

Social Guide.

A visit to Parke's Castle, Co. Leitrim.

Introduction

A restored Plantation Manor House of the early 17th century, picturesquely situated on the shores of Lough Gill. In this story you will meet the Guides who work there and find out about the history of Parke's Castle and the surrounding North West region.



Entrance



This is a picture of the main entrance to Parke's Castle from the car park.

Reception



When you enter through the first door you will see the reception desk. At certain times they may be a queue here, please be patient and the Guides will be there to assist you.

Admission and Options



When you receive your feepaying or complimentary ticket, you will be given information on what is available for you to See and Do during your visit. For example: Guided tours/Self-guided leaflets, AV presentation and Picture Finds.

Audio visual

This short film entitled 'Stone by Stone' will introduce you to the history and heritage of the North West region. It is available in 4 different languages.

Guided Tours



Our Guides are very enthusiastic, knowledgeable and friendly. Guided tours are available on request. If you need to ask a question about the Castle, exhibits or general information, they are always willing to help you.

Toilet Facilities

Toilets and toilet for visitors with disabilities available on site.

Steps and Low doorways



There are quite a few steps, uneven surfaces and low doorways on your visit so please be carefully and take care.

Family Room



The Parke's Family living room with Capt. Robert Parkes, his wife Mary and their two children.

Keep an eye out for the mouse trap and footwarmer!

Scale Model Room



This model represents the castle during the restoration period in the 1980's. Look up and admire the Irish Oak in the roof above you.

Banqueting Hall



This room is used during our Heritage Week events every year for Music Recitals and workshops. This is our Guides favourite room in the castle!



Vernacular Exhibition



This is an exhibit on the Vernacular Buildings of the North West region. Make sure you have a look at all the photos on our Touchscreen. Find out also about traditions and folklore in the area.

Spiral Staircase



This is a lovely example of local craftsmanship carried out during the restoration. This left-handed spiral staircase is built of Irish Oak and the centre piece is the core of one single oak tree!

Forge



This building is an example of a traditional blacksmiths forge built during the 1980's. The roof is Thatched with materials from the West and North West of Ireland.



Have a look at our interesting collection of horse and donkey shoes on display. We even have an old bellows over 100 years old!

Pigeon Tower



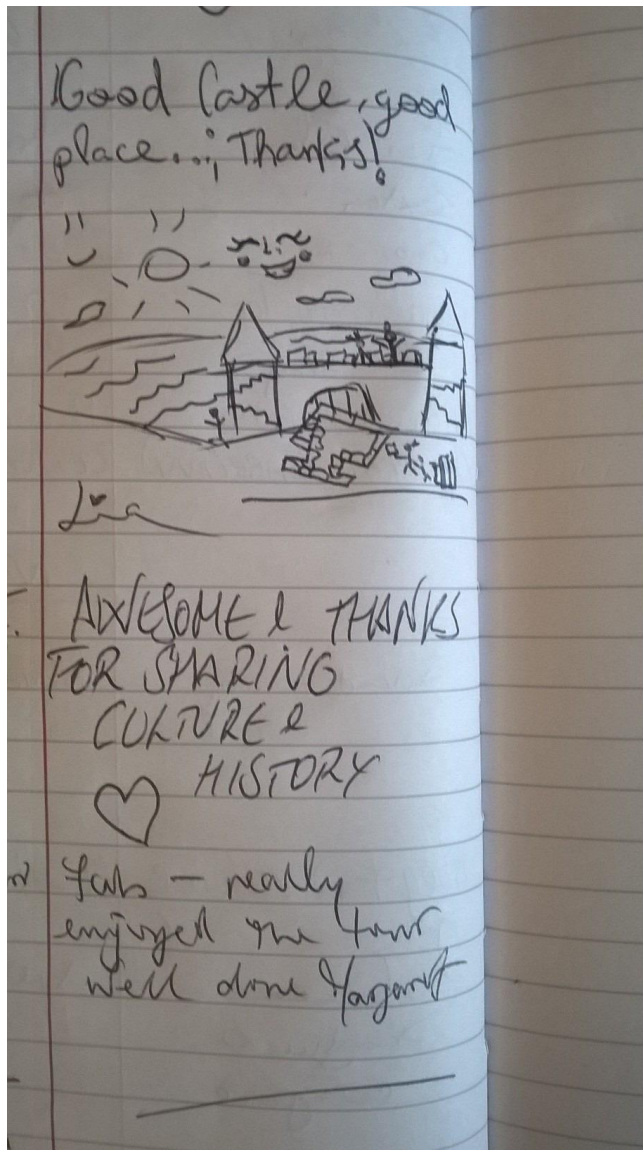
Pigeons were very important in the 17th century and were used for food and sending messages. Look up and you will notice birds flying around today, they are our swallows that arrive from Africa every year to nest and have their young.

Sweathouse



This interesting sweathouse was used by locals many years ago for easing one's sickness, colds and other ailments. It is located at the end of the garden along the lakeshore.

Leaving Parke's Castle.



You will leave Parkes Castle through the reception area

Please sign our Visitor Book.

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Photos provided by

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