

Social Story Guide

A visit to Kilkenny Castle

This is a story about visiting Kilkenny Castle.



Kilkenny Castle is a big castle in the middle of Kilkenny City. The Castle has a park, with paths going through woodland areas, a pond with ducks, a Rosegarden and a playground. There is a market every Thursdays from 9.30am to 2.30pm just outside the Castle, it has some craft and food stalls and sometimes there are street performers & musicians. Kilkenny Castle is a very busy place with a lot of visitors.

The Castle has lots of different places to explore:

A park and woods



A pond with ducks



A rosegarden



A playground



Castle Staff:

I will meet Castle Staff during my visit.

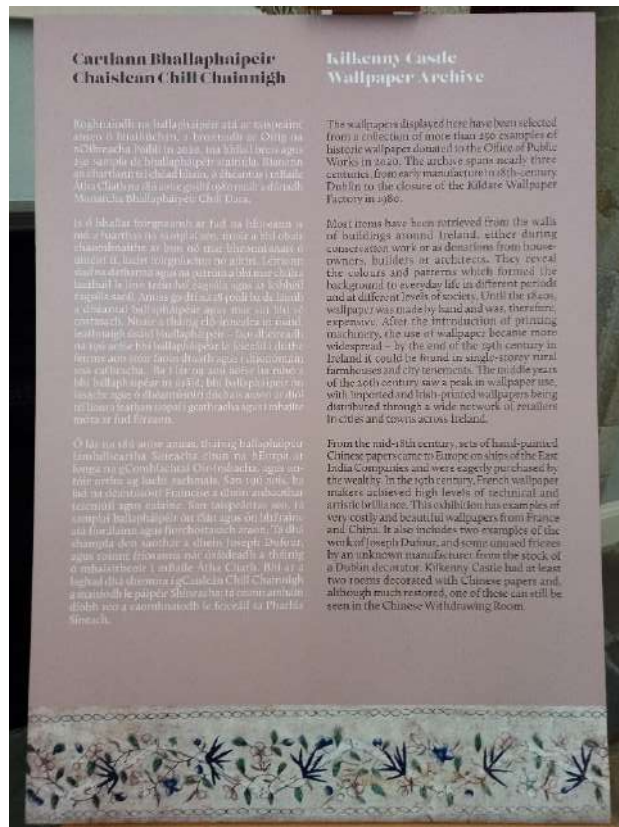
The Castle Staff can answer questions I have about the Castle's history and they are here help me. If I am overwhelmed and need to go to the quiet space, I can ask one of the Castle Staff to bring me there. Some Castle staff wear face masks. They do not have a uniform but wear dark colours, usually black & navy. The Castle staff wear badges and lanyards around their necks.



Signs:

I see many different signs in the Castle; I can ask the Castle Staff if I do not understand a sign.

These signs give me information on the Castle



These signs tell me not to go in



This type of signs give me more information on the rooms when I scan the QR code with my phone or my tablet



This type of signs tell me where to go



I arrive:



I enter the Castle grounds through a big gate from the street.



I enter the Courtyard.

Everyone has to queue outside before entering the Castle.

If waiting in line is too hard for me, the adult with me can show the Castle Staff my Autism I.D card and we can go inside without waiting.

I go in when a Castle staff tells me it is ok to enter.

I finish my food and drinks before I enter the Castle.

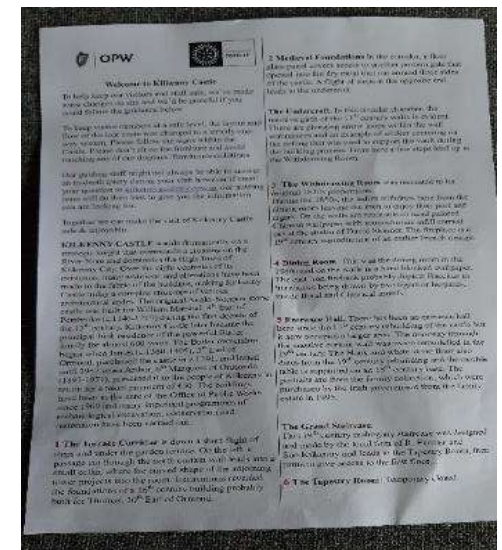
Visiting Kilkenny Castle:

When I visit Kilkenny Castle, I will see rooms in the Castle the way they looked 200 years ago. The rooms have furniture and paintings. There are ropes and barriers in the rooms. These are there to protect the furniture. They are old and delicate, so no one is allowed to touch them. The Castle staff stay in the roped off areas and I stay on the other side. There are lots of sounds and noises that I might hear in the Castle. I can listen to some of the sounds before my visit on the Kilkenny Castle website:

<https://soundcloud.com/opwireland/sets/kilkenny-castle-accessibility>



I enter the Castle and start my visit. I go down his corridor. I take an information leaflet from the display and start my visit. My leaflet has information on the rooms in the Castle.



What I will see:

On the Ground Floor

I go through the Wallpaper exhibition room. the Withdrawing Room,



I go through the Dining Room and then into the Entrance Hall.



I go up the Main Staircase and go in the Tapestry Room. I look around the room and go back out the same door I came in and I walk up the stair to see more rooms



On the First Floor

I go through the Ante Room and the Library.

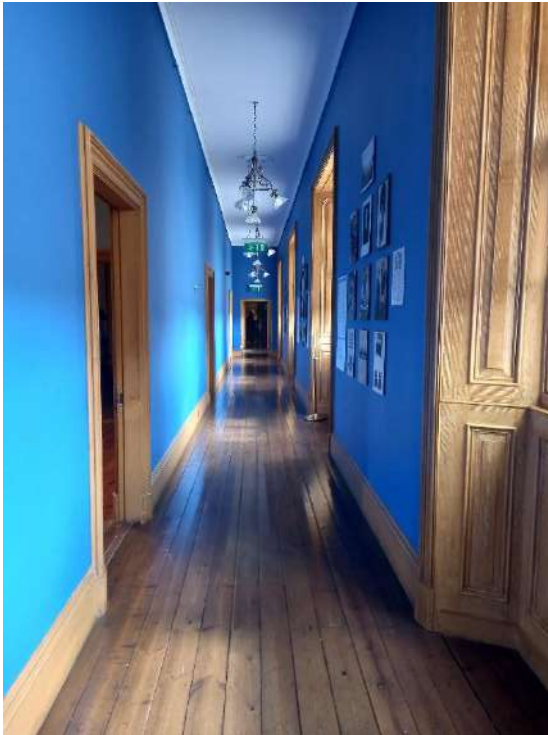


I go through the Drawing room. I go up the staircase to see more rooms.



On the Second Floor

I am in the Blue Corridor and I can look in the 4 exhibition rooms.



**At the end of the corridor, I see the Victorian Nursery.
The Nursery has a plastic screen in front of the door so I can see inside but I cannot go in. I go in the
Blue Bedroom**



I go in the Chinese Bedroom and then I go down the stairs to see the last room of my visit



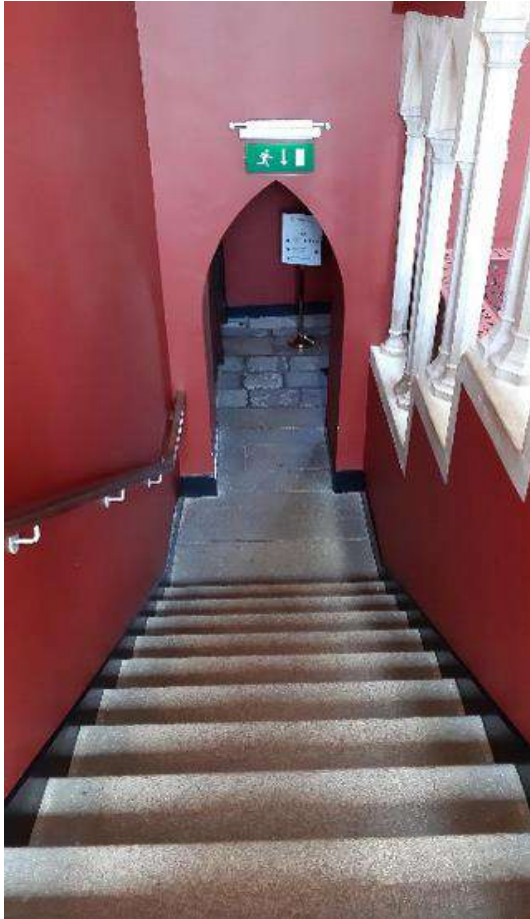
In the East Wing

The Picture Gallery is the last room of the tour. There can be many people but there is a lot of space for everyone. There are red benches in the middle of the room and window seats and I can seat on them. I leave the Picture Gallery through the same door I came in.

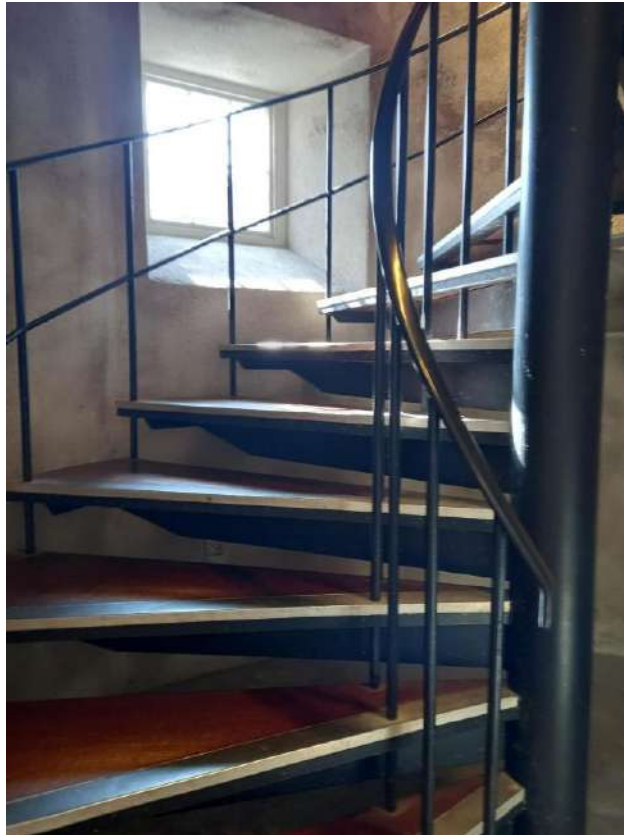


Exit

My visit of the Castle is now finished. I go downstairs. I go to the end of the corridor.



I go through the door and I go up the stairs. I push the door and I am in the Courtyar



Going to the toilets

After my visit, I can go to the toilets. I go down the stairs. I follow the signs.



I go through the door and enter the corridor.



Going to the Tea Room

After my visit, I can go to the Tea Room. I go down the stairs. I follow the signs.



At the end of the corridor, I enter the Tea room.



Going to the Ros Tapestry Exhibition:

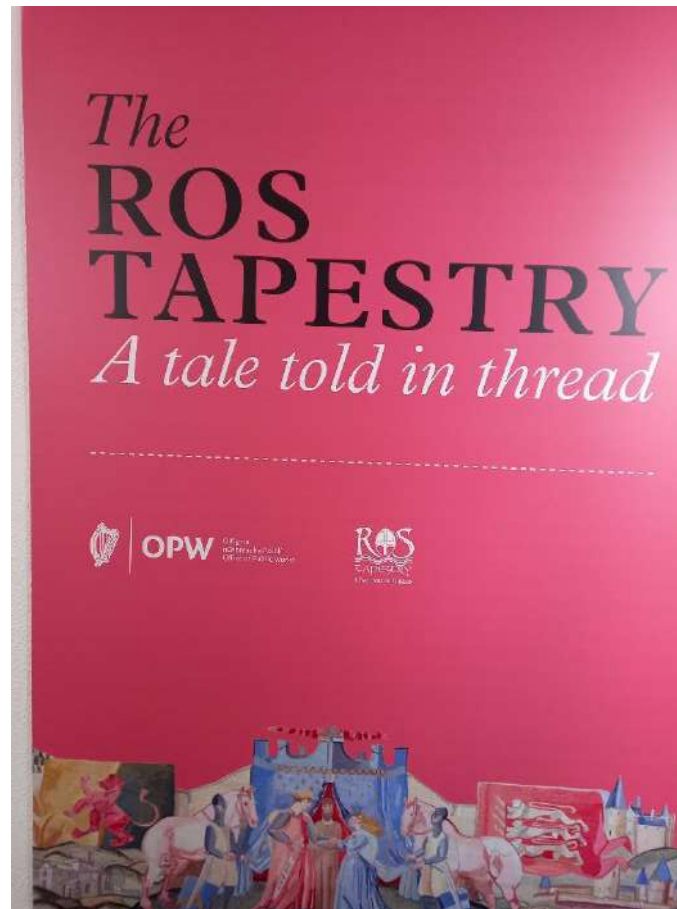
After my visit, I can go to the Ros Tapestry Exhibition. I go down the stairs. I follow the signs.



Taispeántais
Exhibition



At the end of the corridor, I can enter the Ros Tapestry exhibition.



In the Ros Tapestry Exhibition, I can go through 5 rooms:



1



2



3



4



5