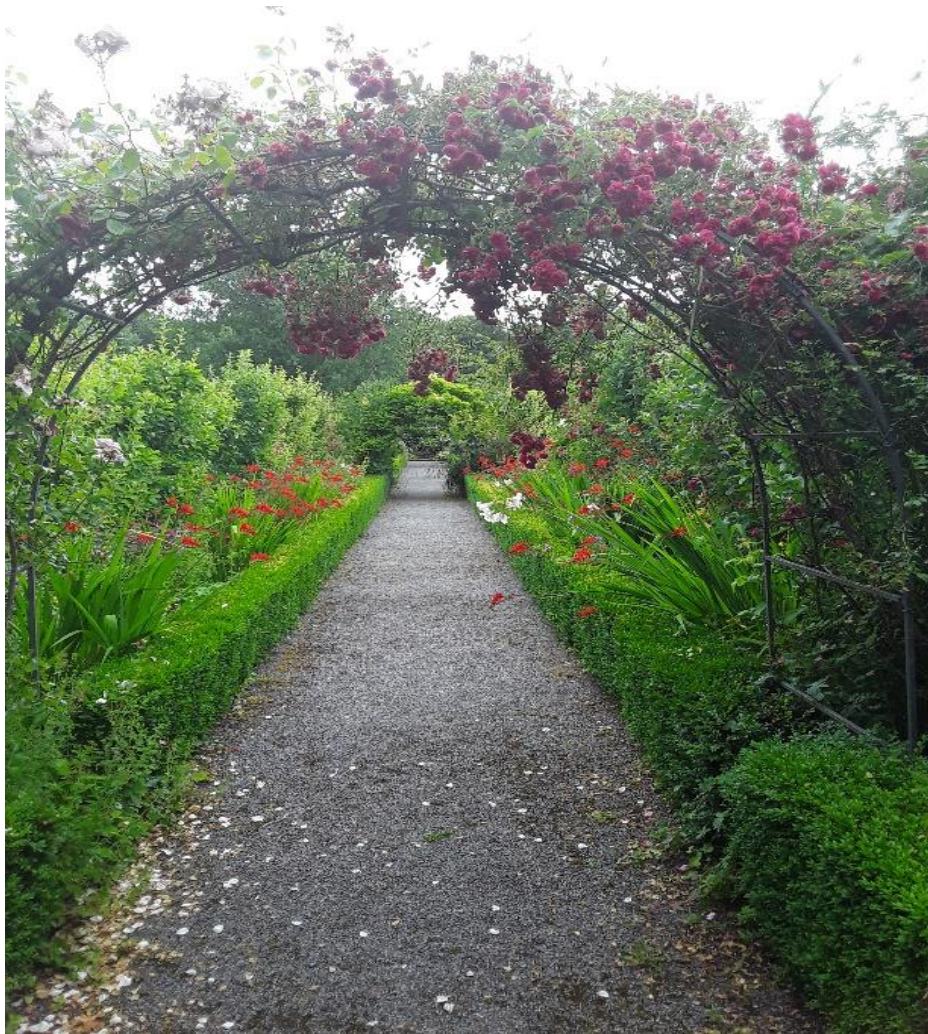
## 17<sup>th</sup> Century Courtyard



In the Courtyard we have another reception area with a shop and exhibition room upstairs. Next door are the Tea rooms and toilet facilities. Play game of chess while you wait for your food.



## Kitchen Garden



Finish off your visit to Portumna Castle, Gardens and Tea Rooms with a walk around our lovely 17<sup>th</sup> Century Walled Kitchen Garden you will enjoy the wonderful scents of the herbs and flowers. Check out the Maze!

To exit Portumna Castle you can go through our Main Reception area or, you can go out through the Tea Rooms gate which will lead you down to the ruins of Portumna Priory, the Marina and Forest park.

We hope you enjoy your visit.