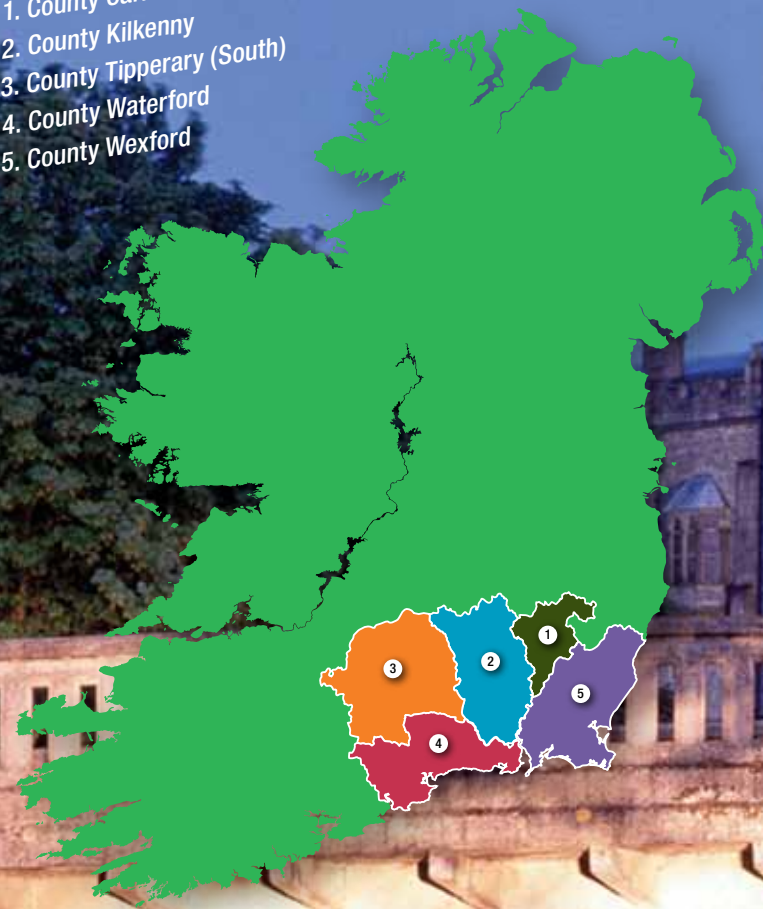


IRELAND

South East Region

- 1. County Carlow
- 2. County Kilkenny
- 3. County Tipperary (South)
- 4. County Waterford
- 5. County Wexford



# South East

## *Pocket Guide*

South East Ireland  
Pocket Guide

ACTIVITIES

Things to do

Places to see

Family fun

Events & Maps

And lots MORE...

FI/11327-11

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE

 **Fáilte Ireland**  
National Tourism Development Authority

All website & email links are live.



# Discover Ireland Centres

At your service to make your holiday even more enjoyable!



- > Local & National Information
- > Itinerary Planning
- > Guide Books, Brochures & Maps

Book your accommodation at any of our Discover Ireland Centres or on [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie) - we are here to serve you...

A full listing of all Abbeys, Cathedrals, Churches, Art Galleries, Open Farms, Genealogy Centres, High Crosses, Language Schools, Birds & Wildlife, Craft Studios & Workshops, Exhibitions & Museums, Field Monuments, Forest Parks, Historic Buildings, Leisure & Outdoor Pursuits, Greyhound & Horse Racing, Castles, Forts & Tower Houses are available in all of our Discover Ireland Centres.

[www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

## CO. CARLOW

**Carlow Discover Ireland Centre**  
Tullow Street, Carlow.  
T +353 [0]59 913 1554  
E [carlow@failteireland.ie](mailto:carlow@failteireland.ie)

## CO. KILKENNY

**Kilkenny Discover Ireland Centre**  
Shee Alms House, Rose Inn Street / Mary's Lane, Kilkenny.  
T +353 [0]56 775 1500  
E [kilkenny@failteireland.ie](mailto:kilkenny@failteireland.ie)

## CO. TIPPERARY

**Cahir Discover Ireland Centre\***  
Castle Car Park, Castle Street, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.  
T +353 52 7441453  
E [cahir@failteireland.ie](mailto:cahir@failteireland.ie)

\* Note: This Centre opens from April to the end of October

## CO. WATERFORD

**Waterford Discover Ireland Centre**  
The Quay, Waterford.  
T +353 [0]51 875 823  
E [waterford@failteireland.ie](mailto:waterford@failteireland.ie)

**Dungarvan Discover Ireland Centre**  
The Courthouse, Dungarvan  
T +353 [0]58 41741  
E [info@dungarvantourism.com](mailto:info@dungarvantourism.com)

## CO. WEXFORD

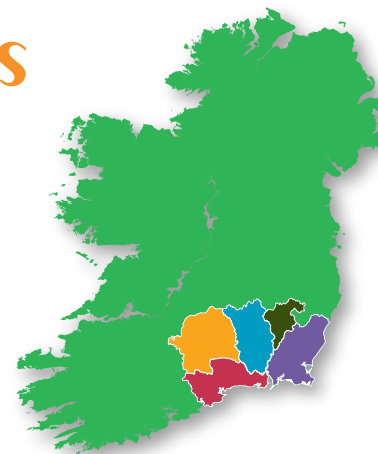
**Wexford Discover Ireland Centre**  
Quayside, Wexford.  
T +353 [0]53 912 3111  
E [wexford@failteireland.ie](mailto:wexford@failteireland.ie)

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## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

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**Family Friendly:** This symbol denotes attractions that are suitable for families.



**Wheelchair Friendly:** This symbol denotes attractions that are wheelchair accessible.

**Map References:** Each attraction has a map reference to identify its position on the regional map (page 154) e.g. Kilkenny City will be found at D4.



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Every care has been taken in the compilation of this guidebook to ensure accuracy at the time of publication. The publishers cannot accept responsibility for printed errors or omissions, or alterations occurring after the guidebook has been published.

All website & email links are live.



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LISMORE CASTLE



WINDSURFING, CO. WEXFORD

3

# Welcome to the

**Ireland's South East region promises a wonderful holiday experience you'll never forget, with the sunniest climate in Ireland, a unique heritage, vibrant towns and villages, a scenic landscape and most importantly, the friendly welcome that awaits you.**

Step back in time and experience Ireland's Celtic, Viking and Norman past at the many heritage sites of the South East, from the mighty Rock of Cashel in Tipperary to the magnificent Kilkenny Castle, to Hook Lighthouse and Brownshill Dolmen. The South East is home to many of Ireland's most stunning gardens, such as the beautiful Altamont Gardens in Carlow. And of course, a visit to the region wouldn't be complete without a trip to the new House of Waterford Crystal to marvel at the work of the master craftsmen. Our many

# South East!

driving routes will introduce you to many of the region's most famous attractions and some lesser known gems.

Some of Ireland's most incredible Blue Flag beaches are in the South East, such as Dunmore East, Clonea, Curracloe, Courtown and Rosslare. If you enjoy the great outdoors, there's no better place for an activity based holiday, with excellent water sports, golfing, fishing, horse riding, walking and cycling on offer.

The South East is alive with a colourful mix of festivals, a lively music and arts scene and a feast of award winning, gourmet restaurants and farmers' markets. Join in the year round festivities as the locals celebrate their unique and rich culture at festivals such as Wexford Festival Opera, Kilkenny Arts Festival, Waterford Spraoi, Clonmel Junction and Eigse Carlow, to name but a few from a packed calendar.

There is so much to see and do! And you'll discover that the time is always right to visit the sunny South East.

## ACTIVITIES





THE RIVER BARROW

# Carlow

Carlow is a county of ancient beauty and mystical charm. To the south and south east, the dramatic Blackstairs Mountains frame the county, at the heart of which is Carlow town, a historic and bustling centre with great shopping and a reputation for lively festivals held during the year.

Carlow's scenery is matched by its wealth of picturesque riverside towns and villages, shaped by the rivers Barrow, Burrin and Slaney – towns such as Leighlinbridge, Bagenalstown, Clonegal, Tullow and Rathvilly.

Close to Tullow are the renowned Altamont Gardens, a romantic and lovingly restored garden and just one of the many public gardens for which Carlow is famous, visitors can now enjoy Carlow's unique Garden Trail which features 16 different gardening attractions, a dedicated guide to the Trail is available from Carlow Tourist Office. Carlow is steeped in history; home to mystical pagan sites such as the prehistoric Brownshill Dolmen, early Christian settlements like St Mullins and magnificent Georgian country homes such as Duckett's Grove with its beautiful restored gardens which welcomes visitors.

You'll be amazed at the variety of outdoor activities that can be enjoyed during your time in Carlow, including hiking, cycling, river cruising, angling and golf – see the Activities section of this Guide. Mount Leinster is an internationally renowned location for hang gliding and hang gliders can be viewed taking flight on most Sundays from March to October.

carlow  
through the waters of time



## ACTIVITIES





6 VISUAL CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART, CARLOW TOWN



RIVER BARROW 7

## Carlow towns and villages

In Carlow's towns and villages you'll find the warmth of the Irish welcome and a fascinating history, all set against an untouched rural landscape.

**Carlow Town D5** is a bustling centre with great shopping, fine restaurants and accommodation. Carlow has a well-earned reputation for lively festivals throughout the year, including the internationally renowned Éigse Arts Festival, an 8-day extravaganza in June each year, featuring visual arts, theatre, comedy, dance, literary events, film, music, crafts and street entertainment. There is an excellent Walking Festival in October and a Floral Festival in August. Carlow boasts a long tradition in river sports and boating activity, with Carlow Regatta, one of the oldest rowing festivals in the country, which takes place on June 4th – 5th 2011. Carlow has many listed river walks, including the National Way Marked Barrow Way. It is also home to Duckett's Grove, originally the 18th, 19th and early 20th century of the Duckett family, whose walled gardens and wooded pleasure grounds are now open to the public. The Visual Centre for Contemporary Art & The George Bernard Shaw Theatre is also located in Carlow.

**Tullow E4** is located on the River Slaney and is the nearby home of Altamont Gardens – one of the country's most celebrated gardens. Tullow is also the ancestral home of the Wolseley family of whom Frederick York Wolseley gave his name to the Wolseley car. Golfers can enjoy time at the excellent 18-hole Mount Wolseley Hotel Spa & Country Club and Killerig Resort. Historical sites of interest include Rathgall Stone Fort and the prehistoric burial places of Bawnoge and Haroldstown Dolmen.

Founded on the River Barrow in the 18th century, **Bagenalstown D4** is a charming town, with riverside walks and a picturesque lock close to the fine estate house of Dunleckney Manor. Also known as Muine Bheag, Bagenalstown derives its name from Walter Bagenal, whose original concept for the town was based on Versailles and the palaces of Louis XIV, with fine streetscapes and classical buildings. The impressive courthouse, modelled on the Parthenon in Athens, is all that remains of Walter Bagenal's dream today, but Bagenalstown continues to be an ideal location

for outdoor activities including angling, inland cruising, cycling and walking tours.

The pretty town of **Leighlinbridge D4** is dominated by the medieval ruin of the Black Castle standing sentinel over a 14th century, nine-arched bridge – reputedly one of the oldest functioning bridges in Europe. West of Leighlinbridge is **Old Leighlin D4** the site of a 7th century monastic settlement and the 13th century St Lazerian's Cathedral. A significant church synod took place here in 630 A.D. which influenced the date of Easter for the entire Christian world, a formula still used to this day.

**Rathvilly E5** is a picturesque village to the north east of Carlow. Its name derives from a series of ancient raths or forts built along the River Slaney. A statue of the young executed rebel Kevin Barry stands in the town centre. Rathvilly Motte, believed to have been the residence of Crimthan, King of Leinster in the 5th century, commands panoramic views of Wicklow and Mount Leinster.

**St Mullins D3** is a tranquil village set deep in the lower Barrow Valley. Nestled between the Blackstairs Mountains on one side and Brandon Hill on the other, St Mullins holds an impressive ecclesiastical history. Originally the site of a 7th century monastery built by St Moling, whom the village is named after, an Abbey was later built here. The ruins of a 10th century round tower and high cross exist to this day.

**Clonegal E4** is a charming village and popular walking destination at the end of the Wicklow Way Walking route, with a backdrop of tree-clad hills along the Wicklow/Wexford border. Situated on the River Derry, Clonegal is home to Huntington Castle – a romantic 17th century structure situated in the middle of the village.

**Borris D4** is a Georgian town nestling in the valley of the River Barrow, below the curve of the Blackstairs Mountains. The MacMurrough Kavanagh dynasty, former Celtic Kings of Leinster, is central to this town and the family still live at Borris House in the town centre. The Mount Leinster Drive and the Blackstairs Mountains have great scenic views. Clashganny Lock, 5km south of Borris, also has panoramic views of Carlow's rich countryside.

For more information on Carlow's towns and villages, visit one of our Discover Ireland Centres and Tourist Offices (see the inside back cover for contact details) or our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES

# Visitor Attractions



## Altamont Gardens E4

Tullow, Co. Carlow. Tel: 059 915 9444  
Contact: Ms Pauline Dowling.  
www.heritageireland.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.892335,-6.729126

Large, beautiful old world garden, Robinsonian in style with a strong emphasis on the informal tradition of combining a good plant collection within the natural landscape of its environment.

Lawns and clipped yews slope down to a lake surrounded by rare trees, shrubs and a profusion of roses both old and modern with herbaceous plants scent the air. There is a steep descent through the "Ice Age Glen" to a beautiful river walk.

**Open:** Daily, Easter – April 30th, 9.00 – 18.30, May – August 31st, 9.00 – 19.30, September 9.00 – 18.30, October 9.00 – 17.00. Winter; Monday – Thursday, 9.00 – 16.30, Friday, 9.00 – 15.30. Weekends 9.00 – 16.30.

**Admission:** Free of charge, except for pre-booked guided tours: €2 (Individual).

Restricted access for people with disabilities.



## The River Barrow D4

  0.5km

Sat Nav: 52.796119,-7.207031

Supporting teeming coarse fishing, the 'Lordly Barrow' has been a favourite river for inland cruising and a delightful area for bird watching. The traffic-free towpaths, which once witnessed many passing horses straining to tow the laden barges, now provide a relaxed route for walkers, birdwatchers and anglers. Invaders, traders, merchants and missionaries have left historic footprints along the Barrow, especially noticeable in the many small and interesting town and village settlements.

 Walking distance from Carlow Tourist Office

## Brownshill Dolmen E5

  3.5km 

Hacketstown Road (R726), Carlow.  
Sat Nav: 52.834921,-6.844397

Mysterious and majestic, the Brownshill Dolmen has captured the imagination of visitors for centuries. Located 3km east of Carlow, the capstone of this magnificent megalithic tomb is believed to be the largest in Europe, weighing some 103 tons. Its date of construction has been estimated at between 4,900 and 5,500 years ago and it is thought that religious rites were performed here. Some authorities also suggest that it may have served as a form of border marker. Whatever its original purpose, it represents a tangible link between the present and the past.



## Duckett's Grove Walled Gardens & Pleasure Grounds E5

Rainstown, Carlow. Tel: 059 9131554  
Contact: Carlow Tourist Office

Situated just outside Carlow town and originally a Georgian home of a noted Anglo-Irish family, Duckett's Grove was rebuilt in flamboyant, Gothic revival style.

The surviving towers and turrets give this imposing structure a fairy tale air. Following extensive and sensitive restoration, the revived walled gardens and wooded pleasure grounds are now open to the public. Facilities include toilet facilities, car parking and wheelchair access.

**Open:** Daily, March – September: 8.00 – 21.00,  
October – March: 8.00 – 16.00.

**Admission:** Free of charge. Guide dogs only allowed.



## ACTIVITIES



# Visitor Attractions



## Oak Park Forest Park E5

🌿 2km 🚶♂️🚶♀️

Oak Park, Carlow.

Sat Nav: 52.847079,-6.918683

Situated on the outskirts of Carlow Town, the park is a mature mixed species woodland of over 120 acres with a predominance of Beech, Oak, Scots Pine, Silver Fir, Larch and Sycamore. Ideal for

leisurely strolls and walks, a visit here is a relaxing and pleasurable experience and a must for any visitor to Co Carlow. The park has colour coded circular walkways of varying lengths, with excellent surfaces and easy gradients. The park also features a picnic area, informal leisure areas and seating at regular intervals.

**Open:** 28th March – 3rd October, 8.00 – 21.00, Winter months: 8.00 – 16.00.

**Admission:** Free of charge.



## Huntington Castle and Gardens E4 🚶♂️🚶♀️

Clonegal, Co. Carlow. Tel: 053 937 7552

Contact: Moira Robertson.

Sat Nav: 52.689963,-6.648273

Huntington Castle was an early O'Kavanagh stronghold. A 17th Century castle, it has been used in a number of period films. The famed Lime tree avenue, Yew tree walk, 18th Century fish pond, a lake and an Old Water Turbine are just some of the features of the castle's

delightful gardens and pleasure grounds. There is also an ancient vine in the conservatory and a Temple to the Goddess Isis in the basement.

**Open:** Daily, June – August; 14.00 – 18.00. Last tour: 17.30.

Gardens open May – September. Prior appointments are required for groups.

**Admission:** House & Gardens: €8. Gardens only: €5. Usual concessions.

Child under 7: Free of charge.



## Rathwood E4

🌿 2km 🚶♂️🚶♀️

Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow.

Tel: 059 9156285

www.rathwood.com

Sat Nav: 53.107217,-6.657715

Whether it's a tasty lunch, a homemade dessert, a shopping trip, a chance to treat the family or a special occasion, you can

find something that will make your day memorable at Rathwood. Rathwood is a Multi-award winning Centre with restaurant, shops, garden centre and much more. At the Bird of Prey Centre we have approximately thirty Birds on display, take a wonderful twenty minute trip on the Rathwood train down through the Woods, around the Duck pond and back to Rathwood's Courtyard. Take a stroll down around the Animal Park at Rathwood or through the Woods or visit The Chocolate Garden of Ireland, next door.

**Open:** Daily; Mon – Sat 9.30 18.00, Sun 11.00 – 18.00.

Closed for 3 days at Christmas.

**Admission:** Free of charge into Rathwood; Rathwood Train: €3 p.p.,

Woodlands Falconry: Adult: €6, Child/Senior: €4.



## Delta Sensory Gardens D5 🚶♂️🚶♀️

Strawhall Industrial Estate, Carlow.

Tel: 0599143527

www.deltacentre.org

Sat Nav: 52.849113,-6.926494

Eloquently described as an oasis of peace and tranquility, Delta Sensory Gardens consist of a series of interconnecting

gardens of a multi-sensory nature covering 2.5 acres (1hectare). The gardens are the first in their kind in Ireland with a therapeutic focus to benefit people of all abilities. Visitors can delight in a mix of formal and informal landscapes and the gardens offer something for every season from thousands of daffodils and tulips in spring to the abundant double flowering gorse in summer and the rustic colour of the many trees and beech hedges in autumn and winter. The amazing water features will take your breath away, with splashing fountains, cascading waterfalls and the kugel, one ton of pink marble floating on a cushion of water.

**Open:** Monday – Friday 9.00 – 17.00, Saturday and Sunday 11.00 – 17.30.

Closed weekends in January and February.

**Admission:** Adult: €5, Senior: €4, Group rate available upon request.

## ACTIVITIES



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LEIGHLINBRIDGE

### CATHEDRALS, CHURCHES AND ROUND TOWERS

**Black Castle D4** Leighlinbridge. Situated on the river Barrow, the first castle on this site was built in 1181 by the Norman, Hugh de Lacy.

**Saint Laserian's Cathedral D4** Old Leighlin, Carlow. Tel: 059 972 1570 Contact: The Very Revd Gordon Wynne. St Laserian's Cathedral (13th Century) is on the site of a 7th Century monastery. This site was the location of an important church synod in 630 AD which influenced the system for establishing the date of Easter each year. **Open:** Summer, daily 10.00 to 16.00. Rest of year, please phone for details. Guided tours are available on prior request.

**Saint Mullins D3** St. Mullins Heritage Centre, St. Mullins, Co Carlow. Tel: 087 9977090/ 051 424913. Saint Mullins is the location of a splendid collection of early monastic remains including a round tower, monastery and the original stream cutting, believed to have been dug by St. Moling's (died 696 AD) own hands. The former Church of Ireland Church, now houses the St. Mullins Heritage Centre. All aspects of local history including publications, church records, maps, old photographs and artefacts are housed here and provide a fascinating account of village and rural life over the centuries. Genealogy service and guided tours by appointment. **Open:** May – Sep, Tues – Wed: 9:30 – 16:30, Sun: 14.30 – 18.00, Oct – Apr, Mon – Wed: 9:30 – 16.30.

**Adelaide Memorial Church E4** Myshall. Tel: 059 9157671. Built as a miniature of Salisbury Cathedral, the church houses many objects of interest. The key is held locally by Mrs. Bridie Daly (white bungalow opposite church grounds).

### CASTLES AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS

**Ballymoon Castle D4** Bagenalstown. A large, square castle, with imposing entrance gate and formidable square towers measuring 20ft high and 8ft thick. Access to the castle is via a small timber foot bridge.

**Dunleckney Manor D4** Bagenalstown. Tel: 059 972 1932. One of Carlow's most magnificent country houses and was the ancient seat of the Bagenals of Idrone. Incorporating the original manor dating to 1612. **Open:** On specific dates only, February – November. Tours every hour from 13.00 – 16.00. Admission: €7, all proceeds go to charity.

**Borris House D4** Borris. Tel: 059 977 3105. [www.borrishouse.com](http://www.borrishouse.com). Come and explore the ancestral home of the MacMurrough Kavanaghs, Kings of Leinster, set in over six hundred and fifty acres of walled private park and woodlands. Tours feature the Borris Lace Collection, the private chapel and the splendid reception rooms.

**Open:** On specific dates only, January – December. Guided House Tours @ 15.00 arranged by appointment only.

**Carlow Castle D5** Carlow. Built in the early years of the 13th century, this was an important and strategically sited fortification on the south eastern corner of the Pale. Now a ruin, it stands on the eastern bank of the River Barrow.



BROWNSHILL DOLMEN

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### THEATRES

**Visual Centre for Contemporary Art & The George Bernard Shaw Theatre D5** Tel: 059 9172400. [www.visualcarlow.ie](http://www.visualcarlow.ie) [www.gbshawtheatre.ie](http://www.gbshawtheatre.ie)

This is a state of the art multi-disciplinary facility located in the heart of Carlow town. The Centre comprises of a 294 seated performing arts theatre, four principle gallery spaces as well as theatre bar facilities and a full service restaurant.

**Open:** Tuesday – Saturday 11.00 – 17.30, Sunday 14.00 – 17.00.

### MUSEUMS AND TOURS

**Ardattin Cottage Museum E4** Tullow. Tel: 059 9155 639. This museum houses a unique collection of artefacts. **Open:** by appointment only. Admission applies.

**Carlow Historic Town Trail D5** Discover the history of Carlow Town in a one hour self-guided tour featuring identifiable finger signposts and large map boards. Please contact Carlow Tourist Office for information.

**Tullow Museum E4** Bridge Street, Tullow. Tel: 086 3416919/087 2383515. Housed in an attractive former Methodist church, the museum houses a splendid collection documenting the region's history. **Open:** April – October, Tues. – Fri. 14.00 – 16.00, Sun & Bank Holidays 14.00 – 17.00. Closed Monday & Saturday.

**Carlow Brewing Company D4** Muine Bheag Business Park, Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown, [www.carlowbrewing.com](http://www.carlowbrewing.com) Tel: 059 9720509. The beers produced are based on traditional Celtic beer styles and use wholesome ingredients brewed in the natural process. Tours must be booked in advance.

### GARDENS, PARKS AND GARDEN CENTRES

**Carlow has Ireland's first integrated Garden Trail, [www.carlowgardentrail.com](http://www.carlowgardentrail.com)**

**Uiseann Park D4** Killeshin Hills, Rossmore. Offers wonderful views of Carlow Town and the surrounding countryside. Features a playground. Open daily – daylight hours.

### GUIDED TOURS

**Carlow Guided Coach Tours D5** Full Day/Half Day Tours – Contact: Patrick Doyle Tel: 087 6786585. Tours include Carlow Garden Trail and Carlow Ecclesiastical Trail. [www.carlowtours.ie](http://www.carlowtours.ie).

### GENEALOGICAL CENTRE

**Carlow Central Library D5** Tullow Street, Carlow. Tel 059 917 0094.

**Online Research Service [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)**

### LANGUAGE SCHOOLS – ACELS approved

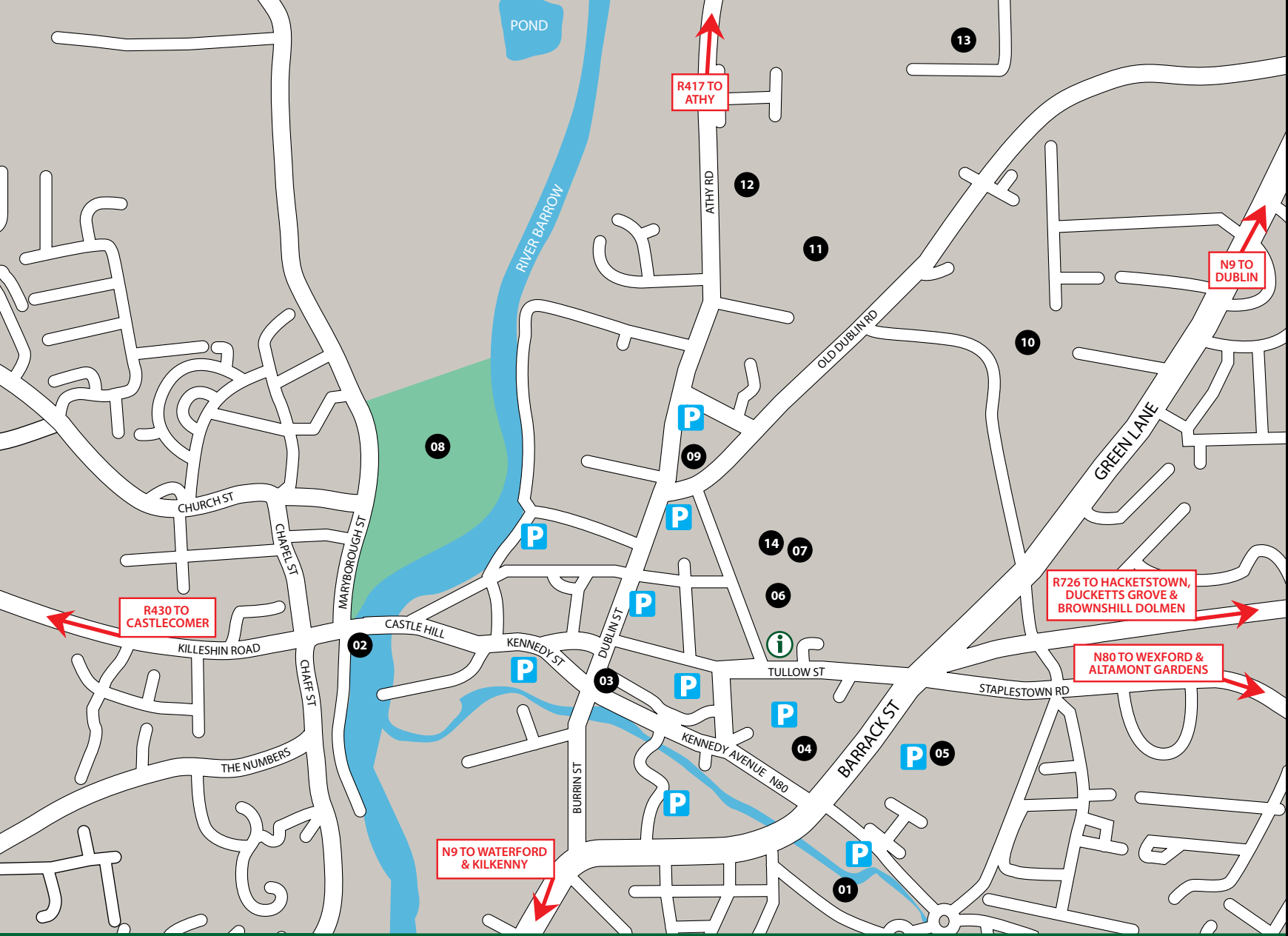
**Carlow International English Language School D5** 46 Sycamore Rd, Rathnapish. Tel: 059 9142066/ 2204488/086 8621266.

**English Language Ireland D5** The School House, O'Brien Road, Carlow. Contact: Ruth Coffey. Tel: 059 9140227.

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES





ACTIVITIES

Carlow Town Centre

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| 03 Post Office            | 07 St. Patrick's College     | 11 Carlow District Hospital | i Tourist Information                 |
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JERPOINT ABBEY, CO. KILKENNY

# Kilkenny

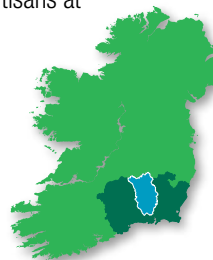
**Kilkenny – a beautiful and ancient county where history, modern living and rich culture fuse together across an unspoiled landscape.**

The ancient medieval city of Kilkenny is today a thriving, modern capital that has protected its precious heritage whilst evolving as one of Ireland's most vibrant and enjoyable cities in which to stay. Its narrow slipways, side streets and preserved buildings, are matched only by its reputation for fine dining, great shopping, entertainment and accommodation.

The county itself has a wealth of fascinating visitor attractions, from the wonders of Dunmore Cave and celebrated monastic settlements such as Jerpoint Abbey, to the magnificently restored Kilkenny Castle or the Castlecomer Discovery Park. Kilkenny's many pretty towns and villages such as Inistioge and Bennettsbridge have a relaxed atmosphere, and visitors will feel at home from the moment they arrive. Golfers will be spoiled for choice with a number of challenging courses including the world famous Mount Juliet near Thomastown, while horseracing enthusiasts can head for Gowran Park which holds prominent national horseracing fixtures throughout the year.

But what really sets Kilkenny apart is the extraordinary creativity of its people, earning it the reputation as the creative heart of Ireland. Visits to Kilkenny's many craft studios and workshops, such as those on the "Made in Kilkenny Craft Trail" brochure and at the National Craft Gallery, provide a rare opportunity to watch the artisans at work, and to go home with a unique reminder of your time in the county.

*Kilkenny*  
The creative heart of Ireland



## ACTIVITIES





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SHOPPING, KILKENNY CITY

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## Kilkenny City, towns and villages

Whether your passion is heritage, the great outdoors, or buzzing nightlife, Kilkenny has something for everyone. Here are some towns and villages that are waiting to be explored:

The vibrant medieval city of **Kilkenny D4** displays a wonderful blend of old and new, with beautifully restored historic buildings and charming narrow slipways positioned side by side with shops and restaurants. Kilkenny, from the gaelic Cill Chainnigh, is named after the 6th century monk St. Canice, whose name also survives in the city's 13th century St Canice's Cathedral. Kilkenny's origins date back some 1,500 years, although the Normans, who arrived in the 12th century, left a lasting legacy in many fine buildings including the fully restored Kilkenny Castle and the impressive Rothe House and Gardens on Parliament Street. The city has a colourful calendar of festivals including the Kilkenny Arts Festival, the Cat Laughs Comedy Festival, the popular Rhythm and Roots Festival and the annual Kilkenny Celtic Festival to mention just a few.

A beautiful riverside town, **Bennettsbridge D3** marks one of the oldest crossings of the River Nore, 9km south of Kilkenny City. The first bridge was built here in 1285 and dedicated to St Bennett. Today, Bennettsbridge is an internationally renowned centre for craft and design, with Nicholas Mosse Pottery, Chesneau Leather and Moth to a Flame Candle Makers operating factory stores in the village.

Also in the Nore Valley, **Thomastown D3**, founded in the early 13th century, was originally a walled town complete with 14 towers. It was sacked by Cromwell in 1650 although many interesting ruins remain. Jerpoint Abbey, located outside of Thomastown is an outstanding Cistercian abbey and the best preserved of its kind in the country, and close to the world-famous Mount Juliet Hotel golf resort and equestrian centre.

A popular destination for visitors, the beautiful village of **Inistioge D3**, set deep in the Nore Valley, is surrounded by mature woodland and rolling hills. Woodstock Arboretum and Gardens are located south of the village, while the centre of the village is well catered for by a number of cafés and restaurants.

The scenic riverside town of **Graiguenamanagh D3** is situated on the Carlow/Kilkenny border. The town's name translates as "the village or valley of the monks" relating to Duiske Abbey, founded in 1204. A popular boating, river cruising, fishing and walking destination. Home to the famous Cushendale Woollen Mills which welcomes visitors.

Also on the River Barrow, **Goresbridge D4** is a picturesque village popular for angling and river cruising. The village features as part of the Barrow Way walking trail.

The ancient market town of **Callan C3** was founded in 1217 on the King's River. Once heavily fortified, Callan was the scene of many famous battles dating back to 844. Nearby the ancient village of **Kells C3**, also founded on the King's River, is home to the ruins of the Augustinian Priory founded in 1193. Mills including a mill museum, Kilree round tower and high cross, and a number of churches and other historical sites all feature in the immediate vicinity along with easy walks.

The village of **Gowran D4** is home to one of Ireland's premier racecourses. Gowran Park also offers excellent 18-hole golf facilities on one of the finest parkland courses in the country. Once the seat of the Kings of Ossory, the village of Gowran held the Collegiate Church dating from 1260, which has been incorporated into the 19th century St Mary's Protestant Church on the village main street.

**Mullinavat D2** is a village in the heart of south Kilkenny, popular with anglers and walkers due to its proximity to the rivers Barrow, Nore and Suir and to the picturesque Poulanassy Waterfall. **Knocktopher D3** is another small village just north of Mullinavat and is surrounded by fine countryside, woodland and walkways.

Nestled in the hills of north Kilkenny, **Castlecomer D4** is an attractive and lively town. The lakes and walkways of Castlecomer Discovery Park provide angling and walking trails, and the park's interpretive centre is well worth a visit, as are the excellent craft retail units in Castlecomer Estate Yard.

Also in north Kilkenny, the village of **Freshford C4** was designed around two tree-lined, triangular greens. A 7th century monastery was founded in this village. The Irish Conker Championships take place here each October. West of Freshford lies the village of **Urlingford C4** which has many fine walks along the Kilkenny/Tipperary border.

For more information on Kilkenny see [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES

# Visitor Attractions



## Kilkenny Castle

D4 🦿 0.2km 🚶🚶🚶

The Parade, Kilkenny City.  
Tel: 056 770 4100  
[www.kilkennycastle.ie](http://www.kilkennycastle.ie)  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)  
Sat Nav. 52.834921,-6.844397

A 12th century castle remodelled in Victorian times and set in extensive parklands which was the principal seat

of the Butler family, Marquesses and Dukes of Ormonde. Due to major restoration works, the central block now includes a library, drawing room, and bedrooms decorated in 1830's splendour, as well as the beautiful Long Gallery. A suite of former servant's rooms is the Butler Art Gallery, which mounts frequently changing exhibitions of contemporary art. The Parade Tower is the Castle's conference venue.

**Open:** October – February: 9.30 – 16.30, March: 9.30 – 17.00, April – May: 9.30 – 17.30, June – August: 9.00 – 17.30, September: 9.30 – 17.30. Closed on Good Friday. Check with site for opening arrangements over Christmas and New Year. Please note that this is a very busy site and visitors may experience a delay during the summer months.

**Admission:** Adult: €6, Senior: €4, Student/Child: of 6yrs & over: €2.50, Family: €14. Wheelchair access: (ground floor and gardens only).



## St Canice's Cathedral

D4 🦿 0.9km 🚶🚶🚶

Kilkenny City. Tel: 056 776 4971  
[www.stcanicescathedral.com](http://www.stcanicescathedral.com)  
Sat Nav. 52.657435,-7.2575

The Cathedral was completed in 1285 and has been part of the history of Kilkenny ever since. The splendour of the medieval masons' art is to be seen in the fabric of the cathedral itself, and in the many stone memorials. The Cityscope, a small-scale

model of the city, as it was in 1640, is also on display in the Cathedral. The Round Tower is open in summer season and a separate admission applies.

**Cathedral Open:** April, May and September: Mon – Sat, 10.00 – 13.00, 14.00 – 17.00, Sunday 14.00 – 17.00. June, July and August: Mon – Sat, 9.00 – 18.00, Sunday, 14.00 – 18.00. Winter months: 10.00 – 13.00, 14.00 – 16.00, Sunday 14.00 – 16.00. Note: May be closed to visitors when services are in progress. **Admission:** Adult: €4, Senior/Student: €3, Family: €12.

🦿 Walking distance from Kilkenny Tourist Office

## Rothe House and Garden

D4 🦿 0.6km 🚶🚶🚶

Parliament Street, Kilkenny City.  
Tel: 056 772 2893 [www.rothehouse.com](http://www.rothehouse.com)  
Sat. Nav. 52.657123,-7.255783

Rothe House is a 16th century merchant's home built in 1594, consisting of 3 separate town houses, 3 enclosed courtyards and a newly restored garden to the rear. Genealogical research on Kilkenny ancestry is also available, for more details see [www.kilkenny.brsgenealogy.com](http://www.kilkenny.brsgenealogy.com).

**Open:** Please contact directly to check opening arrangements, as work on the 'Renaissance Project' is expected to commence in early April 2011, at which stage there will be limited access to the House & Garden, on a guided tour basis only for a number of months. Admission charge applies.



## Jerpoint Abbey D3 🦿 🚶🚶🚶

Thomastown. Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: 056 772 4623  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.512878,-7.158451

An outstanding Cistercian abbey founded in the second half of the 12th century. The church with its Romanesque details dates from this period. In the transept chapels the visitor can see 13th to 16th century tomb sculpture. The tower and cloister date from the 15th century. The chief delight of the Abbey is the sculptured cloister arcade with unique carvings. The Visitor Centre also houses an interesting exhibition.

**Open:** Daily; March – 31st May: 9.30 – 17.00. June – mid September, 9.30 – 18.00, mid September – 31 Oct: 9.30 – 17.00, November: 9.30 – 16.00, December – March: Pre-booked tours only. Closed for the Christmas period.

**Admission:** Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Child/Student: €1, Family: €8, Child under 6: Free of charge.



## ACTIVITIES



# Visitor Attractions



## Castlecomer Discovery Park D4

The Estate Yard, Castlecomer.  
Tel: 056 444 0707 [www.discoverypark.ie](http://www.discoverypark.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.80629,-7.205143

The Discovery Park is sited on the Castlecomer Demesne which was the estate farmyard, gardens, stable yard and leisure grounds of the Wandesperde family.

This wonderful demesne and estate yard is a place to escape to reconnect with Nature. Relax and enjoy the thrill of catching rainbow trout on either the fly or bait lakes. Engage in one of our active learning workshops for adults and children that aim to nurture your experience of nature, craft and heritage. Discover the story of coal and our mining heritage in 'The Footprints in Coal' Experience.

**Open:** May – August 9.30 – 17.30, September, October, March and April 10.00 – 17.00, November – February, 10.30 – 16.30. Last admission 1 hour before closing. Opens out of hours for groups by appointment. **Admission:** Footprints in Coal Experience; Adult: €8, Child: €5, Student/Senior: €6, Family (2+2): €20, each additional child with family €2. Child under 4: Free of charge, Fishing: €15 pp for 4 hours, Family 2+2 €50, 2+3 €55, Family Trail (Self-guided): €10 per family, Forest Park, Car-park, & Children's Playground: Free of charge.



## Reptile Village Zoo D4

Gowran, Co. Kilkenny.  
Tel: 056 772 6757. [www.reptilevillage.net](http://www.reptilevillage.net)  
Sat Nav: 52.631865,-7.059102

6,000 square feet, over 120 animals, reptile handling zone, indoor picnic area, walk through tropical enclosure, soft play area and all indoors! Reptile Village Zoo is

an experience like no other. From Geckos to Iguanas, Alligators to Rattlesnakes, they don't just exist on TV! Suitable for all, from nought to ninety, enjoy a day out with a difference. Find out what a snake really feels like in our handling zone, or experience a taste of the tropics meeting our Iguanas in our walk through enclosure, in Ireland's only reptile zoo!

**Open:** Daily; 10.00 – 18.00. Admission: Adult: €9.90, Child: €7.50, Family (2 adults & 1 child): €27, (with each additional child €3).

## Dunmore Cave D4

Dunmore Cave, Castlecomer Road,  
Co Kilkenny. Tel: 056 776 7726  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)  
Sat Nav: N52 44.036. W007 14.810

History and geology blend at Dunmore Cave to give an interesting and unique situation. Consisting of a series of chambers formed over millions of years, the cave contains some of the finest calcite formations found in any Irish cave. The cave has been known to man for many centuries and is first mentioned in the 9th century Irish Triads. The most interesting reference however, comes from the Annals which tells of a Viking massacre at the cave in the year 928 A.D. Archaeological finds within the cave confirm Viking activity. Exhibitions and displays in the Visitor Centre. The cave is inaccessible for wheelchair users.

**Open:** Daily; March – mid June, 9.30 – 17.00, Last tour 16.00, mid June – mid September, 9.30 – 18.30, Last tour 17.00, mid September – end of October, 9.30 – 17.00. Last tour 16.00, November – March, Wednesday – Sunday 9.30 – 16.30 Last tour 15.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Student/Child: €1, Family: €8.



## Woodstock Garden and Arboretum D3

Inistioge.  
Tel: 087 8549785 (Head Gardener)  
056 7794939, (Kilkenny County Council  
Parks Office, Mon-Fri only).  
[www.woodstock.ie](http://www.woodstock.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.725169,-7.233295

Extensive landscaped parkland; the gardens are home to a mix of formal and informal gardens, with an arboretum, walled garden, terraced garden, yew walk and rose garden. Including two stunning avenues, a Monkey Puzzle Avenue and a Noble Fir Avenue. A cast iron conservatory overlooking the Flower Terraces houses tea rooms during the season.

**Open:** 9.00 – 19.00, (Summer months), 10.00 – 16.30, (Winter months). Mobility buggy available for mobility impaired persons. Guided tours for groups by prior appointment only.

**Admission:** €4 per car (including entry fee to the gardens for all occupants). Coaches and buses by appointment only & price on request.



## ACTIVITIES



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WOODSTOCK CONSERVATORY

## ABBEYS, CHURCHES AND HISTORIC HOUSES

**St Mary's Church** **D4** Gowran. Tel: 056 772 6894. [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)  
Dating from 1275, this church features monuments of great beauty from the 14th to 17th centuries. **Open:** Daily; 27th May – 31st Aug. 9.30 – 18.00. Last admission 45 minutes before closing. Admission: Free of charge. Restricted access for visitors with disabilities.

**Duisk Abbey** **D3** Graiguenamanagh. Tel: 059 9724238. This early Cistercian Abbey (1204) and Visitor Centre provide an art exhibition and sales of Christian art and sculpture. **Open:** Monday to Friday 9.00 – 13.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Kells Priory** **C3** Kells. These extensive ruins of an Augustinian Priory date back to 1193. Adjacent is a large mill and local museum. **Open:** The site is accessible all year. Tours by prior arrangement.

**Black Abbey** **D4** Kilkenny City. Tel: 056 7721279. The Dominican Black Abbey dates back to 1225. Of particular note is the stained glass 'Rosary Window', the stonework of which survives intact.

**The Hole in the Wall** **D4** 17 High Street, Kilkenny. Tel: 087 8075650. [www.holeinthewall.ie](http://www.holeinthewall.ie) The oldest surviving townhouse in Ireland, the 1582 Archer Inner House. Now restored, the Elizabethan building, its tavern, snug and Archer room are open to visitors, and has become an interesting & intimate venue for many events including concerts, debates, theatre & poetry etc. **Open:** Weekends, and some evenings.

## BIRDS AND WILDLIFE

**The Newpark Fen** **D4** Kilkenny City. This game and bird sanctuary and amenity area offers opportunities to view many different species of birds.

## CRAFT STUDIOS AND WORKSHOPS

For a comprehensive list of craft operators see the "Made in Kilkenny Craft Trail" brochure. Available from the Tourist Office or [www.trailkilkenny.ie](http://www.trailkilkenny.ie)

**Nicholas Mosse Pottery** **D3** Bennettsbridge. Tel: 056 772 7505. [www.nicholasmosse.com](http://www.nicholasmosse.com) This water-powered factory includes a visitors' area, shop, bargain area, café and a small museum. **Open:** All year, Monday – Saturday 10.00 – 18.00, Sunday 1.30 – 17.00.

**Cushendale Woollen Mills** **D3** Graiguenamanagh. Tel: 059 972 4118. [www.cushendale.ie](http://www.cushendale.ie) Traditional woollen mills, featuring colourful textiles in natural fibres. **Open:** Monday – Friday 8.30 – 17.30 (closed for lunch 12.30 – 13.30), Saturday, 9.30 – 12.30.

**Rudolf Heltzel** **D4** 10 Patrick Street, Kilkenny City. Tel 056 772 1497. [www.heltzel.ie](http://www.heltzel.ie) German by birth Rudolf Heltzel has lived and worked in Kilkenny since 1966. At his studio, he crafts exceptional contemporary jewellery in gold, platinum and silver. **Open:** Monday – Saturday 9.30 – 13.00; 14.00 – 17.30.

**Kilkenny Design Centre** **D4** The Parade, Kilkenny City. Tel: 056 772 2118. [www.kilkennydesign.com](http://www.kilkennydesign.com) Opposite Kilkenny Castle, the centre has local and national crafts on display and for sale. The restaurant serves food and refreshments.

**National Craft Gallery** **D4** Castle Yard, Kilkenny City. Tel: 056 776 1804. [www.ccoi.ie](http://www.ccoi.ie) This gallery, behind Kilkenny Design Centre, runs a year round exhibition programme national and international contemporary crafts. **Open:** January – March, Tuesday – Saturday, 10.00 – 17.30, April – December, Monday – Saturday 10.00 – 17.30, Sunday 11.00 – 17.30. Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays.

**'All that Glisters' Jewellery Workshop** **D3** Ladywell Corner, Thomastown Tel: 056 772 4081. [www.allthatglisters.ie](http://www.allthatglisters.ie) Sue Bowden designs and makes beautiful jewellery. Many are made from native Irish stones such as Kilkenny and Connemara marble. Others are made from exotic corals, gemstones and pearls. **Open:** Mon – Sat 10.00 – 18.00.

**Jerpoint Glass Studio** **D3** Stoneyford. Tel: 056 772 4350. [www.jerpointglass.com](http://www.jerpointglass.com) Watch as skilled glassblowers turn molten glass into the beautiful Jerpoint pieces. Gallery shop. **Open:** Mon – Sat 10.00 – 18.00. Sun & Bank Holidays 14.00 – 17.00. No admission fee.

**Castlecomer Estate Yard Arts and Crafts Centre** **D4** Castlecomer. Tel: 056 444 0876/056 444 0007. [www.castlecomerestateyard.com](http://www.castlecomerestateyard.com) Sat. Nav. N 52 48 386 W 7 12 203. Visit the Estate Yard, home to 14 of Ireland's top Artists and Craft Designers. **Open:** Studios, shops and Cafe open all year. Monday – Saturday 10.00 – 17.30, Sunday 14.00 – 17.00. (Some studio opening hours may vary, visit website for details).

**Chesneau Design Studio** **D3** Bennettsbridge. Tel: 056 7727456. [www.chesneaudesign.com](http://www.chesneaudesign.com) The Chesneau Design Studio is one of Ireland's leading leather goods designers, with a range of handbags, travel and executive goods. **Open:** Daily; 9.30 – 18.00.

## ACTIVITIES



**Duiske Glass Factory Shop** **D3** High Street, Graiguenamanagh Tel: 059 972 4174. [www.duiskeglass.com](http://www.duiskeglass.com) **Open:** Monday – Friday 10.00 – 17.30, Saturday 10.00 – 17.00.

**Kilkenny Crystal Studio** **C3** Tinnamona, Callan, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: 056 7725132. (Shop: Rose Inn Street, Kilkenny, Tel: 056 7721090). [www.kilkennycrystal.com](http://www.kilkennycrystal.com) Kilkenny Crystal is Ireland's oldest family owned crystal studio workshop. **Open:** Studio open to public Mon – Fri 9:30 – 18.00, Sat 10.00 – 18.00, (advance contact advisable during winter months). Crystal cutting can be viewed Monday – Friday.

## EXHIBITIONS AND MUSEUMS

**Nore View Folk & Heritage Museum** **D3** Danesfort Road, Bennetsbridge. Tel: 056 7727749. The museum houses a fine collection of Irish historical interest, an old time kitchen, pub, carpenters workshop as well as displays of old Irish transport. Also includes the monuments of the history of Oliver Cromwell, King William, Evictions, and a Military Display. A selection of wildlife exhibits are also on view. **Open:** Daily 10.00 – 18.00. Admission charge applies.

**The James Hoban Memorial Arbor** **C3** Desart, Kilkenny. The White House Architect. Born in 1758 in Desart Near Callan in Kilkenny, James Hoban designed the White House Building in Washington D.C.

**'The Lost Town' Heritage Site** **D3** Jerpoint Park, Thomastown. Ireland's best surviving example of a 12th century medieval town layout & St. Nicholas's Tomb. Heritage site visit & Riverbank Walks (self-guided) €3 per person. Suitable countryside footwear required.

## GARDENS & PARKS (SEE GARDENS SECTION ON PAGE 95)

**Jeninstown Park** **C4** Dunmore. [www.coillteoutdoors.ie](http://www.coillteoutdoors.ie) This Forest Park has a deer park and looped walks of varying length. **Open:** All year.

**The Kilfane Glen and Waterfall** **D3** Kilfane. [www.kilfane.com](http://www.kilfane.com) Tel: 056 7727105. This attraction includes a waterfall and cottage ornée, with an outdoor sculpture display. **Open:** Daily; July and August, 11.00 – 18.00. Admission charge applies.

**'Gáirdín an Ghorta'** **D3** Located in Newmarket, near Knocktopher. Contact: Willie Barron. Tel: 086 8394349. [www.faminegarden.com](http://www.faminegarden.com) This small garden commemorates the Famine. **Open:** All year, no admission fee. Guided tours by request.

**Butler House Gardens** **D4** Restored and landscaped back to their original splendour in 2000 by The Kilkenny Civic Trust. Access through the back of Kilkenny Design Centre/Castle Yard.

**Shankill Castle & Gardens** **D4** Paulstown. Tel: 059 9726145 or 087 2437125. **Open:** June – August, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 11.00 – 18.00. Admission: €10 includes a guided tour of the house and gardens with light refreshments.

## GENEALOGICAL CENTRE

### See Rothe House & Garden

The Irish Family History Foundations – Online Research Service. This provides access to Irish Church and other sources for the family historian. [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)



INISTIOGUE

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## GUIDED TOURS

**Tynan Walking Tours** **D4** Kilkenny City. Tel: 087 265 1745.

Tynan's Medieval Walking Tours of Kilkenny (Mid March – October). Tours will operate Monday – Saturday, 10:30, 12:15, 15.00, 16.30 with additional tours on Sundays as the season progresses. Departing from Shee Alms House (City Tourist Office) Tour price: Adult €6, Senior/Student €5.50, Group rates (20+) available on request.

**Kilkenny Cycling Tours** **D4** Tel: 086 8954961. [www.kilkennycyclingtours.com](http://www.kilkennycyclingtours.com) Offers the opportunity to visit historical and cultural sites of Kilkenny City. Extended tours available on request. Two tours available per day with duration of approx. 2.5 hours. Pre-booking is advised but not essential. Sensible footwear and clothing is advised. All safety gear provided. Tour prices Adult €22, including light lunch, €17 without lunch. Under 16, €14 including lunch, €10 without. Family/Group rates available on request.

### A Rural Experience – Tailor Made Tours of Rural Ireland & Beyond

**D4** Tel: 056 7727590/087 6432130. [www.aruralexperience.com](http://www.aruralexperience.com) Our aim is to help our guests build wonderful memories while visiting our area. Our day tours visit famous sites together with lesser known sites off the beaten track. Day Tour prices: Adult: €50, Senior/Student: €45, Family & Group rates available on request.

**St. Francis Abbey Brewery Tour** **D4** Parliament Street, Kilkenny. Tel: 056 7796498 [www.smithwicks.ie](http://www.smithwicks.ie) The tour brings visitors through the working brewery, including a visit to the 12th Century St Francis Abbey which is on the brewery site. Tours: Tuesday – Saturday: 12.00, 13.00, 15.00, 15.30, 16.15.

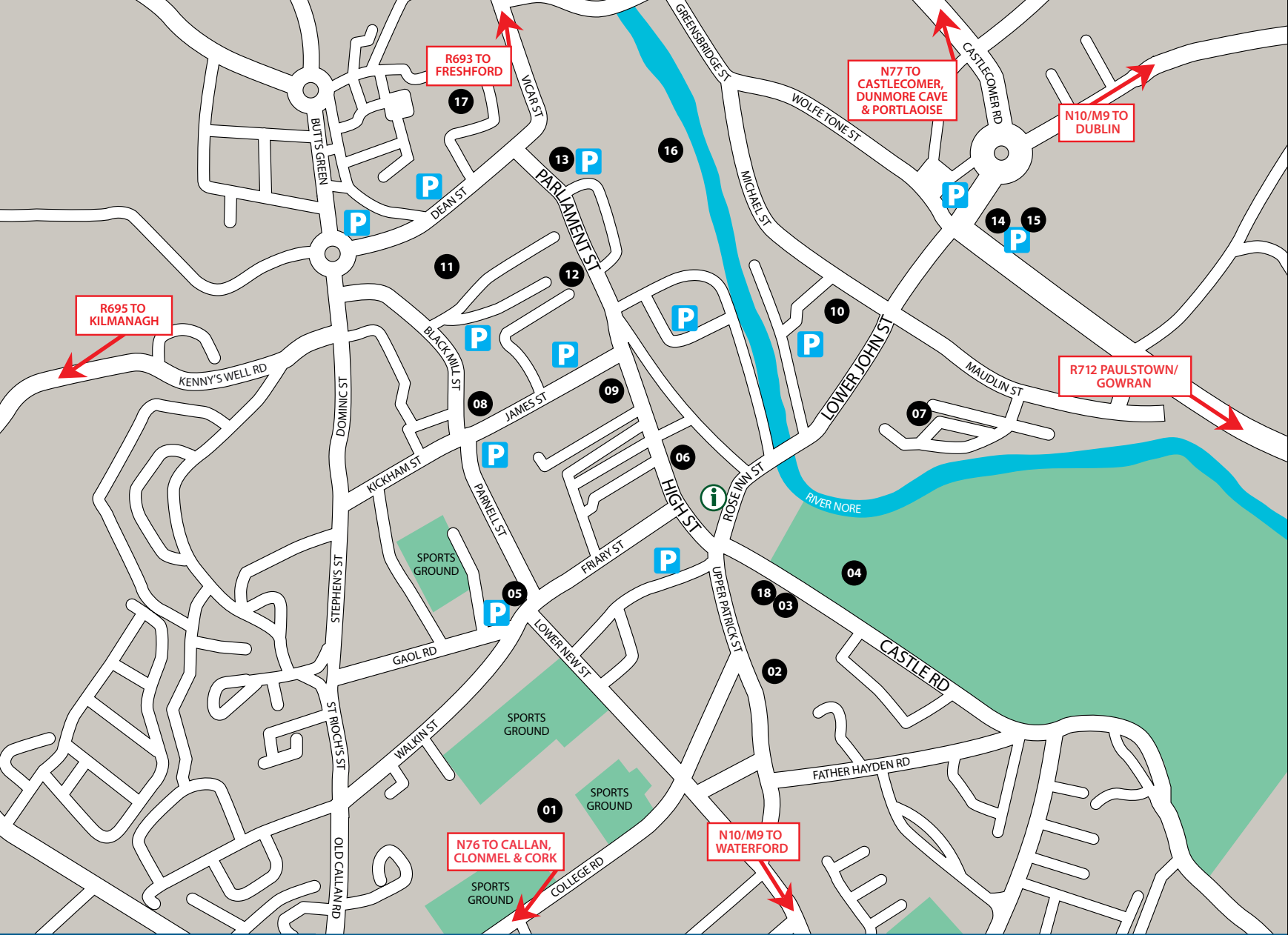
Admission: €10 including one complimentary drink in the Cellar Bar. Over 18's only and appropriate footwear must be worn. (Tours last approx 90 minutes and times may vary due to seasonal demand).

**The Kilkenny Trad Trail** **D4** Tel: 085 1658243.

[www.kilkennytradtrail.net](http://www.kilkennytradtrail.net) Accompany two musicians on a tour of some of Kilkenny's iconic pubs. Enjoy a traditional music session in each pub. Over 2 hours learn about the songs, tunes and history of Ireland's rich and ancient music tradition. Takes place June – September. Fri. & Sat. 19.00. Get tickets at Bollards Bar, Kieran's Street from 18.30 on night of tour. Private tours available all year on request. Tour prices: Adult: €12, Student: €10. Child under 12, free when accompanied by a paying adult.

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES

Kilkenny City Centre

- |                           |                         |                      |                                       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 01 St. Kieran's College   | 06 The Tholsel          | 11 Black Abbey       | 16 St. Frances Abbey & Brewery        |
| 02 Butler House           | 07 County Hall          | 12 Rothe House       | 17 St. Canice's Cathedral             |
| 03 Kilkenny Design Centre | 08 St. Mary's Cathedral | 13 Watergate Theatre | 18 National Crafts Council of Ireland |
| 04 Kilkenny Castle        | 09 Shopping Centre      | 14 Shopping Centre   | i Tourist Information                 |
| 05 Cinema                 | 10 St. John's Priory    | 15 Train Station     |                                       |



# Tipperary

Tipperary is a county of immense natural beauty, with a unique and ancient heritage. Shaped by the rugged Galtee Mountains and the River Suir, Tipperary has some of the South East's most breathtaking scenery, dotted with towns and villages such as Carrick on Suir, Clonmel, Cahir, Tipperary, Cashel and Fethard.

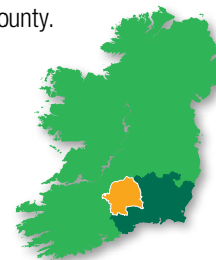
The county's distinctive set of landmarks include the mighty Rock of Cashel, once the seat of the Kings of Munster and the magnificent 12th century Cahir Castle. Other heritage highlights include the Swiss Cottage in Cahir, the Ormond Castle in Carrick on Suir, the Main Guard in Clonmel and Fethard Medieval walled town.

It's a county of spectacular natural beauty with the Glen of Aherlow and the Vee Valley of particular note. Tipperary is a county famous for traditional music, hurling and bloodstock. In fact, the county is one of Ireland's premier horseracing centres.

Tipperary has some other fascinating places to visit, such as Mitchelstown Cave, one of Europe's most spectacular and the captivating Brú Ború Cultural Centre, commemorating Brian Ború with a 'cultural village' celebrating Irish music, song, dance and theatre. A paradise for walkers, anglers, horse riders and heritage & culture lovers, take time to enjoy the great outdoors or simply soak up the atmosphere of this wonderful and welcoming county.

*tipperary*

experience | character | adventure





32 THE ROCK OF CASHEL



BRÚ BORÚ CULTURE CENTRE 33

## Tipperary towns and villages

Tipperary is a captivating area of mountains and valleys, populated by historic towns and villages.

The ancient town of **Cashel B3** and its surrounding countryside are dominated by the spectacular Rock of Cashel – a collection of early Christian and medieval buildings, including a fine cathedral, round tower and very early Romanesque doorway. Once the seat of the Kings of Munster, St Patrick is known to have preached from the Rock of Cashel in the 5th century while Brian Ború was crowned King of Ireland here in the 11th century. The Brú Ború Cultural Centre in the town offers the best of traditional Irish music, song and dance shows. Cashel's history unfolds further at the Cashel Heritage Centre in the town. Cashel town itself is a lively place with restaurants, traditional pubs and quality accommodation.

Set in the heart of the Golden Vale, the village of **Dundrum A3** is surrounded by forest and has a number of listed walks. It is also home to the Dundrum House Hotel and Golf Club. To the south, **Cahir B2** is an ancient and bustling town originally built around Cahir Castle, the 12th century Norman castle standing on a stony island on the River Suir. The square in Cahir was developed in the 18th century and was embellished in the 1840's by William Tinsley from Clonmel. This embellishment largely consisted of added features (such as the columns on Irwins pub and adjacent buildings) to bring some consistency to the 'look' of the square. Shortly after this work Tinsley moved to Cinninnati and designed many public buildings and churches there. John Nash designed the Swiss Cottage, St Pauls Church and the Erasmus Smith House, all in Cahir, and was famous for designing Regent Street and Regents Park in London, the Brighton Pavillion and many other fine buildings (including the ill-fated Shanbally Castle at Burncourt near Cahir). To the west, the dramatic **Galtee Mountains A2** offer good walking trails, including the Tipperary Heritage Way which can be walked in four stages from the Vee to Cashel and takes in the area's breathtaking scenery. Nearby Mitchelstown Cave offers access to three enormous underground caverns displaying incredible drip stone formations.

**Clonmel B2** is a historic and lively town set amidst beautiful mountain scenery. Nestled in the Comeragh Mountains with Slievenamon to the east and the

Knockmealdown range to the south, it's the ideal base for exploring the surrounding countryside. South Tipperary County Museum tells the story of the area from prehistoric times to modern day, while the Clonmel Heritage Trail takes in the main historical features of the town. The Main Guard, located in the centre of Clonmel, is a building of historical importance and dates back to between 1673 and 1684. Clonmel Racecourse has a busy calendar of events, while garden lovers can visit the award winning Killurney Garden. Clonmel has a thriving arts scene with regular theatre, concerts and exhibitions at the South Tipperary Arts Centre.

**The Glen of Aherlow A3** is a 16-mile stretch across some of Tipperary's most breathtaking countryside. Shaped by the River Aherlow, this popular walking and horse trail through valleys and up to beautiful corrie lakes deep in the Galtee range. The Glen of Aherlow sits between the Galtee Mountains on the south and Slievenamuck Ridge on the North and is bounded by the villages of **Galbally A3** and **Bansha**. The Glen of Aherlow is a Walkers Welcome location.

Just north of the Glen of Aherlow, **Tipperary Town A3** lies along the River Ara. The long history of Tipperary, from its 12th century Anglo Norman settlements to its contribution in the war of independence, can be accessed at the Tipperary Excel Heritage Centre in the town. Outside the town, Tipperary Race Course holds flat racing and national hunt meetings, while golfers are well catered for at the scenic Tipperary Golf Club and Ballykisteen Golf and Country Club.

Founded in the early 9th century, **Carrick on Suir C2** is home to many fine examples of Anglo Norman castles, bridges, parks and churches. Ormond Castle, an imposing four-towered structure was built in the 1400s and later incorporated into the formidable Ormond Castle around 1560. The Old Bridge spanning the River Suir is one of the most striking stone bridges in Ireland. The town has a marina, and other activities available include fishing, golf and scenic walks.

**Fethard B3** has been a walled town since the 13th century and within its very intact walls are many Churches, Friaries, towers and Sheela-na-Gig carvings.

For more information on Tipperary's towns and villages, visit our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES



# Visitor Attractions



## Rock of Cashel B3

Cashel, Co Tipperary. Tel: 062 61437.  
www.heritageireland.ie

Sat Nav: 52.541285,-7.885437

A spectacular group of medieval buildings set on an outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale including the 12th century Round Tower, High Cross and Romanesque Chapel, 13th century Gothic cathedral, 15th century Castle and the restored Hall of the Vicars Choral.

Attractions include an audio-visual show and exhibitions.

**Open:** Daily; Mid September – mid October, 9.00 – 17.30, mid October – mid March, 9.00 – 16.30, mid March – early June, 9.00 – 17.30, early June – mid September, 9.00 – 19.00. Closed 24th to 26th of December. Last admission 45 minutes before closing, all groups must be pre-booked.

**Admission:** Adult: €6, Group/Senior: €4, Student/Child: €2, Family: €14. Access for visitors with disabilities by prior arrangement.



## Brú Ború Cultural Centre B3

Cashel, Co. Tipperary. Tel: 062 61122.  
www.bruboru.ie

Sat Nav: 52.541285,-7.885437

Brú Ború offers a unique experience of Irish traditional entertainment with its summer season of live shows. Experience some of Ireland's finest traditional performers and even partake yourself in a traditional Irish seisiún. Brú Ború also boasts one of the finest cultural exhibitions in the country relaying the

story of Irish culture and heritage in a spectacular setting at the foot of the famous Rock of Cashel.

**Open:** All year: Monday – Friday, 9.00 – 17.00, Mid-June – Mid-September, open Tuesday – Saturday, 9.00 – 23.00.

**Admission:** To the centre is free of charge. Entrance fees apply to show and exhibitions. Cultural Exhibition: Adult: €5, Student/Senior: €4, Child: €3. Summer show: Adult: €20, Child: €10.

## Mitchelstown Cave A2

Burncourt, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.

Tel: 052 7467246.

Email: visit@mitchelstowncave.com

Sat Nav: 52.318973,-8.123703

Is one of the most spectacular caves in Europe, Mitchelstown Cave is located midway between Cahir and Mitchelstown just off the N8. The guided tour takes you through almost half a mile of this world famous cave, which includes three massive caverns. The formations, shapes, colour and history make for an enthralling visit at any time. Access to the cave is easy, along well lit passageways.

**Open:** All year; April – September, 10.00 – 17.30, October – March, 10.00 – closing time will vary, please contact in advance for details.

**Admission:** Adult: €7, Child: €2, Group rates for over 20 people.



## Cahir Castle B2

Castle Street, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.

Tel: 052 7441011. www.heritageireland.ie

Sat Nav: 52.374761,-7.928867

Once the stronghold of the powerful Butler family, the castle retains its impressive keep, tower and much of its original defensive structure. It is one of Ireland's largest and best preserved castles. It is situated on a rocky island on the River Suir. The castle's attractions include an excellent audio-visual show which informs visitors about the castle.

**Open:** Daily; Mid Oct – mid March, 9.30 – 16.30, mid March – mid June, 9.30 – 17.30, mid June – August, 9.00 – 18.30, September – mid October, 9.30 – 17.30.

**Admission:** Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Child /Student: €1, Family: €8. Limited access for people with disabilities by prior arrangement.



## ACTIVITIES

# Visitor Attractions



## Ormond Castle C2 ↑↑↑

Castle Park, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary. Tel: 051 640787  
www.heritageireland.ie Sat Nav: 52.374761,-7.928867

Ormond Castle is the best example of an Elizabethan manor house in Ireland. It was built by Thomas, the 10th Earl of Ormond in the 1560s. Closely integrated into the manor house are two 15th century towers. It is the country's only major unfortified dwelling from that turbulent period. The state rooms contain some of the finest decorative plasterwork in the country, including plasterwork portraits.

**Open:** Daily; 10.00 – 18.00, 21st April – 5th October.

**Admission:** Free of charge. Restricted Access for people with disabilities.



## Main Guard B2 ♿↑↑↑

Sarsfield Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: 052 6127484  
www.heritageireland.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.352853,-7.702875

James Butler, Duke of Ormond, built the Main Guard in 1675 as the courthouse for the Palatinate of administrative area of County Tipperary. In 1715, the Palatinate

jurisdiction was extinguished. In about 1810, the ground floor, a loggia of open arches, was converted into shops, a basement excavated and additional floors inserted. It has been recently restored to its original form and the open arcade of sandstone columns is once again a feature of the streetscape.

**Open:** Daily; 9.30 – 18.00, 21st April – 30th Sept, 9.30 – 17.30,  
1st October – 5th October.

**Admission:** Free of charge.



## The Swiss Cottage B2 ↑↑↑

Kilcommon, Cahir, Co. Tipperary. Tel: 052 74 41144. www.heritageireland.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.352643,-7.936592

A delightful "cottage orné" built in the early 1800s by Richard Butler, 1st Earl of Glengall to a design by the famous Regency architect John Nash. Its interior contains a graceful spiral staircase and some elegantly decorated rooms. The wallpaper in the Salon manufactured by the Dufour factory is one of the first commercially produced Parisian wallpapers.

**Open:** Daily; 10.00 – 18.00, 1st April – 26th October.

**Admission:** Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Child/Student: €1, Family: €8.  
Limited access for people with disabilities.



## Glen of Aherlow Nature Park A3 ↑↑↑

Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: 062 56331. www.aherlow.com  
Sat Nav: 52.416346,-8.105335

The entrance to the Glen of Aherlow Nature Park is adjacent to the Christ the King statue parking and viewing area.

The Nature Park is ideal for families who want to take a peaceful ramble in the woodland, see the many plants and flowers along the way. This woodland is the habitat of many animals and birds, such as fox, red and grey squirrels. Find your way to the ruins of Lenihan's cottage, an old famine house, which is now in ruins. It is dated back to the famine times, it would have been thatched consisting of two rooms with an adjoining building to house a cow or pig. Children love to explore at the restored stone bridge on the old Bianconi road or read the tranquil poems by local writers. Take some time to sit on the seat opposite the oak tree and listen for the birds. Nature is always at its best in the scenic Glen of Aherlow.

**Open:** Daily. **Admission:** Free of charge.

## ACTIVITIES





38 CAHIR CASTLE



THE VEE 39

### ABBEYS AND CHURCHES

**Hore Abbey B3** Cashel. Hore Abbey was founded by Cistercians in 1266. It was once a Benedictine abbey but was given to the Cistercians by Archbishop David MacCearbhaill, who later entered the monastery.

**Holy Trinity Church B3** Fethard. The Holy Trinity Church is one of the largest and finest medieval parish churches in Ireland.

**Cistercian Abbey C3** Kilcooley. The Abbey is set in the grounds of a large private estate adjoining the ancient pilgrim route to Cashel.

### ARTS & CULTURE

**South Tipperary Arts Centre B2** Clonmel. Tel: 052 612 7877 [www.southtipparts.com](http://www.southtipparts.com) The South Tipperary Arts Centre holds ten visual art exhibitions annually, a writers' festival, art classes and an outreach programme. **Open:** All year, Tuesday – Friday: 10.00 – 17.30, Saturday: 12.00 – 16.00. Closed Monday.

**Tipperary Excel Heritage Centre A3** Tipperary Town. Tel: 062 80520. A multi-functional complex with three cinemas, conference facilities, art gallery, gift shop, the Simon Ryan Theatre, tourist information point, a café and the County Family History Research Centre. **Open:** Daily.

### CASTLES, EXHIBITIONS AND MUSEUMS

**Farney Castle B4** Holycross. Tel: 0504 43281 Home to designer Cyril Cullen, whose handmade knitwear and fine porcelains are sold in the Castle Shop. Tours of the castle are provided on a daily basis. **Open:** Monday – Saturday: 10.00 – 18.00, Winter: 10.00 – Sundown. Admission: €6.

**The Famine Warhouse B3** Ballingarry. Tel: 087 9089972 [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie) During the Great Famine the Warhouse was the scene of the 1848 Rebellion. The house exhibits the history of the Famine and mass emigration, the rebellion, high treason trials and penal exile of the Young Ireland leaders in Australia and their escapes to the U.S.A. **Open:** Apr – Sept: Wed–Sun 14.30 – 17.30, Oct – Mar: Sat & Sun only 14.00 – 16.00. Admission: Free of Charge.

**Carrick-on-Suir Heritage Centre C2** Tel: 051 640200 Contact: Patrick Fitzgerald. Photographs, documents and artefacts of the area are on display. **Open:** Daily; October – May: 10.00 – 13.00, 14.00 – 16.00, June – September: 10.00 – 13.00, 14.00 – 17.00. Weekends may vary. Admission: Free but donations welcome.

**Cashel Folk Village B3** Cashel. Tel: 062 62525 Contact: Martin O'Dwyer. Includes a reconstruction of various traditional thatched village shops, a forge, and a Penal Chapel. **Open:** Daily; March – October: 10.00 – 18.00. Admission: applies.

**Cashel Heritage Centre & Tourist Information B3** City Hall, Cashel. Tel: 062 62511/062 61333 [www.casheltouristoffice.com](http://www.casheltouristoffice.com) Features a large scale model of Cashel in the 1640's. The Charters of Cashel King Charles II (1663) and James II (1687) are on permanent display. **Open:** Daily; Mid March – mid October: 9.30 – 17.30, mid October – mid March, Weekdays: 9.30 – 17.30.

**South Tipperary County Museum B2** Mick Delahunty Square, Clonmel. Tel: 052 613 4550 [www.southtippculture.ie](http://www.southtippculture.ie) This extensive museum building has displays from prehistoric to modern times. **Open:** All year, Tuesday – Saturday, 10.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Slieveardagh Heritage Centre B3** River Street, Killenaule. Tel: 052 915 6165. [www.slieveardagh.com](http://www.slieveardagh.com) The Centre tells the interesting and diversified local history ranging from coal mining to the Young Irelanders and has the Derrynaflan Exhibition. **Open:** All year; Monday – Thursday: 9.00 – 17.00, Friday: 9.00 – 16.00, Closed 13.00 – 14.00. Admission: Free of charge.

### CRAFT STUDIOS AND WORKSHOPS

**South East Regional Craft Centre B2** Granary, Church Street, Cahir. Tel: 052 744 1473 [www.craftgranary.com](http://www.craftgranary.com) Wonderfully restored 19th century granary, One of the four Regional Craft Centres in Ireland, showcases craft, pottery, jewellery, textiles, woodturning, glassware and an art gallery. **Open:** Monday – Friday: 10.00 – 18.00, Saturday 9.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Mandy Parslow Studio Potter A3** Clonbeg Lodge, Glen of Aherlow. Tel: 062 56011. [www.parslowpottery.com](http://www.parslowpottery.com) **Open:** Friday & Saturday, 10.00 – 17.00.

**Rossa Pottery & Gift Shop B3** 77 Main St., Cashel. Tel: 062 61388. **Open:** 10.00 – 18.00.

**Tig Roy**, Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary. Tel 062 37032/087 2572281. [www.tigroy.com](http://www.tigroy.com) Tig Roy runs classes, courses and workshops in traditional Irish music, language & set dancing from September to May. One of the highlights at Tig Roy is the traditional Irish music summer school, Éigse Eatharláí. All bookings for workshops must be made in advance.

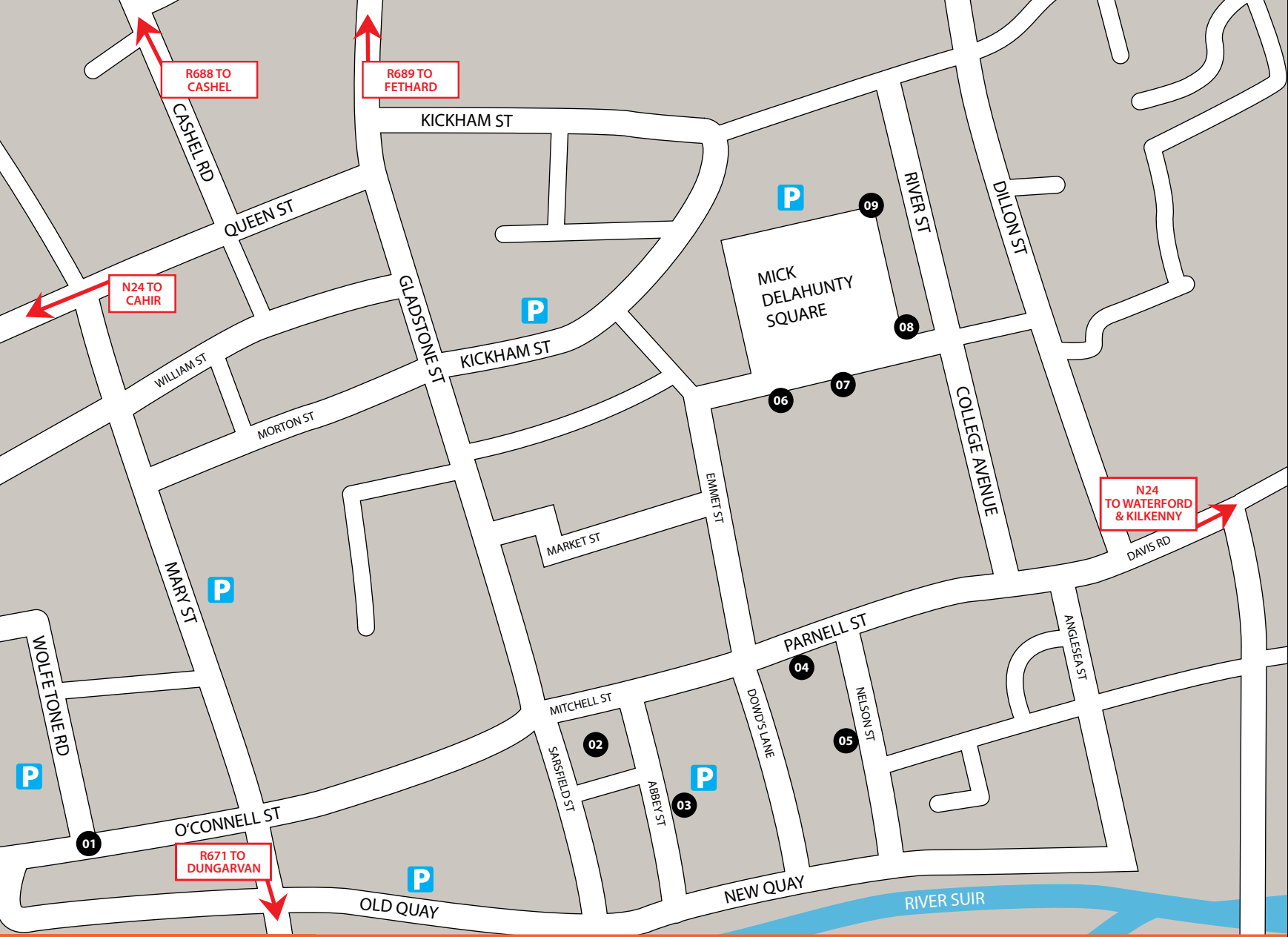
### GARDENS & PARKS

**The Celtic Plantarum A3** Dundrum. Tel: 062 71303. Miles of paths and walkways, waterfalls and fresh water lakes. A small café is also located on site. **Open:** Daily; Monday – Saturday: 8.30 – 17.30, Sunday: 14.00 – 18.00.

### GENEALOGICAL CENTRES

See **Brú Ború Cultural Centre B3** (page 34) and **Tipperary Excel Heritage Centre. Online Research Service** [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)

## ACTIVITIES



Clonmel Town Centre

- |               |                                |                |                  |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 01 West Gate  | 04 Town Hall                   | 06 Post Office | 08 Swimming Pool |
| 02 Main Guard | 05 South Tipperary Arts Centre | 07 Library     | 09 County Museum |
| 03 Friary     |                                |                |                  |

ACTIVITIES



REGINALDS TOWER

# Waterford

From its vibrant city life, to the rural charm of inland towns and villages, to its stunning coastline, **Waterford has something for everyone.**

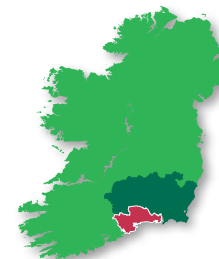
Waterford City, the oldest city in Ireland, is the perfect blend of ancient and modern. Its collection of pubs, gourmet restaurants and excellent shops and boutiques, co-exist with medieval city walls, quaintly cobbled back streets and the grandeur of historic buildings still standing proud after more than a thousand years.

Waterford boasts an excellent choice of world-class visitor attractions from the spectacular Copper Coast Geopark, to Waterford's Viking Triangle, and of course, the new House of Waterford Crystal, renowned the world over for the craftsmanship of its master glass cutters.

Waterford's picturesque coastline, stretching the length of the county, is dotted with a string of lively towns including Tramore, Dunmore East and Dungarvan. Other coastal villages include Passage East, Stradbally and Ring, the centre of a thriving Irish speaking community.

For the adventurous there are plenty of water activities such as diving, kayaking, surfing, sailing and kite-surfing. To the west of the county, nestled close to the Comeragh Mountains, lie the pretty towns of Lismore, Cappoquin and Ballymacarbry along the Nire Valley.

This is a natural playground for equestrian, walking, angling, watersports and cycling holidays in a county that's ideal for holidays of all kinds.



## ACTIVITIES





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STRADBALLY



PASSAGE EAST

45

## Waterford city, towns and villages

With a choice between a cosmopolitan modern city, a cluster of seaside resorts and a mountainous hinterland, here are some towns and villages well worth a visit:

**Waterford City D2** is the capital of the South East and Ireland's oldest city with its historic heart "The Viking Triangle". Founded by the Vikings in 853, the history of this ancient port is maintained in its many remarkable buildings including Reginald's Tower and Christ Church Cathedral. Waterford is synonymous with hand-cut glass, and the new House of Waterford Crystal is the region's most popular tourist attraction. Built on the River Suir estuary, Waterford City remains a thriving port with great shopping, accommodation, quality gourmet restaurants and a mix of modern and traditional pubs. Waterford also hosts a colourful calendar of festivals throughout the year, including the Waterford Spraoi, Imagine Arts Festival, Waterford New Music Week and The Tall Ships Race returns to Waterford in 2011.

**Dunmore East D1** is a charming fishing port and seaside resort set into rugged coastline at the mouth of Waterford estuary. It's an unspoiled getaway full of silent coves, clean beaches, fine restaurants and accommodation. The popular annual Guinness Bluegrass Music Festival takes place here every August.

**Dungarvan C1** is a thriving market town and medieval port. The Dungarvan Museum recounts the history of the town and the 12th century motte and bailey at Gallows Hill survives to this day. There's lots to do in Dungarvan, from water sports and deep-sea fishing to fine dining and shopping.

With 5km of sandy beaches, **Tramore D2** is a popular family friendly resort, with activities from surfing, sailing and kayaking to cliff walking and golf. There are giant waterslides and indoor swimming pool at Splashworld and an Amusement Park opposite the promenade. The 18-hole Tramore Golf Club is located outside the town.

To the west of the county lies the seaside village of **Ardmore B1**. Originally a 5th century monastic settlement, founded by St Declan – a monk who preceded St Patrick in christianising the country, Ardmore is famous for its 12th century Round Tower, one of the finest examples of this type of structure in Ireland.

Located in a beautiful setting, the village of **Ballymacarbry B2** is the perfect spot from where to explore the Comeragh Mountains and scenic Nire Valley. Walking and game fishing are on offer, and these, along with quality guesthouse accommodation, make this an ideal rural retreat.

**Cappoquin B1** is a quiet market town in West Waterford at the head of the Blackwater River estuary. The area offers scenic walks and angling. The 18th century Cappoquin House and Gardens in the centre of the town are open to the public at set times and Tourin House and Gardens are open for visitors between April and September.

The beautiful town of **Lismore B1** was once home to a 6th century monastery sacked by the Vikings and was later developed as an estate town. Popular visitor attractions include the Lismore Heritage Centre and Lismore Castle Gardens. The 2011 Immrama Lismore Festival of Travel Writing takes place between 9th and 12th June. Just north of Lismore is The Vee, a wonderfully scenic spot at the foot of the Knockmealdown Mountains.

West of Waterford City lies **The Copper Coast C1**, one of the most scenic stretches of rugged coastline in Ireland. It passes through the villages of **Fenor, Annestown, Boatstrand, Bunmahon** and **Stradbally**, with **Dunhill** just inland. The Copper Coast European Geopark offers an excellent guided trail of the area. Inland is the quiet market town of **Kilmacthomas C2**, an ideal centre for setting out on walking tours of the Comeragh Mountains.

**Ring C1** or An Rinn in Irish, is a scenic Gaeltacht area south of Dungarvan where Irish (Gaeilge) is the first language of the people. Its people, beautiful scenery, seascape and above all its cultural vitality make Ring a unique place to visit.

**The South East Coastal Drive** offers stunning views of rock formation, coves and imposing headlands. The Waterford section of the drive from Passage and Dunmore East in the east takes in the towns of Tramore, Dungarvan and many smaller villages until it reaches Ardmore in the west.

For more information on all of Waterford's towns and villages, visit one of our Discover Ireland Centres or Tourist Information Offices (see the inside back cover for contact details) or our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES

# Visitor Attractions



## House of Waterford Crystal D2 🌿1km 🚶🚴🦽

The Mall, Waterford City.  
Tel: 051 317000  
www.waterfordvisitorcentre.com  
Sat Nav: 52.260304,-7.106609

Waterford Crystal has moved to a magnificent new home in the heart of Waterford City. The highlight of any visit, the Factory Tour gives you an up close and personal

insight into the centuries old tradition of Waterford Crystal making. You will feel the heat of the furnace and marvel at the skills of our craftsmen. Our lavish Retail Store houses the largest worldwide collection of Waterford Crystal.

**Open: Jan – Feb:** Factory Tour: Mon – Fri: 9.30 – 15.15, Retail Store: Mon – Sat: 9.30 – 17.00, **March:** Factory Tour: Sat: 9.00 – 15.15, Sun: 10.00 – 15.15. Retail Store: Mon – Sat: 9.00 – 17.00, Sun: 10.00 – 17.00. **April – Oct:** Factory Tour: Mon – Sat: 9.00 – 16.15, Sun: 10.00 – 16.15. Retail Store: Mon – Sat: 9.00 – 18.00, Sun: 10.00 – 18.00. **Nov. & Dec:** Factory Tour: Mon – Fri: 10.00 – 15.15. Retail Store: Mon – Fri: 10.00 – 16.30.

Opening hours may be subject to change, please check our website for updates.

**Admission:** Adult: €11.50, Senior/Student: €8.50, Child: 6 – 18yrs €4, Child under 5 free of charge, Family: €29.50. Group rate: €8 p.p.



## Bishop's Palace and Gardens D2 🚶🚴

The Mall, Waterford City.  
Tel: 051 304500  
www.waterfordtreasures.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.26012,-7.106566

Opening June 2011. The Bishop's Palace is a museum of Waterford Treasures from 1700 to the 20th century and gives visitors a wonderful insight into the

history of what was up to 1750s, Ireland's second city. The gardens surrounding the Bishop's Palace are based on a design by the celebrated gardener Diarmuid Gavin. Waterford city boasts the finest collection of 18th century architecture of any city in Ireland outside of Dublin, and its legacy from the period is its elegant architecture, silverware and of course fine glassmaking. A must-see attraction in the heart of Waterford's Viking Triangle.

**Open:** Daily; Monday – Saturday, 9.00 – 18.00, Sunday, 10.00 – 18.00. (Closed Christmas Day, St. Stephen's Day & New Year's Day.)

**Admission:** Adult: €5, Concession: €3. Group rates available.

🌿 Walking distance from Waterford Tourist Office

## Viking Exhibition at Reginald's Tower D2 🌿0.9km

The Mall, Waterford City.  
Tel: 051 304220  
www.waterfordtreasures.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.260258,-7.105032

Reginald's Tower is home to a major new exhibition of Waterford Treasures that, using a superb collection of historic and archaeological artefacts, tells the story of Waterford's Viking heritage. Reginald's Tower is a circular defence tower at the apex of Waterford's historic Viking Triangle, which was built at the beginning of the 13th century. At various stages in its rich history, Reginald's Tower has been used as a mint, prison and military store.

**Open:** Daily; Easter – May, 10.00 – 17.00, June – mid Sept, 10.00 – 18.00, mid Sept – Easter, Wed – Sun 10.00 – 17.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Child/Student: €1, Family: €8. Limited access for people with disabilities to ground floor only.



## Christ Church Cathedral D2 🌿0.8km 🚶🚴🦽

Waterford City. Tel: 051 858 958  
www.christchurchwaterford.com  
Sat Nav: 52.260501,-7.107575

Christ Church Cathedral has been at the heart of Waterford City since the 10th Century when the Vikings built the first Church on the site. The restored and refurbished cathedral is a magnificent 18th Century building designed by Waterford's own John Roberts. The building is steeped in the heritage and history of Waterford with medieval tombs, memorial wall plaques, and beautiful stucco plasterwork ceilings. A regular programme of concerts and exhibitions takes place at the cathedral through out the year. Gift Shop and Café are available in the Cathedral.

**Open:** April – October, Monday – Friday 9.00 – 18.00, Saturday 10.00 – 16.00. Closed November – April but guided tours welcome by appointment.

**Admission:** Free of charge (donation is appreciated). Guided tours: Adult: €3, Family: €6, Group rates available.



## ACTIVITIES



### Waterford and Suir Valley Railway D2

Kilmeaden. Tel 051 384058  
www.wsvrailway.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.260593,-7.246857

The magic of rails golden age has been brought to life in Kilmeadan. Buy your tickets in a converted Irish Rail carriage. As you board the train the conductor will check your tickets, then blow the whistle and wave the green flag signalling the driver to set off on this exciting journey. Experience the beauty of the River Suir as you enjoy a 50 minute trip on a narrow gauge railway through the countryside. The carriages are partially open so bring your jacket. An enjoyable experience for all ages.

**Open:** April & Sept, Monday – Saturday: 11.00 – 15.00, Sunday: 12.00 – 16.00, May – August, Monday – Saturday: 11.00 – 16.00, Sunday: 12.00 – 17.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €8.50, Child: €4, Senior/Student: €7, Family: (2 Ad & 1 Ch): €19, €2 per extra child.



### Lismore Castle Gardens and Art Gallery B1

Lismore. Tel: 058 54424  
www.lismorecastle.com  
Contact: Mr Chris Tull  
Sat Nav: 52.140495,-7.934189

The Castle Gardens are set in seven acres within the 17th century outer defensive walls and have spectacular views of Lismore Castle. The west wing of the Castle has been converted into a contemporary Art Gallery. Although the Castle, which is now the Irish residence of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, is not open to the public, the beautiful Castle Gardens can be visited.

**Open:** Daily; March 17th – September 30th, 11.00 – 16.45.

**Admission:** Adult: €8 Senior/Child: €4.



### The Copper Coast UNESCO European Geopark C1

Monksland Centre, Knockmahon,  
Bunmahon Tel: 051 292828  
www.coppercoastgeopark.com  
Sat Nav: 52.143155,-7.365088

Discover the ancient story behind the formation of the rock, cliffs and inlets of this spectacular coastline. It is a place rich in mining heritage, geology and archaeology and home to the National Nature Reserve Fenor Bog. Visit the Geopark Information Point in Bunmahon for maps and brochures of the area, along with details of guided tours and workshops.

**Open:** Please phone for details. **Admission:** Voluntary contributions are appreciated.

### Edmund Rice Heritage Centre D2 0.9km

Mount Sion, Barrack Street, Waterford City  
Tel: 051 874 390 www.edmundrice.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.257651,-7.117209

Experience this new interactive museum and visitor centre dedicated to Edmund Rice. You will be immersed, through audio-visual and multi-media creations, in the history of Waterford in the 18th Century. Live the Edmund Rice story through an atmospheric and interactive experience; see where Christian and Presentation Brothers and their colleagues respond to the greatest needs in the World; and pray at the tomb of Edmund Rice in a new chapel named for him. Facilities includes ample parking, and a gift shop.

**Open:** Monday – Friday 9.00 – 17.00, Saturday 10.00 – 14.00.

Closed Sunday & Public Holidays.

**Admission:** Adult: €5, Child: €2, Student/Senior: €3, Family: €13.



### Lismore Heritage Centre B1

Lismore. Tel: 058 54975  
www.discoverlismore.com  
Sat Nav: 52.1773,-7.923889

Visit Lismore: one of Ireland's hidden treasures. In the shadow of a fairytale castle Lismore's picture book streets are steeped in stories. Built by monks and plundered by Vikings Lismore has been home to royalty and to Hollywood stars.

See 'The Lismore Experience' at Lismore Heritage Centre to discover the town past and present. Our Tourist Information Office will help you to get the most out of your trip. Browse for pretty gifts and mementos in The Craft Shop. Pick up a Family Fun Pack to entertain the whole family.

**Open:** All year; Mon – Friday 9.30 – 17.30, April – September, Saturday: 10.00 – 17.00, Sunday: 12.00 – 17.00. Closed For lunch, November – March: 13.00 – 14.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €5, Senior/Student: €4.50, Child: Free of charge, Group rate available on request.



## ACTIVITIES





50 KING JOHN'S CASTLE



WATERFORD COAST - METAL MAN 51

## ABBEYS, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS AND ROUND TOWERS

**Holy Trinity Cathedral D2** Barronstrand St, Waterford. 18th Century Cathedral designed by well known Waterford architect John Roberts. Open: All year.

**Round Tower B1** Ardmore. St. Declan founded the earliest Monastery here, prior to 432AD. The purpose of the Round Tower was to serve as a belfry and as a place of refuge for the ecclesiastics.

**Mount Melleray Abbey B2** Cappoquin. Tel: 058 54404. The first monastery founded in Ireland after the Reformation – visitors who wish to take time for quiet contemplation are welcomed.

**Dungarvan Castle C1** Castle Street, Dungarvan, Co Waterford. Tel: 058 48144 [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie) The castle consists of a polygonal shell keep with an enclosing curtain wall, a corner tower and a gate tower. The shell keep is the earliest structure, dating from the 12th century. The barracks is now restored and houses an informative exhibition on the history of the castle. **Open:** 26th May to 28th September, 2011, Daily, 10.00 – 18.00. Admission: Free of Charge.

**Ballysaggartmore Towers B1** Lismore. Gothic style buildings near Lismore surrounded by woodlands.

**St Carthagh's Cathedral B1** Lismore. Tel: 058 53285. Dedicated to St Carthagh, who founded the Lismore Monastery in 635AD. **Open:** All year 9.00 – 18.00 (summer time) and 9.00 – 16.00 (winter time). **Admission:** Free of charge – donations welcome.

## ART EXHIBITIONS/THEATRES

**Old Market House Arts Centre C1** Lower Main Street, Dungarvan. [www.waterfordcoco.ie](http://www.waterfordcoco.ie) Tel: 058 48944. One of Dungarvan's oldest buildings, hosting year round exhibitions by local, national and international artists. **Open:** Tuesday – Friday, 11.00 – 12.30, 1.30 – 17.00, Saturday 13.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Greyfriars Gallery, Greyfriars St. D2** Greyfriars St (off the Quay), Waterford City. Tel: 051 849 856/7. This late Victorian church functions as both a home for some of the municipal collection and as a base for national and international exhibitions. **Open:** Tuesday – Saturday, 11.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Garner Lane Art Centre and Gallery D2** 5 O'Connell Street, Waterford. Tel: 051 877153 [www.garnerlane.ie](http://www.garnerlane.ie) The gallery houses a year round programme of exhibitions, children's art and dance classes. The theatre, located at 22a O'Connell Street, presents a programme of theatre, music, film and dance. **Open:** Daily; Tuesday – Friday, 11.00 – 17.30, Saturday 11.00 – 15.00, (excluding Christmas and New Year).

**Pauline Bewick Art Exhibition D2** WIT (Walton Building), Cork Road, Waterford Tel: 051 302745 Permanent exhibition of renowned Seven Ages Collection.

**Open:** January – June, September – December, Monday – Thursday 8.30 – 21.30, Friday 8.30 – 18.00, Saturday 8.30 – 13.00. Closing times may vary, please phone in advance. Admission: Free of charge.

**Waterford Municipal Art at Theatre Royal D2** The Mall, Waterford Tel. 051 874402 [www.theatreroyal.ie](http://www.theatreroyal.ie) A large selection of beautiful and extraordinary artworks from the Waterford Municipal Art Collection is now on semi-permanent display in the public areas of the newly restored Theatre Royal. **Open:** Mon – Fri, 10.00 – 18.00, Sat. 12.00 – 17.00. Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays. Admission: Free of charge.

## CRAFT STUDIOS AND WORKSHOPS

**Ardmore Pottery and Craft Gallery B1** Ardmore. Tel: 024 94152 [www.ardmorepottery.com](http://www.ardmorepottery.com) Perched on the cliff top, this gallery stocks a range of hand thrown earthenware pots, assorted crafts and paintings of Irish design.

**Simply Irish Knitwear B1** Garranaspic, Kinsalebeg. Tel: 024 91642 [www.simplyirish.ie](http://www.simplyirish.ie) This knitwear and craft studio uses Celtic influences and natural fibres to produce top quality original designs. Member of Craft Council of Ireland.

**Kite Design Studios D2** 11 Henrietta Street, Waterford. Tel 051 858914 A unique visitor attraction, with on-site designers and craftspeople working in situ, selling high-end craft and art, including Sean Egan Art Glass, Bonzie romantic clothing and accessories, Stradbally Jewellery, designing jewellery inspired by their surroundings. Fine Art Printmaker, Anne McDonnell and Irish Handmade Glass, blowing and cutting unique glass pieces. Well worth a visit!

## ACTIVITIES



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WATERFORD COPPER COAST

**Comeragh Crystal C1** O'Connell St, Dungarvan. Tel: 058 48490.

Hand cut glassware personalised for any occasion while-u-wait.

**Open:** Monday – Saturday 9.30 – 17.30.

**Button & Co. Goldsmiths Ltd D2** Waterford. Tel 051 396663

www.buttonandco.com. A collection of Sterling Silver and Gold Jewellery handmade in Ireland. Our team of goldsmiths combine traditional goldsmithing techniques with the finest Sapphires and Diamonds to ensure each piece is expertly made.

## EXHIBITIONS & MUSEUMS

**Waterford County Museum C1** Old Town Hall, Dungarvan. Tel: 058 45 960.

www.waterfordcountymuseum.org The display depicts the history of Dungarvan and Co Waterford and features key area events, genealogy, maritime history and more. **Open:**

All year round, Monday – Friday, 10.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge.

## WILDLIFE & GARDENS

**Fenor Bog** – National Nature Reserve **C2** Fenor. Tel: 051 381 978. An alkaline fen, the swampy woodland and marsh habitats support diverse animal and birdlife, from dragonflies and butterflies to deer and otter. **Open:** All year. Access is through Fenor Church car park. Guided tours by appointment. Admission: Free of charge.

**Bilberry Goat Herd D2** Bilberry Goat Heritage Trust, c/o "Rockmount House", Gracedieu Road, Waterford. Tel 051 872234/ 087 0701147. The unique Bilberry Goats roamed the cliffs of Bilberry, which overlook the River Suir and the City of Waterford for approximately 300 years. The Trust was formed in 2000, to save the Herd from extinction and to conserve for future generations. Visiting by appointment.

**Mount Congreve Gardens D2** Kilmeaden. Tel: 051 384115/ 087 9713264. Mount Congreve has been designated a 'great garden of the world'. The gardens consist of 70 acres of intensely planted woodland and a four acre walled garden. The collection consists of over 3,000 different trees and shrubs. **Open:** April – Sept; Thursdays only 9.00 – 17.00. Admission: Free of charge. (Guided Group Tours; by appointment only €15 per person available all year).



WATERFORD QUAYS

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**Curraghmore Estate C2** Portlaw. Tel: 051 387101(Office)/051/387134 (Guide).

www.curraghmorehouse.ie The Estate has contained the home of the Marquis of Waterford and his ancestors since 1170. The garden includes an arboretum, some beautiful terraces designed by the various Lady Waterfords of the day and a bridge built for King John to cross the River Clodagh in 1205. A unique shell grotto was built and decorated by the Countess of Tyrone in 1754. **Open:** Easter to 15th October 10.00 – 16.00, Tues, Weds & Thurs, also 1st & 3rd Sunday, May, June, July.

Admission: House tour: €10, Shell House & Gardens: €5.

## GUIDED TOURS

**Waterford City Walking Tour D2** Tel: 051 873711. Jack Burtchaell's twice – daily, historic walking tour departs from the reception of the Discover Ireland Centre. This entertaining tour covers less than a mile of level ground, yet more than a millennium of this city's remarkable history. Operates: 11.45 and 13.45 Daily mid March to mid October. Other times for groups of 10 or more by prior arrangement. Charge applies.

**From Vikings to Victorians Walking Tour of Waterford City D2** Tel: 051 304500. Beginning at the plaza in front of the world-famous House of Waterford Crystal, this delightful tour will take you on a fascinating journey of a thousand years of history in a thousand paces. Step back in time as the story of Ireland's oldest city is revealed. Check Discover Ireland Centre for departure times. Charge applies.

## GENEALOGICAL CENTRE

**Waterford Heritage Services D2** Jenkins Lane, City Centre. Tel: 051 876123  
www.waterford-heritage.ie **Open:** Daily; Monday – Thursday, 9.00 – 13.00, 14.00 – 17.00, Friday 9.00 – 14.00.

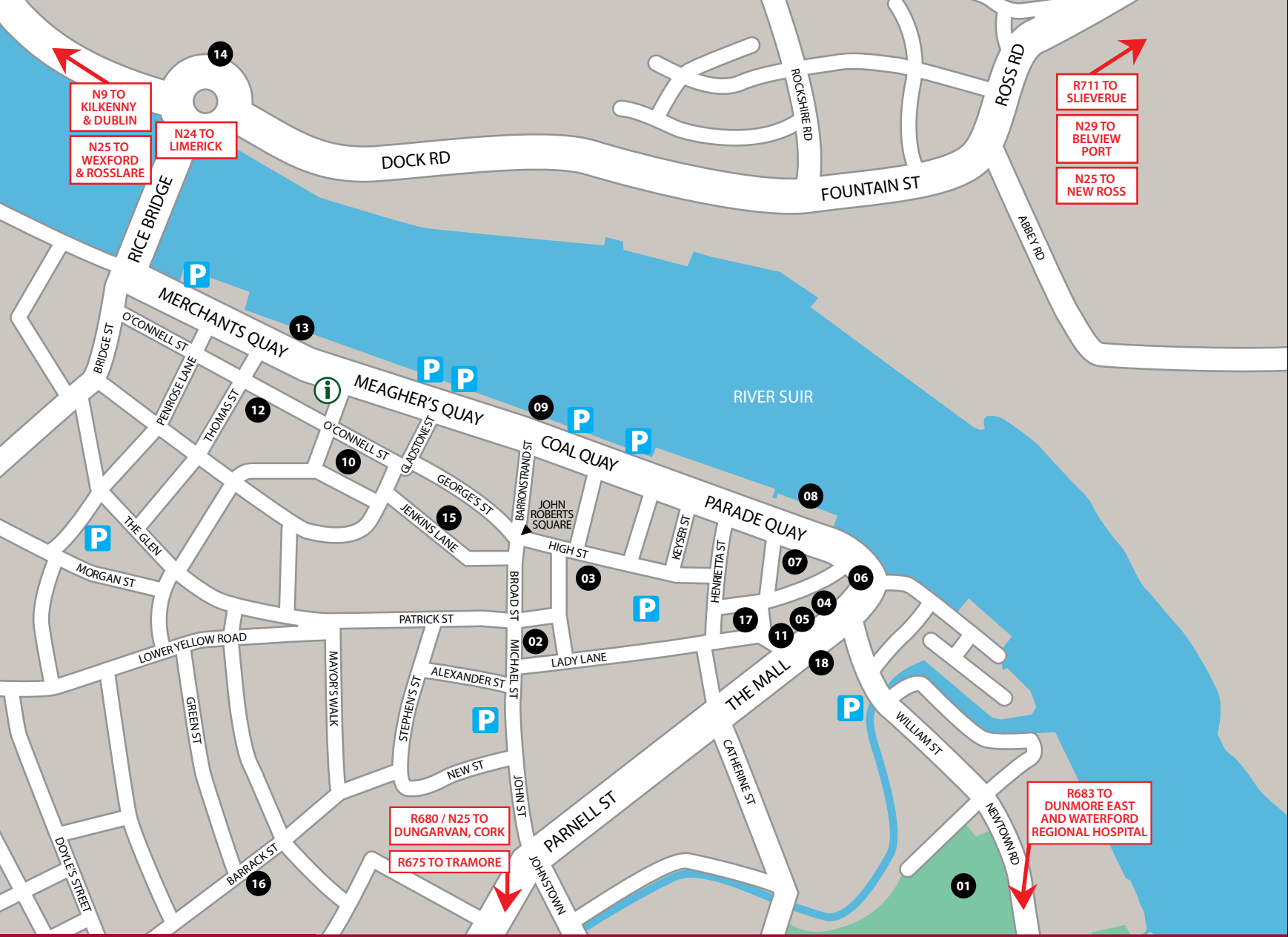
## LANGUAGE SCHOOLS – ACELS Approved

**Waterford English Language Centres D2** 31 John's Hill, Waterford.  
Tel: 051 877 288/ 087 2422651. Skype: welc 31. www.welc.ie. **Open:** Daily to 14.00.

**EFL Ireland D2** Waterpark College, Park Road, Waterford.  
Tel: 051 347 483/087 281 2010. www.efl-ireland.com

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITIES

Waterford City Centre

Tourist Information

- |                                |                          |                            |                               |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01 People's Park               | 06 Reginald's Tower      | 11 Bishop's Palace         | Heritage Centre               |
| 02 Library                     | 07 Greyfriars Gallery    | 12 Garter Lane Art Gallery | 17 Christ Church Cathedral    |
| 03 City Square Shopping Centre | 08 Waterford City Marina | 13 Bus Station             | 18 House of Waterford Crystal |
| 04 City Hall                   | 09 Clock Tower           | 14 Train Station           |                               |
| 05 Theatre Royal               | 10 Garter Lane Theatre   | 15 Genealogical Centre     |                               |
|                                |                          | 16 Edmund Rice             |                               |





## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

### ACTIVITIES

## Dungarvan Town Centre

- |                                    |                              |                 |                       |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 01 St. Vincent's District Hospital | 04 Library                   | 07 Cinema       | i Tourist Information |
| 02 Dungarvan Museum                | 05 Dungarvan Castle          | 08 Tennis Court |                       |
| 03 Dungarvan Arts Centre           | 06 Dungarvan Shopping Centre | 09 Walton Park  |                       |



JOHNSTOWN CASTLE

# Wexford

With a spectacular coastline, a wealth of historic sites and attractive towns and villages, it's little wonder that Wexford is a favourite holiday destination for visitors and locals alike.

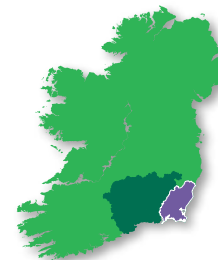
The county offers a mix of mountainous scenery, river valleys with fine fishing, and mile upon mile of fine, unspoiled beaches such as Courtown, Rosslare, Duncannon and Curragloe. The South East Coastal Drive is perhaps the best way to take in part of Wexford's 200 kilometres of stunning coastline.

Wexford is a historic county with bustling towns such as Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross and Wexford Town. It has many fascinating visitor attractions to choose from including the remarkable Hook Lighthouse, the Irish National Heritage Park, the "living history" of the Dunbrody Heritage Ship, Irish American Museum and the Ros Tapestry in New Ross, the Irish Agricultural Museum at Johnstown Castle Estate. Wexford is also home to the new state of the art venue – The Wexford Opera House. Wexford is a county of spectacular parks and gardens, such as The John F Kennedy Arboretum – ideal for a family walk and picnic. It is also world renowned for the diverse range of bird-life that inhabits and passes through its nature reserves.

A full calendar of events, including the world famous Wexford Festival Opera and Wexford Fringe Festival, the Co. Wexford Strawberry Festival and the Duncannon Sand Sculpting Festival, ensures there's always something fun to see and do.



Wexford The Model County



## ACTIVITIES





60 WEXFORD TOWN



IRISH AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM 61

## Wexford towns and villages

The towns and villages of Wexford are full of character. Here are some places that you are sure to enjoy:

Dating back to the 2nd Century, **Wexford F2** is a lively town with winding streets, a pretty quayside and an array of pubs, cafes and fine restaurants. It's a shopper's paradise with an excellent range of shops, from small boutiques to craft shops with unique hand crafted goods. Places of interest just outside the town include the Irish National Heritage Park, The Irish Agricultural Museum and the Wexford Wildfowl Reserve. The town hosts a colourful calendar of events throughout the year, including the world famous Wexford Festival Opera which takes place in October. Within easy reach of many fine beaches, coastal drives and walks, Wexford is the ideal base to explore the county and region.

**Rosslare Strand F2** is a popular Blue Flag seaside resort with quality self-catering accommodation and great watersports, golf and walking trails. **Rosslare Harbour F2** is a small yet busy port town providing passenger ferry services to Wales and northern France. To the south, **Carnsore Point F2** and **Lady's Island F2** are noted for bird watching, good beaches and many historic sites.

**New Ross D3** is a thriving town set in rich rolling countryside on the mouth of the River Barrow. New Ross is home to the Dunbrody Famine Ship, a recreation of the actual 19th century timber-built ship on which actors re-enact the hardships of transatlantic crossings of the 1840s. New Ross is also the ancestral birthplace of John F. Kennedy, and five generations of the Kennedy clan are celebrated at the Kennedy Homestead. A life sized statue of John F. Kennedy has recently been unveiled on the quayside in New Ross. Also in New Ross, The Ros Tapestry exhibition is well worth a visit.

South of New Ross, the Ring of Hook Drive takes visitors along a scenic coast road through **Ballyhack, Arthurstown, Duncannon, Campile D2** and **Fethard on Sea E2**, taking in some of the county's finest heritage sites along the way.

**Enniscorthy E3** is a cathedral town on the River Slaney overlooked by the 1798 Vinegar Hill battle site. An early Norman settlement, Enniscorthy is dominated by the town's Castle built in 1205. The National 1798 Rebellion Centre in the town

gives an insight into the birth of modern democracy in Ireland. The colourful Co. Wexford Strawberry Fair is held in the town every year. Enniscorthy also boasts a strong tradition in the creation of craft and quality pottery.

To the north, **Ferns F4** is a pretty village with a long and fascinating history. Ferns Castle stands a shattered fortress which was built by the Normans in the 13th century. The village also features a 12th century Abbey and four high crosses, dating back to the 8th and 9th centuries.

Further north, **Gorey F4** is a thriving market town with striking architecture from the 18th and mid-19th centuries. This is an excellent base from where to explore the outlying countryside of Wexford and Wicklow. There's also great golf at a number of courses including the Seafeld Golf and Country Club.

**Bunclody E4** is a pretty market town at the foot of the Blackstairs Mountains, bordered by the sweeping River Slaney. Bunclody offers angling and canoeing facilities and is a good base for cycling and walking tours.

Just a few miles north of Wexford Town, **Curracloe F3** has a celebrated Blue Flag beach, and is a popular location with holiday makers. It was also the location for the film 'Saving Private Ryan'. **Blackwater F3** and **Kilmuckridge F3** are seaside towns with good self-catering and camping facilities. Further north, **Courtown F4** is a popular holiday resort, with a beautiful Blue Flag beach. With miles of sandy seafont, Courtown offers a wide variety of leisure facilities for all the family, such as Forest park Leisure Centre, not to mention walking routes, local amusements and quality self-catering accommodation.

On Wexford's south coast, **Kilmore Quay E2** is a pretty fishing village with whitewashed thatched houses, a harbour and marina. This well renowned angling centre is a popular destination for visitors and is a sea angling centre of excellence. Boat trips can be taken around the uninhabited Saltee Islands, popular with bird watchers. To the north of Kilmore Quay, the village of **Foulksmills E2** is surrounded by lush countryside and dotted with pleasant walking trails.

For more information on all of Wexford's towns and villages, visit one of our Discover Ireland Centres and Tourist Offices (see the inside back cover for contact details) or our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

For a variety of one day self drive tours see page 74.

## ACTIVITIES



# Visitor Attractions



## Dunbrody Famine Ship D3 ↑↑↑

South Quay, New Ross. Tel: 051 425239  
www.dunbrody.com  
Sat Nav: 52.39781,-6.945934

The visitor experience provides a unique insight into a period of history which shaped modern day Ireland and America. You will follow in the footsteps of a group of Famine emigrants as you board the Dunbrody. A ticket is issued as if it were

1849, and this ticket allocates your space, and food rations for the voyage ahead. You will then explore the ship, fitted out exactly as it would be for a voyage. You will encounter actors, playing the role of emigrants, in their cramped quarters. This authentic recreation... with its actors, sound effects and smells, will transport you back in time... leaving a lasting impression.

**Open:** Daily; April – September: 9.00 – 18.00, October – March: 9.00 – 17.00. Closed, December 24th – 26th. **Admission:** Adult: €7.50, Child/Student: €4.50, Senior: €6, Family: €20 (2 adults & 3 children).



## Hook Lighthouse Visitor Centre D1 ↑↑↑

Hook Head, Fethard-on-Sea, New Ross. Tel: 051 397 055. www.hookheritage.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.146973,-6.925507

### LIGHT UP YOUR DAY

Marking the Entrance to Waterford Harbour at the mouth of the three sisters river system for over 800 years. The Visitor centre at Hook Lighthouse offers guided tours of the lighthouse tower,

a 13th Century Norman structure. Your Tour Guide will take you through the lighthouse with fascinating insights, stories and facts of this unique building, culminating with the spectacular view from the balcony.

**Open:** Daily; 9.30 – 17.00, last tour 16.00, November – February, 9.30 – 18.00, last tour 17.00, March – October.

**Admission:** Adult: €6, Child: (5 to 16) €3.50, (under age 5 free of charge) Senior/Student: €4.50, Family: €18.

Wheelchair access to Visitor Centre but not to lighthouse tower.

## Irish National Heritage Park F2 ↑↑↑

Ferrycarrig. Tel: 053 9120733  
www.inhp.com  
Sat Nav: 52.356732,-6.516266

The Irish National Heritage Park occupies 35 acres and has 16 archaeological and historical reconstructions all located in their natural settings. From campsite to Ringfort, from mill to Fulacht Fiadh, from Crannog to Viking house, every activity is an unexpected adventure into 9000 years.

**Open:** May – August 9.30 – 18.30, September – April 9.30 – 17.30.

**Admission:** Adult: €8, Family: €20, Senior/Student: €6.50, Child (4 – 12 yrs): €4.



## Irish Agricultural Museum F2 ↑↑↑

Johnstown Castle Estate. Murntown. Tel: 053 9184671/053 9171247  
www.irishagrimuseum.ie  
Sat Nav: 52.29331,-6.501846

Located in the old farm and stable buildings of Johnstown Castle estate the Museum explores Irish country life from the 18th to mid 20th Century and showcases 18 exhibitions. Farming and rural life are the main themes explored, other exhibitions include Village Crafts, Country Kitchens, and "The Great Famine." The Peacock tearoom is open from May – September.

**Open:** 1st April – 31st October, Mon – Fri: 9.00 – 17.00, Sat, Sun, Bank hols 11.00 – 17.00. 1st November – 31st March, Mon – Fri: 9.00 – 17.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €6, Group: €5, Student: €4, Child: €4, Family: €20.



## Ros Tapestry D3 ↑

Priory Court, The Quay, New Ross. Tel: 051 445396  
www.rosapestry.com  
Sat Nav: 52.392442,-6.948638

A Classic exhibition centre featuring the Ros Tapestry, a series of tapestries depicting a dramatic presentation of the Norman experience in Ireland. The Ros Tapestry is a must-see national treasure.

**Open:** Daily; 17th March – 30th October 9.30 – 18.00.

**Admission:** Adult: €6, Senior: €5, Child/Student: €4.



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES



### The Wexford Wildfowl Reserve F2

North. North Slob Ardcavan.  
Tel: 053 91 23406.  
[www.wexfordwildfowlreserve.ie](http://www.wexfordwildfowlreserve.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.359667,-6.436701

Ireland's premier wildfowl reserve, the Wexford Slob and Harbour are a natural haven for birds. Home to large flocks of

geese, ducks and wading birds during the winter, as many as 8,000 (1/3 of the world's total population) Greenland White-Fronted Geese come here for the winter. There are hides and other facilities for bird watching as well as guided tours, on request.

**Open:** Daily 9.00 – 17.00. Closed on Christmas Day.  
Entrance gates to car park are locked at 17.00.



### The National 1798 Rebellion Centre E3

Enniscorthy. Tel: 053 9237596  
Sat Nav: 52.505773,-6.566734

This award-winning centre offers a fascinating insight into the birth of modern democracy in Ireland. The family friendly centre tells the epic and heroic tale of the 1798 Rebellion and its aftermath using

the latest multimedia and interactive computers and an audiovisual presentation.

**Open:** Daily; 23rd April – 31st August, Monday – Friday: 9:30 – 17.00, Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays: 12:00 – 17.00. Rest of year, Monday – Friday: 9:30 – 17.00. **Admission:** Adult: €6, Child (over 7yrs), Student/Senior: €3.50, Family: (2 + 2) €16.



### John F. Kennedy Arboretum D3

New Ross. Tel: 051 388171  
[www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.335339,-6.932373

Dedicated to the memory of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of the United States from 1960 – 1963, the arboretum is a plant collection of

international standing. Facilities include Audio Visual Presentation, exhibitions, picnic area, Tearoom (seasonal), play area and signposted walks.

**Open:** Daily; Oct – March: 10.00 – 17.00, April, 10.00 – 18.30, May – August, 10.00 – 20.00, September: 10.00 – 18.30. (Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day).  
**Admission:** Adult: €3, Group/Senior: €2, Child/Student: €1, Family: €8.

### Johnstown Castle Gardens F2

Johnstown Castle Estate.  
Tel: 053 9184671/053 9171247  
[www.irishagrilmuseum.ie](http://www.irishagrilmuseum.ie)  
Sat Nav: 52.309318,-6.503906

The garden consists of an exquisite Victorian castle set within 50 acres of ornamental grounds. The architect Daniel Robertson designed both Johnstown castle gardens and Powerscourt gardens. The grounds contain a wide variety of trees and shrubs representing the best aspects of a formal and wild garden. The grounds are greatly enhanced by 2 lakes with folly towers and are populated with a wide range of waterfowl.

**Open:** Daily; 9.00 – 17.00. **Admission:** Charges apply from 1st May – 31st September: Car: €6, Small Coach: €20, Large Coach: €30.



### Duncannon Military Fort and Fortifications D2

Duncannon. New Ross. Tel: 051 389454.  
[www.duncannonfort.com](http://www.duncannonfort.com)  
Sat Nav: 52.222647,-6.930485

Duncannon Fort built in 1588 one of only four Military Fort's in the Country built on a strategically important promontory in Waterford Harbour. Now a Visitor Centre preserving this ancient monument for posterity. The Fort is noted for its dry moat, exterior walls, lower gun battery and ramparts.

**Open:** Daily; June – Sept: 10.00 – 17.30. Rest of year by appointment.  
**Admission:** Adult: €5, Child / Senior: €3, Family: €12, Group rates available.



### Kennedy Homestead D2

Dunganstown, New Ross.  
Tel: 051 388264  
[www.kennedyhomestead.com](http://www.kennedyhomestead.com)  
Sat Nav: 52.415823,-6.947479

The Kennedy Homestead, birthplace of President John F. Kennedy's great grandfather, celebrates the story of this famous Irish American family. The visitor experience is set in the original farmyard and incorporates a unique guided tour, an audio-visual display and a photographic exhibition. Shop, picnic area and parking.

**Open:** May, June and Sept: Mon – Fri 11.30 – 16.30, July & August: Daily; 10.00 – 17.00. **Admission:** Adult: €5, Child: €2.50, Senior: €3.50, Family (2 Adults & 3 Children): €14.



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES



66 IRISH SEAL SANCTUARY, COURTTOWN



ENNISCORTHY CASTLE 67

## ABBEYS, CATHEDRALS AND ROUND TOWERS

**Dunbrody Abbey Visitor Centre D2** Campile. Tel: 051 388603.

[www.dunbrodyabbey.com](http://www.dunbrodyabbey.com) A Cistercian Abbey founded in 1210 AD. Close by are the ruins of Dunbrody Castle which houses a craft shop, a hedge maze, walks, picnic area, small museum, pitch & putt course and tearooms. **Open:** Daily; Mid May – mid Sept, 11.00 – 17.00. Admission: Maze & Golf: Adult: €6, Child: €3, Family: €15. Abbey: Adult: €2, Child: €1, Family: €5.

**Saint Aidan's Cathedral E3** Enniscorthy. Tel: 053 9235777. [www.puginireland.com](http://www.puginireland.com) Designed by the English Architect, AW Pugin, the cathedral was restored to its original Pugin splendour in 1994.

**Our Lady's Island F2** Rosslare. [www.ourladysisland.com](http://www.ourladysisland.com) Highlights include an ancient monastery dedicated to Our Lady, the ruins of the Augustinian Priory and a Norman tower. The island is the site of a pilgrimage held annually in August.

**Tintern Abbey E2** Saltmills, New Ross. Tel: 051 562650 or 056 7724623 (off season). A Cistercian abbey, founded c. 1200 by William, the Earl Marshall, and named after Tintern in Wales. The remains consist of nave, chancel, tower, chapel and cloister. It was partly converted into living quarters after 1541, and further adapted over the centuries. The Abbey was occupied by the Colclough family from the 16th century until the 1960's. **Open:** Daily; 19th May to 28th September, 10.00 – 18.00. Admission: Adult: €3, Senior/Group: €2, Child/Student: €1, Family: €8.

**Selskar Abbey F2** West Gate, Wexford Town. Tel: 053 9146506. Alexander de la Roche founded and endowed the monastery at Selskar in 1190. This site was previously a temple dedicated to Odin, who was the chief god of the Norse's Valhalla (Heaven).

## ART GALLERIES & CRAFT STUDIOS

**The Cockleshell Gallery D2** Duncannon. Tel: 051 389990. Located at Duncannon Fort, also offering art classes and workshops. **Open:** March – Dec; Tuesday – Friday, Sunday and Bank Holidays, 10.00 – 13.00 and 14.00 – 17.00.

**Wexford Town Arts Centre F2** Wexford Town. Tel: 053 9123764/053 9124544. [www.wexfordartscentre.ie](http://www.wexfordartscentre.ie) Provides year-round programme of exhibitions, plays, concerts, film, lectures and workshops. **Open:** All year, Tuesday – Saturday, 10.00 – 18.00.

**Greenacres Art Gallery F2** Selskar, Wexford Town. Tel: 053 9122575

[www.greenacres.ie](http://www.greenacres.ie) With five exhibitions a year, this a great place to spend time viewing the artwork on display. **Open:** Monday – Saturday 9.30 – 18.00, Sunday 12.00 – 17.00.

**The Pigyard Gallery F2** 13 Selskar Street, Wexford; Tel: (053) 912 2019

[www.pigyardgallery.com](http://www.pigyardgallery.com) Located at the rear of Spectrum Art & Framing. Ireland's finest contemporary artists feature in a varied programme of exhibitions.

**Paul Maloney Pottery F2** Ballindinas, Bantown. Tel: 053 912 0188

[www.paulmaloneypottery.com](http://www.paulmaloneypottery.com) Finely crafted tableware, giftware and oil paintings by Paul at his studio/shop and gallery. **Open:** All year, Mon – Sat 9.30 – 17.30.

**Honeycomb Craft Studio F2** Drinagh. Tel: 053 915 8388/087 656 9244.

Contact Bettina Meyler. Creative craft classes for adults and children including batik, sandart, fabric paint, beads and screen printing.

**Bellefield Design E3** Enniscorthy. Tel: 053 9236294. [www.cwcwe.ie](http://www.cwcwe.ie) Craft & gift shop. Top quality picture framing service available. **Open:** All year, Monday – Saturday 9.00 – 18.00 (except Bank Holidays).

**Kiltrea Bridge Pottery E3** Kiltrea. Tel: 053 923 5107 Fax: 053 923 4690

[www.kiltreapottery.com](http://www.kiltreapottery.com) Visit the pottery to see award winning craftsmanship at first hand. **Open:** Seasonal opening hours, please ring for details.

**Ballyelland Pottery F3** The Old Mill, Castlebridge. Tel: 053 9159930.

[www.ballyellandpottery.ie](http://www.ballyellandpottery.ie) The shop and working studio is located at the 19th century millwheel in Castlebridge. Adult & children classes (for classes, call for details).

**Dunbrody Textile Academy D3** Wexford/New Ross area. Tel: 053 913 4479

A must for textile enthusiasts, offering workshops, courses and demonstrations from September – May.

## CASTLES, HISTORIC BUILDINGS & FIELD MONUMENTS

**Ballyhack Castle E4** Ballyhack. Tel: 051 389468. [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie)

The castle is thought to have been built in the 15th century by the Knights Hospitallers of St. John. **Open:** Daily; 23rd June – 24th August, 10.00 – 18.00.

Admission: Free of charge.

## ACTIVITIES





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WEXFORD FESTIVAL OPERA



COURTOWN

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**Ferns Castle F4** Ferns. Tel: 053 9366411. [www.heritageireland.ie](http://www.heritageireland.ie) Early 13th century Norman fortification. Access to the tower is by guided tour only. **Open:** Daily; 26th May – 28th September, 10.00 – 18.00. Admission: Free of charge.

**Tacumshane Windmill F2** Tacumshane Broadway. Tel: 053 913 1700. Contact Teresa Meyler. Built in 1846, the mill was used until 1936 and was renovated in the 1950s.

**Oulart Hill F3** From this elevated location you can see a series of commemorative stones which have been installed, one in respect of each 1798 battle site.

**Statue of Commodore Barry F2** Crescent Quay, Wexford Town. The Father of the American Navy.

**Brown Clayton's Folly E4** Carrigbyrne. Locally known as the 'Pinnacle' and measuring 28.5 meters high, this is a replica of Pompei's Alexandrian column, built in 1839 in memory of Sir Ralph Abercromby.

**Enniscorthy Castle – A View from the Keep E3** Recently renovated and refurbished, Enniscorthy Castle explores the development of the castle and town from its earliest Anglo-Norman origins, (12th Century) to the present day. The roof is also accessible, with spectacular views of the surrounding buildings, Vinegar Hill, and countryside. **Open:** Weekdays: 9.30 – 17.00, Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays, 12.00 – 17.00. Admission: FREE for initial period.

## EXHIBITIONS, MUSEUMS & ENTERTAINMENT

**Wexford Opera House F2** High Street, Wexford. Tel: 053 912 2400. 2400 (General Office), 053 912 2144 (Box Office) [www.wexfordoperahouse.ie](http://www.wexfordoperahouse.ie) The Sky View Café is open from 10.00 – 16.00, Monday – Saturday. Enjoy breathtaking views of Wexford Harbour while sampling our delicious menu. Contact the box office for all event details.

**Fr. Murphy Centre F3** 8 Boolavogue, Ferns Tel: 053 936 6898. Tel: 086 0608750. [www.boolavogue.info](http://www.boolavogue.info) Farm memorabilia, Wexford folklore exhibition and Garden of Remembrance. Facilities include tea room, craft shop, picnic area & a childrens playground. **Open:** Daily; April – October, 10.00 – 17.00. Admission applies.

**Ballymore Historic Museum F4** Ballymore House, Camolin, Enniscorthy. Tel 053 938 3189. [www.ballymorehistoricfeatures.com](http://www.ballymorehistoricfeatures.com) Family run museum, including picture gallery, farm display and 1798 exhibition. **Open:** Sunday only; 3rd May – 29th June, 14.00 – 18.00. Friday, Saturday, Sunday; July – 6th September, 14.00 – 18.00. Bank Holiday: 12.00 – 18.00. Admission: Adult: €6, Child under 14 years: €3.

**Craanford Mills F4** Craanford, Gorey. Tel: 053 9428124/087 968 3526. Restored 17th century corn-grinding watermill, visitors can view interpretive data and explanatory exhibits. **Open:** Daily; June – August, 11.00 – 17.00, September: weekends only. Admission: Adult: €5, Child: Free of charge.

**County Wexford Storytelling Houses F2** [www.storiesfromtheearth.ie](http://www.storiesfromtheearth.ie) Monday – Friday. 9.30 – 17.30. Storytelling Houses are almost unique to County Wexford. There are eight Houses now in operation throughout the County. The Houses run on a weekly basis throughout the year. Check website for house location, dates and times. Admission is free and all are welcome.

**Carrigbyrne Mini Farm D3** Carrigbyrne, New Ross. Tel: 051 420988/087 2949164 See our range of animals and farm fowl, enjoy our playgrounds and walks and finish it all off with refreshments in our coffee shop or bring your own picnic and dine al fresco. **Open:** May – September 11.30 – 18.00, April & October, weekends only, December Santa's Village. Admission: €5 per person.

## TOURS

**Wexford Walking Tours F2** Tel: 086 107 949 7 (Monica)/087 917 517 1 (Siobhan) [www.wexfordwalkingtours.com](http://www.wexfordwalkingtours.com) History happened in all weathers, so do our tours! Tours: Mon – Sat, March – October, 11.00. Meeting Point: Wexford Tourist Office. Price: €4 each per tour. Duration: 90mins.

**Hook Head Safaris D1** Tel: 051 389634/086 8034895 [www.hookheadsafaris.com](http://www.hookheadsafaris.com) Hook Head Safaris is a high quality tourist experience presenting the wonderful scenic expanses of the Hook peninsula, its lighthouse and a range of significant heritage sites. Operates: April – November. Cost: Adult: €25, Senior/Student/Child: €22, Family: €85 (two adults & two children).

**Galley Cruising Restaurant D3** The Quay, New Ross. Tel: 051 421723 [www.rivercruises.ie](http://www.rivercruises.ie) Ireland's Most Scenic River Cruises with World Famous Cuisine. Fully licensed, it is an ecological and gourmet treat. BOOKING ESSENTIAL.

## GENEALOGICAL SERVICE

**Online Research Service** [www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie)

## LANGUAGE SCHOOL – ACELS/MEI RELSA

**Slaney Language Centre F2** Kinshella Castle, Ferrycarrig. Tel: 053 912 0881 [www.wexford-language.com](http://www.wexford-language.com). **Open:** 9.30 – 15.30.

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES

All website & email links are live.



ACTIVITIES

Wexford Town Centre

- |                        |                               |                             |                             |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 01 Wexford GAA Grounds | 05 Wexford Opera House        | 09 Wexford Arts Centre      | 13 Railway Station          |
| 02 St. Peter's College | 06 John Barry Memorial Statue | 10 Wexford Bullring         | 14 Wexford General Hospital |
| 03 Bride Street Church | 07 Rowe Street Church         | 11 Westgate Heritage Centre | i Tourist Information       |
| 04 The Friary          | 08 St. Iberious Church        | 12 Library                  |                             |



72 CURRACLOE BEACH



CLONEA BEACH 73

# Beaches in the South East Region

The South East Region is blessed with a fantastic coastline, consisting of a geo-park, copper mines, cliffs and numerous beaches to choose from, these include 6 Blue Flag beaches (Year 2010).

The International Blue Flag programme is operated in Ireland by An Taisce with the support of the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government and on behalf of the Foundation for Environmental Education. Each location meets a range of environmental and safety criteria which collectively represent a high level of environmental quality.



The **Blue Flag** is an international, voluntary eco-label for beaches and marinas and is awarded to beaches and marinas that meet a specific set of criteria: Environmental information & education, water quality, safety & services and environmental management.

The following is a listing of Blue Flag Beaches in the Region:

### County Waterford

- > **Dungarvan:** Clonea
- > **Waterford:** Bunmahon

### County Wexford

- > **Courtown:** Courtown
- > **Curraclloe:** Curraclloe
- > **Kilmuckridge:** Morriscastle
- > **Rosslare:** Rosslare



**Green Coast Awards** are awarded to beaches for their natural beauty, clean environment and water quality. These beaches may not have the necessary built infrastructure as to meet criteria set for Blue Flag status; however Green Coast Award beaches are exceptional places to visit and to enjoy our rich coastal heritage and diversity.

### Green Coast Beaches

#### County Waterford

- > **Annestown**
- > **Ballyquin**
- > **Boatstrand Beach**
- > **Goat Island**
- > **Guillamene Cove**

#### County Wexford

- > **Ballinesker**
- > **Cahore Beach**
- > **Culleton's Gap**
- > **Old Bawn**

For more information on the Blue Flag please contact:



**An Taisce:** Tel: 01 4002210.  
Email: [blueflag@antaisce.org](mailto:blueflag@antaisce.org) Web: [www.beachawards.ie](http://www.beachawards.ie)

## ACTIVITIES



# Touring Routes

We have chosen some great driving routes which will introduce you to many of the region's most famous sights and attractions and also to lesser known gems.

*Please note that the length and recommended time of drives are approximate, depending on number of sites visited along routes and time spent there. Routes can be travelled in any direction and from any starting point, map illustrations are intended as a guide only, and routes should be used in conjunction with reference to a good road map of Ireland.*



## KILKENNY TIPPERARY HERITAGE ROUTE

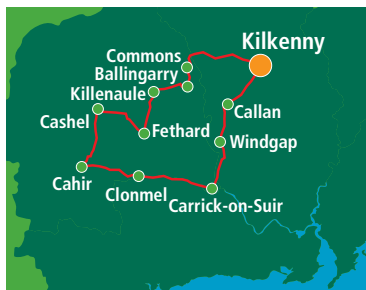
### Route 1: Kilkenny » Cahir » Cashel » Kilkenny

Distance: 177 km (109 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day  
(or 2 with an overnight stay)

From the historic city of **Kilkenny**, with its many visitor attractions take the N76, branching off onto the R691 for Cashel. Continue to the town of **Ballingarry**, the scene of the Young Irelanders rising in 1848, and take time to travel a short distance north to The Commons, a small settlement with many memorials to sporting, musical and patriotic natives of the area.

Travel back towards Ballingarry & the R691, and continue towards **Killenaule**, branching south on the R689 to the old walled town of **Fethard**. From here continue towards the historic town of **Cashel** once the seat of the Kings of Munster and home of the mighty Rock of Cashel.

From Cashel, drive south along the R639 (or alternatively the M8) to **Cahir** where the magnificent 13th century Cahir Castle sits on an island in the River Suir. A nearby attraction is the Swiss Cottage. Take the N24 to **Clonmel**, a bustling town, and Carrick-on-Suir, home to the Dove Hill Craft Outlet, and the Elizabethan Ormonde Castle in the village. Head north from **Carrick-on-Suir** on the R697 back towards Kilkenny to see the ancient high cross at Ahenny, walk one of the looped trails at **Castlemorris**, visit the Famine Memorial Garden at **Newmarket**, and visit the remains of a 12th century priory at **Kells**.

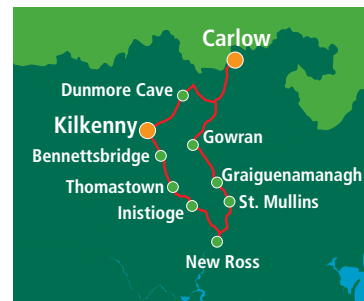


## NORE VALLEY AND BARROW RIVER ROUTE

### Route 2: Carlow » Kilkenny » New Ross » Carlow

Distance: 158 km (97 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day  
(or 2 with an overnight stay)

Leave **Carlow** Town heading west over Graiguecullen Bridge and drive through the scenic Killeshin area (R430). Continue towards Castlecomer turning left onto the N78. Visit the **Castlecomer Discovery Park** on approach to the village. Continue along the N78 towards Kilkenny to visit **Dunmore Cave** and onwards to **Kilkenny City**, Ireland's Medieval Capital where medieval buildings and attractively covered slipways are only some of the historical features on offer. Visit the fully restored Kilkenny Castle and enjoy the first class shopping and dining in the city. From Kilkenny drive south along the R700 to **Bennettsbridge**, home to many renowned craft shops such as Nicholas Mosse Pottery. Visit also the Nore Valley Open Farm and the Nore View Folk Museum. Continue on the R700 to **Thomastown**, where you can visit Jerpoint Abbey, one of the most interesting and best-preserved Cistercian ruins in the country; and **Inistioge**, home of the beautifully restored Woodstock Gardens. Continue to the port town of **New Ross**, home of the Dunbrody Famine Ship and Ros Tapestry, returning to Carlow through the beautiful and historic villages of St. Mullins, **Graiguenamanagh** and from **Gowran** on the R448, where if time allows, a visit to the riverside villages of **Bagenalstown** and **Leighlinbridge** is encouraged.

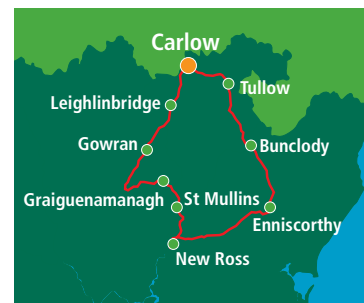


## THE CATHEDRAL ROUTE

### Route 3: Carlow » New Ross » Enniscorthy » Carlow

Distance: 155 km (96 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

This pleasant route through counties Carlow and Wexford takes in many of the region's best known ecclesiastical visitor attractions along the Barrow and Slaney rivers. Starting out from the Cathedral town of **Carlow**, drive south along the N9 to **Leighlinbridge**. Continue on the N9 to **Gowran**, home of St Mary's medieval Collegiate Church. At **Graiguenamanagh** you can visit Duiske Abbey, an early Cistercian Church in Ireland built around 1204. **St Mullins** is a scenic and charming village on the River Barrow with an impressive ecclesiastical history. Entering Co Wexford you'll reach the towns of **New Ross**, featuring the Dunbrody Famine Ship docked along the Quays and Ros Tapestry. The ancient Norman settlement and Cathedral town of **Enniscorthy** on the River Slaney. The route returns north to Carlow town through the pretty towns of **Bunclody** and **Tullow**, home to the beautiful Altamont Gardens which welcomes visitors. Carlow has a new dedicated Ecclesiastical Trail.



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES

## THE THREE RIVER ROUTE

### Route 4: Kilkenny

» New Ross » Enniscorthy  
» Kilkenny

Distance: 154 km (95 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

This charming route takes you through many picturesque towns and villages along the rivers Barrow, Nore & Slaney.

**Kilkenny City** is the perfect starting point, where the fully restored Anglo-Norman Kilkenny Castle looms magnificently over the river Nore. From there, follow the Nore Valley route (R700) through Bennettsbridge and Thomastown to the pretty village of **Inistioge**, where the Hollywood films "Circle of Friends" and "Widows Peak" were shot.

Continue on to **New Ross** in Co. Wexford, home to the Dunbrody Famine Ship, JFK Arboretum, Ros Tapestry and Kennedy Homestead.

From New Ross, travel on the N30 to **Enniscorthy**, overlooked by the 1798 battle site of Vinegar Hill, where you can visit the National 1798 Rebellion Centre. To the north on the N80, **Bunclody** is an attractive market town at the foot of the Blackstairs Mountains. From here, travel west towards **Goresbridge**, a scenic spot on the river Barrow popular with anglers; and **Gowran**, where St. Mary's Collegiate Church can be visited. Return to Kilkenny via the R712.



## TIPPERARY TOWNS ROUTE

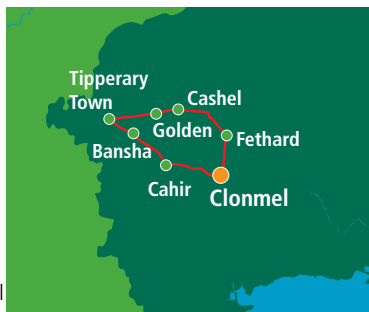
### Route 5: Clonmel

» Tipperary Town » Clonmel

Distance: 132 km (82 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

Travel through the beautiful countryside and picturesque towns of Tipperary, starting out at **Clonmel** nestled in the Comeragh Mountains and home to the South Tipperary Arts Centre. From Clonmel travel on to the heritage town of **Cahir** with nearby attractions of Swiss Cottage and Cahir Castle.

**Bansha** provides the gateway to the stunning Glen of Aherlow. **Tipperary Town** on the beautiful River Ara is in the heart of the 'Golden Vale'. The Tipperary Excel Centre offers cinema and theatre entertainment. From Tipperary travel to **Golden** and the nearby ruins of Athassel Abbey. East along the N24, **Cashel** is an important heritage town where the formidable Rock of Cashel, once the seat of the Kings of Munster, dominates the surrounding countryside. Visitors can find out more about the town and its history at the Brú Ború Cultural Centre and the Cashel Heritage Centre. Return to Clonmel via **Fethard** on the R692 and R689.



## MOUNTAIN AND WAVE ROUTE

### Route 6: Clonmel

» Waterford City & Coast  
» Clonmel

Distance: 196 km (122 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

Starting from the bustling town of **Clonmel**, home to the South Tipperary Arts Centre and the Museum of Transport, take the R680 to **Carrick-on-Suir** and visit Ormond Castle. East along the N24, **Waterford City** is the region's vibrant, cosmopolitan capital with great shopping, dining and a wealth of historic and contemporary visitor attractions including the House of Waterford Crystal, Bishops Palace & Gardens and Edmund Rice Heritage Centre.

Leaving the city, head south to **Dunmore East** and west along the stunning R675 coast road to **Tramore**. From Tramore travel along one of Ireland's most scenic drives, "The Copper Coast" and visit the European Geo Park en route to **Dungarvan**, a thriving seaside town and home to Dungarvan Castle and Town Museum.

**Cappoquin** and **Lismore** are two picturesque towns close to the scenic Nire Valley with a number of popular visitor attractions. The Vee Pass offers stunning views across the region's rich countryside. Return to Clonmel via the R665 road.



## ROUTE OF TWO CITIES

### Route 7: Waterford City

» New Ross » Kilkenny  
» Waterford City

Distance: 120 km (74 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

**Waterford City** is Ireland's first city with a wealth of fine historic and contemporary visitor attractions including the House of Waterford Crystal, Viking Exhibition at Reginald's Tower and Edmund Rice Heritage Centre. Leaving Waterford, travel north along the N25 to **New Ross**, home of the Dunbrody Famine Ship, Ros Tapestry and Kennedy Homestead.

From New Ross continue to travel north on the R700 to the picturesque village of **Inistioge** and visit the wonderfully maintained gardens at Woodstock. Continue to travel up the Nore Valley (R700) through the villages of **Thomastown & Bennettsbridge** and on to Kilkenny City, the medieval capital of Ireland. Kilkenny City is a treat to explore on foot with many striking medieval structures including the magnificent and fully restored Kilkenny Castle. From Kilkenny take the main Waterford Road, N10 and then R713 and R448 through **Mullinavat** back to Waterford City.



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES

## BY HOOK OR BY CROOKE ROUTE

### Route 8: Waterford City » Wexford

Distance: 184 km (114 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

This is a stunning route taking in the rugged coastline of the Hook Peninsula. Starting in **Waterford City**, the cosmopolitan capital of the South East, head east to the pretty fishing village of **Dunmore East** and take in the towns of **Passage East**, **Ballyhack** and **Duncannon** where you can visit Duncannon Fort, near the popular Duncannon beach front.

From here travel south to **Hook Head**, home of the famous Hook Lighthouse, one of the oldest working lighthouses in the world. The rugged Wexford coastline takes you around to **Fethard-on-Sea** with many fine sandy beaches.

North along the R737, **Saltmills** is home to one of Wexford's top attractions, Tintern Abbey. From Saltmills travel north to **New Ross** where the Famine Ship Dunbrody is docked and where the JFK Arboretum and Kennedy Homestead mark the ancestral home of the Kennedy family. Return to Waterford via the N25.



## SURF AND TURF ROUTE

### Route 9: Wexford Town » Gorey » Graigueanamanagh » Wexford Town

Distance: 205 km (128 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

This picturesque route takes the visitor from historic **Wexford Town** along much of the region's stunning coastline and into the beautiful countryside of Co. Carlow.



Start at **Wexford town** which has origins dating back to the 2nd century. A visit to historic Selskar Abbey offers the perfect setting for understanding the historical development of Wexford. Drive along the east coast to **Courtown** and **Gorey**, and head south to the ancient Norman settlement of **Enniscorthy** on the River Slaney, home to the National 1798 Rebellion Centre. From here, re-trace your tracks for 8 kms, then take the N80 until you reach the pretty market town of **Bunclody**.

Travel on to **Killeale** and **Borris** nestled in the fertile valley of the River Barrow. From Borris, travel east to **Graigueanamanagh** home of Duiske Abbey and the Cushendale Woollen Mills. **St Mullins** is a pretty and ancient riverside village leading to **New Ross**, the ancestral home to John F Kennedy. Return to Wexford Town via the N25.

## TOWN, CITY, COAST AND COUNTRY ROUTE

### Route 10: Wexford Town » Hook Head » New Ross » Wexford Town

Distance: 193 km (120 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

Starting from the ancient Viking settlement of **Wexford Town**, with origins dating back to 2nd century, head south east along the N25 where you'll reach the popular, blue flag seaside resort of **Rosslare**.

South of Rosslare, **Lady's Island** is an ancient place of pilgrimage and **Carnsore Point** is a popular international destination for bird watching. East along the coast, **Kilmore Quay** is a pretty fishing village offering excellent seafood, while further inland, **Wellington Bridge** is a pretty village at the head of Bannow Bay. Turning left onto the R737 you'll reach **Fethard-on-Sea** and **Hook Head**, home to the famous Hook Lighthouse.

Continue around the Hook Peninsula to **Duncannon**, a popular seaside resort which hosts the International Sand Sculpting Festival every summer. The R733 leads to **New Ross** where the Dunbrody Famine Ship and the Galley Restaurant are both moored at New Ross quay. Return to Wexford via the N25.



## THE SOUTH EAST COASTAL DRIVE

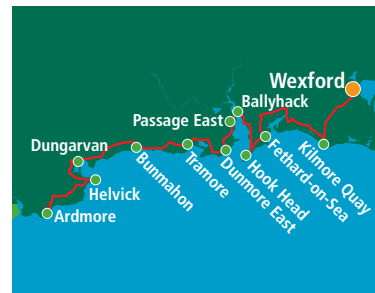
### Route 11: Wexford Town to Ardmore

Distance: 210 km (130 miles)  
Recommended Time: 1 Day

Stretching the full length of the south Wexford and Waterford coast, the South East Coastal Drive is one of the most popular and visually stunning coastal drives in the country.

From **Wexford Town** to the pretty fishing village of **Kilmore Quay** which is an angling centre of excellence and around the rugged **Hook Peninsula**, home of the historic Hook Head Lighthouse, the drive crosses into Waterford city and county.

The route takes you into the pretty harbour towns of **Passage East** and **Dunmore East** on the Waterford Estuary, and on to the bustling towns of **Tramore** and **Dungarvan**, taking in one of Ireland's scenic drives, "The Copper Coast". From Dungarvan, the drive takes you to **Helvick** and into **Ring**, an Irish speaking area and wonderfully scenic part of the South East region. The South East Coastal Drive concludes or begins (depending on the direction you take) at **Ardmore**, a lovely seaside town, home to the annual Pattern festival.



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES





WATER SKING

# Adventure & Water Sports

**The Sunny South East is awash with fun-filled Water Sports and Adventure activities for the young and the young-at-heart.**

With the Atlantic Ocean on two sides and five of Ireland's principal rivers flowing through the region, the South East really cleans up when it comes to water sport fun. Sub-aqua, sailing, swimming, diving, water skiing, rowing, canoeing, land yachting, surfing and river cruising are all catered for in the South East, with expert guidance on hand from specialist groups.

Why not try your hand at kitesurfing – an exhilarating fusion of windsurfing, water skiing and paragliding that's not for the faint hearted! Sailing is also popular with visitors and the region is well served with many listed visitor moorings and marina facilities. Blo karting provides a sailing experience for those who want to stay on dry land!

For those of you who like to stay dry but savour the taste of adrenalin, the South East offers excellent rock climbing, archery, orienteering, quad biking, karting, shooting, flying and even hang-gliding over the dramatic Mount Leinster area. There are also a number of excellent archery and orienteering clubs where you are welcome to come along and make your mark.

Corporate groups and friends can enjoy the thrilling game of paintball played at a number of specialised centres located throughout the region.

## ACTIVITIES



KITE SURFING, TRAMORE



CANOE CAVE



SEA KAYAKING



## ADVENTURE &amp; WATER SPORTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Description	Address	Telephone & Web
CARLOW KILKENNY	Rapid Fire Paintball	Paintball	Maganey	059 9145826 <a href="http://www.rapidfire.ie">www.rapidfire.ie</a>
	Special Ops Paintball	Paintball	Ballymurphy, Borris	085 7752495 <a href="http://www.specialops.ie">www.specialops.ie</a>
	Countryside Leisure Activity Centre	Clay pigeon, rifle target and archery	Bonnettsrath	056 776 1791 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Go with the Flow	Canoeing and river adventures	Rivers Barrow & Nore	087 252 9700 <a href="http://www.gowiththeflow.ie">www.gowiththeflow.ie</a>
	Team Dynamics	Abseiling, archery, orienteering & shooting	Archersgrove	056 776 3635 <a href="http://www.tdk.ie">www.tdk.ie</a>
	Kiltorcan Raceway	Go Karting	Kiltorcan, Ballyhale	056 7768914/087 2464872 <a href="http://www.kiltorcan.com">www.kiltorcan.com</a>
TIPPERARY	Mount Juliet	Clay pigeon shooting & archery	Thomastown	056 7773000 <a href="http://www.mountjuliet.ie">www.mountjuliet.ie</a>
	Carrick-on-Suir Marina	Mooring Facilities	Carrick-on-Suir	051 642100 <a href="http://www.carrickonsuir.ie">www.carrickonsuir.ie</a>
	Midland Paragliding Ltd.	Irish Aviation Authority approved courses	Tipperary Town	086 223 2955 <a href="http://www.paragliding.ie">www.paragliding.ie</a>
	Galtee Valley Xtreme Adventure	Zorbing, dune buggies, archery, giant jenga, giant futsal, sumo suits	Burncourt, Cahir	087 161 8600 <a href="http://www.galteevalleyxtremeadventures.com">www.galteevalleyxtremeadventures.com</a>
	Ardmore Diving	Scuba diving and training	Old Parish, Dungarvan	058 46577 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Ardmore Adventures	Sea kayaking, surfing, rock climbing	Ardmore	083 3743889 <a href="http://www.ardmoreadventures.ie">www.ardmoreadventures.ie</a>
WATERFORD	Bunmahon Surf School	Surf School	Bunmahon	087 6398210 <a href="http://www.bunmahonsurfschool.com">www.bunmahonsurfschool.com</a>
	Dunmore East Adventure Centre	Surfing, canoeing, sailing, archery & rock climbing	Dunmore East	051 383783 <a href="http://www.dunmoreadventure.com">www.dunmoreadventure.com</a>
	Freedom Surf School & Adventure	Surf Lessons, Land Yachting and Nordic walking	Tramore	051 386773/086 3914908 <a href="http://www.freedomsurfschool.com">www.freedomsurfschool.com</a>
	Elite Adventure and Development Camp	Orienteering, team building, workouts and bushcraft		Tel 086 1524414
	Kite Skool	Lessons in kite surfing	Dungarvan	087 286 9613 <a href="http://www.kiteskool.com">www.kiteskool.com</a>
	Oceanics Surf School	Surf programmes and multi activity breaks	Tramore	051 390944 <a href="http://www.oceanics.ie">www.oceanics.ie</a>
	Rallyconnection Ltd.	Rally driving courses	Cappagh, Dungarvan	058 47000 <a href="http://www.rallyconnection.com">www.rallyconnection.com</a>
	Sea Paddling.com	Sea kayaking	Waterford Coastline	051 393314 <a href="http://www.seapaddling.com">www.seapaddling.com</a>
	T-Bay Surf & Eco Centre	Surf lessons, eco tours & water safety	Tramore	051 391 297 <a href="http://www.surfbay.com">www.surfbay.com</a>
	Tramore Adventure Centre	Outdoor adventures & residential packages	Tramore	051 386773/086 3914908 <a href="http://www.tramoreadventurecentre.com">www.tramoreadventurecentre.com</a>
	Waterford City Marina	Mooring Facilities	Waterford	051 309 900 <a href="http://www.waterfordcity.ie/city/marina.htm">www.waterfordcity.ie/city/marina.htm</a>
	Irish Canoe Kayak	Canoeing and Kayaking courses	Waterford/Kilkenny	087 2265550/083 3414769 <a href="http://www.irishcanoe kayak.com">www.irishcanoe kayak.com</a>
	Deep Sea Charters	Whale and Dolphin Watching	Dunmore East	087 6369164
	Dunmore East	Whale and Dolphin Watching	Dunmore East	051 383397
	Delta Force Paintball	Paintball forest games & laser tag	Rathnure, Enniscorthy	053 924 0044 <a href="http://www.deltaforcepaintball.ie">www.deltaforcepaintball.ie</a>
WEXFORD	Harbour Thrills	Pleasure and high speed boating trips	Wexford Quay	085 732 9787 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Hooked Kite Surfing	Kite Surfing School	Duncannon	087 675 5567 <a href="http://www.hookedkitesurfing.ie">www.hookedkitesurfing.ie</a>
	Kilmore Quay Marina	Mooring Facilities	Kilmore Quay	053 912 9955 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Quad Attack and Crazy Corral	Cross Country Driving	Clonroche	053 924 4660 <a href="http://www.quadattack.ie">www.quadattack.ie</a>
	Rosslare Watersports	Windsurfing, kayaking, sailing centre	Rosslare	053 913 2202 <a href="http://www.rosslareholidayresort.com">www.rosslareholidayresort.com</a>
	Shielbagan Outdoor Education Centre	Large range of outdoor activities	New Ross	<a href="http://www.shielbagganoec.com">www.shielbagganoec.com</a>
	Three Sisters Marina	Mooring Facilities	New Ross	051 421284

South East Ireland  
Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES





TROUT ANGLING

# Angling

With five of Ireland's principal rivers and the Atlantic Ocean surrounding its rugged coastline, the South East is an attractive location for anglers of all levels of experience.

The region's rivers afford the game fisherman superb opportunities to fish for Wild Brown Trout, Salmon, and Sea Trout in season. Coarse anglers are well catered for with the river Barrow offering first class mixed fishing for Bream, Dace, Rudd, Roach, and Perch, excellent fishing for Roach and Dace on the river Blackwater, and also a number of well appointed managed coarse fisheries.

The South East's coastline plays host to arguably the best Bass fishing in Europe, while deep sea angling trips are available through a number of registered charter boat operators targeting a range of species including Ling, Pollack, Cod, Conger, and Tope.

The purchase of a state licence is necessary to fish for Salmon and Sea Trout, along with on most fisheries a daily permit. Certain Brown Trout Fisheries may also require the purchase of a day permit; however coarse angling and sea angling are free.

The normal angling season for Salmon, Sea Trout, and Brown Trout is March 17th to 30th September. There is no closed season for coarse angling, and apart from Bass (closed season 15th May – 15th June) sea anglers can also fish all year round. For current legislation on all angling disciplines log on to [www.fisheriesireland.ie](http://www.fisheriesireland.ie), or contact the local regional fisheries board (contact details below) in advance of travelling to the South East.

Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford is a regional centre of excellence for Sea Angling and Cahir, Co. Tipperary is a regional centre of excellence for brown trout. [www.visitcahir.ie](http://www.visitcahir.ie)

Inland Fisheries Ireland, Anglsea Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.  
Tel: 052 6180055, Email: [Clonmel@fisheriesireland.ie](mailto:Clonmel@fisheriesireland.ie)

## ACTIVITIES





SEA ANGLING



FISHING REEL



FLY-FISHING



## ANGLING IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Description	Address	Telephone	Web
GAME ANGLING	Blackwater Lodge & Fishery	Salmon fishing & tackle hire	Upper Ballyduff Co. Waterford	058 60235	<a href="http://www.ireland-salmon-fishing.net">www.ireland-salmon-fishing.net</a>
	Rainbow Trout Angling Lakes	Rainbow trout fishing all year round	Castlecómer Co. Kilkenny	056 444 0707	<a href="http://www.discoverypark.ie">www.discoverypark.ie</a>
	Clonanav Angling	Fly fishing and training Centre (APGA)	Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford	052 36141	<a href="http://www.flyfishingireland.com">www.flyfishingireland.com</a>
	Inchbeg Fishing School	Tuition in dry and wet fly fishing	Freshford, Co. Kilkenny	056 883 2576	<a href="http://www.inchbegfishingschool.com">www.inchbegfishingschool.com</a>
	Knockaderry Carrigavanry & Ballyscanlon Reservoirs	Trout Fishing	Kilmeaden Co. Waterford	051 384721	<a href="http://www.waterfordflyfishing.com">www.waterfordflyfishing.com</a>
	Lochmahon Lakes	Fly & bait fishing on 3 trout lakes. Rod hire.	Adamstown Co. Wexford	087 276 5664	<a href="http://www.lochmahon.com">www.lochmahon.com</a>
	South East Angling Ireland (SEAI)	Saltwater, fly and lure fishing specialists	Wexford Town	053 9123351	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Suir Valley Fishery	Salmon and trout fishing	Clonmel, Co. Tipperary	052 613 2497	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Buncloody Golf & Fishing Club	Game fishing	Buncloody Co. Wexford	053 9374444	<a href="http://www.buncloodygfc.ie">www.buncloodygfc.ie</a>
	Cappagh Lakes	Trout fishing all year round plus rod hire	Dungarvan, Co. Waterford	087 9770630	<a href="http://www.cappaghlakes.com">www.cappaghlakes.com</a>
COARSE ANGLING	Ardaire Springs	Rainbow Trout	Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny	086 8128937	<a href="http://www.ardaire-springs.com">www.ardaire-springs.com</a>
	Jerpoint Park	River Nore Fishing (pre-booking required)	Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny	086 6061449	<a href="http://www.jerpointpark.com">www.jerpointpark.com</a>
	Southern County Fishing Resort	Brown Trout	Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow	087 9655544	<a href="http://www.southern-county.ie">www.southern-county.ie</a>
	Ballyshunnoch (Mixed) Reservoir	Shore fishing, boat hire and permits	Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford	Centra Shop	<a href="http://www.srfb.ie">www.srfb.ie</a>
	Mount Juliet	Lake fishing coarse/game	Thomastown Co. Kilkenny	056 7773000	<a href="http://www.mountjuliet.ie">www.mountjuliet.ie</a>
	Oaklands Lake	Lake fishing, equipment hire, salmon licences	New Ross, Co. Wexford	051 425196	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Templemore Lake	Bank only fishing	Templemore Co. Tipperary	052 618 0055	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Wallslough Village	Lake fishing (Residents Only)	Sheestown, Co. Kilkenny	056 772 3838	<a href="http://www.wallsloughvillage.ie">www.wallsloughvillage.ie</a>
	Deep Sea Charters	Wreck, reef, shark fishing and bass angling	Dunmore East, Co. Waterford	056 7723838	<a href="http://www.deepseachartersdunmore.com">www.deepseachartersdunmore.com</a>
	Dunmore East	Deep sea fishing Angling Charters	Dunmore East, Co. Waterford	051 383397	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
SEA ANGLING	Kilmore Quay Boat	Reef, wreck and shark Charters fishing	Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford	053 912 9704	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Hook Head Sea Angling Centre	Sea angling, ground, wreck & shark fishing	Ballyhack, Co. Wexford	087 6781245 087 2437148	<a href="http://www.seatours.ie">www.seatours.ie</a>
	Sea Angling & Diving Charter	Wreck, reef & shark fishing	Dungarvan, Co. Waterford	058 46577	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Centra Supermarket	Supplier of angling permits	Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford	051 384721	
GENERAL INFO	Casale 2000 Ltd.	Fishing permits and salmon licences	Cashel, Co. Tipperary	062 63106	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Murphy's Fishing Tackle	Suppliers of tackle and Tackle permits	Wexford Town	053 91 24717	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Murph's Fishing Tackle	Suppliers of tackle and Shop angling permits	Tullow Street, Carlow	059 913 2839	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Carlow Coarse Angling Supplies	Suppliers of tackle and information	Graigecullen, Co. Carlow	059 9137664	<a href="http://carlowcoarseangling.com">carlowcoarseangling.com</a>

For further information and details of ghillies and permits:  
[www.fisheriesireland.ie](http://www.fisheriesireland.ie)

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES



KIDS FUN, ENNISCORTHY

# Family Fun

**When it comes to having fun, the South East is full to the brim with exciting things to see and do for all the family!**

Our miles and miles of beaches are great for swimming, exploring rock pools and all sorts of beach fun. There are also plenty of water activities to be enjoyed, including sea paddling and surfing, with programmes designed especially for kids.

If you like to keep your feet dry, there are adventure centres and specialist providers that offer activities such as rock climbing and quad biking. A full list can be found in the Adventure and Watersports section of this guide.

With a fantastic choice of animal based attractions including pet farms, an aviary and reptile village, there are lots of opportunities for your little ones to encounter all sorts of animals, including miniature ponies, llamas, crocodiles, potbelly pigs, chipmunks, and geckos. Throughout the year there are plenty of festivals including some that are tailored especially for kids, such as Sprog in Waterford.

Because we don't want your holiday fun to stop on a rainy day, there's plenty to do indoors as well. From 10-pin bowling, skating and waterslides, to state of the art play centres, the whole family will be entertained all day, whatever the weather!



## ACTIVITIES





FUN FOR KIDS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Description	Address	Telephone & Web
CARLOW	Carlow Town Park	Public Park and Kids Playground	Carlow	059 9170300/ 059 9131554
	The Big Blue Barn	Children's indoor play centre & cafe	Carlow	059 9131222 www.thebigbluebarn.ie
	The Dome Family Entertainment Centre	10-pin bowling, pool tables, air hockey and play area	Graigucullen	059 9141555 www.dome.ie
	The Ivy Room	Ireland's Premier Snooker Venue	Carlow	059 9137714 www.ivyrooms.ie
	Kiddies Kingdom	Children's indoor play centre & cafe	Bagenalstown	059 9723532 www.discoverireland.ie
	Carlow Town Pet Farm	Pet farm	Oak Park, Carlow	086 3180533 www.carlowpetfarm.com
	Rancho Reilly's	Pet farm & Childrens Activity Centre	Springhill, Carlow	087 1759123
	The Grid	Go - karting & Roller Skating	Graigucullen, Carlow	059 9164817 www.thegrid.ie
KILKENNY	Nore Valley Park Open Farm	Open farm, 3D maze, playground and crazy golf	Bennettsbridge	056 7727229 www.norevalleypark.com
	The Watershed	Swimming, Running Play & Workout Facilities	Kilkenny City	056 7734620 www.thewatershed.ie
	Reptile Village	Reptile zoo with over 50 species of animals on display	Gowran	056 7726757 www.reptilevillage.net
	KBowl Entertainment Centre	10 pin Bowling, Pool, Air Hockey & more	MacDonagh Junction, Kilkenny City	056 7788200 www.kbowlkk.ie
	The Discovery Park	Nature Trails, Adventure playground and more	Castlecómer	056 4440707 www.discoverypark.ie
	Jellie-Tots Play Centre	Indoor play centre (3-12yrs)	Kilkenny	056 7715500 www.jellietots.ie
TIPPERARY	Canon Hayes Recreation Centre	Swimming pool and sports hall	Tipperary Town	062 52022 www.tipperarysportcentre.com
	Parsons Green	Park, pet farm, farm museum, picnic area	Clogheen	052 746 5290 www.clogheen.com
	Hot Shots Bowling	Bowling, bumper cars, ice rink, snooker, kids zone and cafe	Inner Relief Rd, Clonmel	052 61 28448
WATERFORD	Copper Coast Mini Farm	Pet farm and tea room	Fenor	051 396870 www.coppercoastminifarm.ie
	Waterford Bowl and Kidzone	Bowling, soft play area, pool, snooker, table tennis and video games	Williamstown, Waterford	051 872466 www.waterfordbowl.ie
	Sallyfort Mini Farm	Pet farm & children's activity centre	Stradbally	087 24729237
	People's Park	Public park and kids' playground	Waterford City	www.discoverireland.ie
	Pirates Adventure	A wide variety of activities built around a pirate theme	Tramore	086 885 6945 www.piratesadventure.ie
	Run Amuck	Indoor play and party centre	Tramore	051 390551 www.runamuck.ie
	The Pottery Place	Paint & personalise your own piece of pottery	Tramore	051 390551 www.potterypainting.ie
	Laser Blast	Ultimate high tech indoor adventure game	Tramore	051 338282 www.laserblast.ie
	Splashworld	Waterslides, swimming pool, wave machine	Tramore	051 390176 www.splashworld.ie
	Tramore Amusement Park	Amusement and leisure park	Tramore	www.discoverireland.ie
	Waterford and Suir Valley Railway	Heritage railway trip along banks of River Suir	Kilmeaden	051 384058 www.wsvrailway.ie

Fun for Kids providers from Wexford are listed on the next page.

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ACTIVITIES





FAMILY AT BEACH

FUN FOR KIDS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Description	Address	Telephone	Web
WEXFORD	Forest Park Leisure Centre	Swimming pool, waterslides and adventure play area	Courtown Harbour	053 9424849	<a href="http://www.coralleisure.ie">www.coralleisure.ie</a>
	Kia Ora Mini Farm	Mini farm with fun facilities for kids	Gorey	053 9421166	<a href="http://www.kiaoraminifarm.com">www.kiaoraminifarm.com</a>
	Kidzone	Fun facilities for kids	Gorey	053 9481218	<a href="http://www.kidzoneireland.ie">www.kidzoneireland.ie</a>
	Leisure Max	10-pin bowling, playground, go carts & restaurant	Wexford	053 9122900	<a href="http://www.leisuremax.ie">www.leisuremax.ie</a>
	Pirates Cove Adventure Centre	Adventure golf, 10-pin bowling, fun caves and play area	Courtown Harbour	053 9425555	<a href="http://www.piratescove.ie">www.piratescove.ie</a>
	Playzone	Indoor adventure playground	Wexford	053 9184509	<a href="http://www.playzone.ie">www.playzone.ie</a>
	Ross Adventure Play Barn	Children's indoor play centre and coffee shop	Hewitsland, New Ross	051 445817	<a href="http://www.rossadventureplaybarn.com">www.rossadventureplaybarn.com</a>
	Secret Valley Adventure Farm	Adventure farm, indoor play area and coffee shop	Clonroche	087 2050069	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Shrute Pet Farm	Pet farm and children's playground	Ballygarrett	053 9427277	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>

For further information on playgrounds and swimming pools in the area, please contact the local Discover Ireland Centre or Tourist Office; see details on inside front cover of this guide.



ACTIVITIES



TIPPERARY GARDEN



KILMOKEA GARDENS

# Gardens

**The Sunny South East offers a great variety of designs and styles of gardens for the enthusiast and for those that simply appreciate good gardens and want to enjoy the natural environment.**

Gardening and gardens are now one of the foremost hobbies in Ireland and internationally. Many gardens in the region offer guided tours which help to give a better and more informed insight into the plants and varieties being viewed.

Given the higher than average sunshine and better weather in the region many of the gardens are unique in Ireland.

For the dedicated gardener there is the Regional 'South East Ireland Gardens Guide'. This Guide gives more details on each of the gardens and is available free of charge from Tourist Offices in the South East. Carlow has Ireland's first integrated Carlow Garden trail, there is a map/ booklet, signage and information map boards at each of sixteen stops on the trail.

**Please note that many of the gardens are strictly by appointment while others take groups only. It is essential to contact the Proprietor/Manager before making your visit.**

Why not meet other like minded gardening enthusiasts, there are Garden Festivals/Gardening Summer schools taking place throughout the region over the summer months. For further information on dates check our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

Enjoy your visit to the wonderful gardens of the South East...

## ACTIVITIES





ROSE BEDS



BALLYHIST GARDEN



## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

GARDENS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST			
	Name	Address	Telephone & Web
CARLOW	Altamont Gardens	Tullow	059 9159444 <a href="http://www.heritageireland.ie">www.heritageireland.ie</a>
	The Walled Garden at Altamont Gardens	Tullow	087 9822135 <a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
	The Arboretum Inspirational Gardens	The Arboretum Centre, Kilkenny Road, Leighlinbridge	059 9721642 <a href="http://www.arboretum.ie">www.arboretum.ie</a>
	Stonewell Cottage	Coole Cross, Rathvilly	059 9161986/087 6155608
	Delta Sensory Gardens	Strawhall Estate, Carlow	059 9143527/086 2049831 <a href="http://www.deltacentre.org">www.deltacentre.org</a>
	Duckett's Grove Walled Gardens	Duckett's Grove, Carlow	059 9131554 <a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
	Hardymount Gardens	Tullow	059 9151769 <a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
	Herb Gardens, Kilgraney House	Borris Road, Bagenalstown	059 9775283 <a href="http://www.kilgraneyhouse.com">www.kilgraneyhouse.com</a>
	Huntington Castle Gardens	Clonegal	053 9377552 <a href="http://www.huntingtoncastle.com">www.huntingtoncastle.com</a>
	Leighlinbridge-the Garden Village	Leighlinbridge	059 9721593/086 6027751 <a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
KILKENNY	Oak Park Forest Park	Oak Park, Carlow	059 9131554 <a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
	Castlecomer Discovery Park	Castlecomer	056 4440707 <a href="http://www.discoverypark.ie">www.discoverypark.ie</a>
	Coolcashion Garden	Coolcashion, Gathabawn, near Johnstown	056 8832443/086 0616133
	"Emoclew Garden"	Emoclew, Ballyellen, Goresbridge	059 9775321
	Shankill Gardens & Castle	Paulstown (Whitehall)	059 9726145/087 2437125
	Rothe Family Garden	Rothe House, Parliament Street, Kilkenny	056 7722893 <a href="http://www.rothehouse.com">www.rothehouse.com</a>
	Kilkenny Castle Rose Garden & Park	Kilkenny Castle, The Parade, Kilkenny City	056 7704100/087 6349153 <a href="http://www.heritageireland.ie">www.heritageireland.ie</a>
	Woodstock Arboretum	Inistioge	087 8549785 <a href="http://www.woodstock.ie">www.woodstock.ie</a>
	Kilfane Glen & Waterfall	Kilfane, Thomastown	056 7727105 <a href="http://www.kilfane.com">www.kilfane.com</a>
	Mount Juliet	Thomastown	056 7773000/086 8066288 <a href="http://www.mountjuliet.ie">www.mountjuliet.ie</a>
TIPPERARY	The Watergarden	Thomastown	056-7724690 <a href="http://www.camphill.ie/Thomastown">www.camphill.ie/Thomastown</a>
	Gairdin an Ghorta	Newmarket	086-8394349 <a href="http://www.faminegarden.com">www.faminegarden.com</a>
	Dahlia Garden	Charlefield House, The Rower	051 422386
	Ballyboy House Gardens & Woodlands	Clogheen, Cahir	052 7465297/087 6360296 <a href="http://www.ballyboyhouse.com">www.ballyboyhouse.com</a>
	New Haven Garden	New Haven, Cahir	052 7441508/087 2319639
	Killmacomma Garden	Killmacomma, Clonmel	052 6122525/087 7632231 <a href="http://www.killmacommagarden.org">www.killmacommagarden.org</a>
	Camas Park Garden	Camas Park, Cashel	062 61010/086 2551277
	Ballyhist Garden	Ballyhist, Ardfinnan, Clonmel	052 7466788/087 7996169
	Turtulla Garden	Turtulla, Thurles	0504 21839/087 8358842
	Killurney Garden	Killurney, Clonmel	052 6133155/087 9444662

## ACTIVITIES



## GARDENS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Address	Telephone & Web
WATERFORD	Abbey Road Gardens	'Abbeylands', Ferrybank, Waterford City	051 851111/087 2209026
	Sion Hill House Gardens	Ferrybank, Waterford City	051 851558/051 851678 www.bedandbreakfastnationwide.com
	Kildare Lodge Gardens	Kildare Lodge, Kilmaclegue, Dumore East	051 381591/089 4133131
	Tramore House Gardens	Tramore	051 395555
	Floraville Garden	Ballinaclogh, Fenor, Tramore	051 381582/087 9692846 www.floravillegarden.com
	Ballynatray Gardens	Kinsalebeg, nr Youghal	024 2497463 www.ballynatray.com
	Fairbrook House Gardens & Museum of Contemporary Figurative Art	Kilmeaden	051 384657/085 8131448 www.fairbrook-house.com
	Mount Congreve Gardens	Kilmeaden	051 384115/087 9713264
	Curraghmore Estate	Portlao	051 387101/387134 www.curraghmorehouse.ie
	Cappoquin House & Gardens	Cappoquin	058 54290/087 6704180
	Dromana House & Gardens	Dromana House, Cappoquin	024 96144/086 8186305 www.vee.ie
	Tourin House & Garden	Tourin, Cappoquin	058 54405/086 8113841 www.tourin-house.ie
	Salterbridge House & Garden	Salterbridge, Cappoquin	058 54952/087 2030763 www.salterbridge-houseandgarden.com
WEXFORD	Ballyin Gardens	Ballyin Lower, Lismore	058 54608/087 7939101 www.discoverireland.ie
	Lismore Castle Garden	Lismore	086 8396078 www.lismorecastle.com
	Kilmurry Nursery Garden	Kilmurry Nursery, Gorey	053 9480223
	The Potting Shed Garden	Bolinaspick, Camolin, Enniscorthy	053 9383629 www.camolinpottingshed.com
	The Bay Garden	Camolin, Enniscorthy	053 9383349 www.thebaygarden.com
	Newtownbarry House & Garden	Newtownbarry House, Bunclody	053 9376383/087 1227846 087 0569805 www.newtownbarryhouse.com
	Lucy's Wood Garden	Barkers Road (to Mount Leinster), Bunclody	053 9377256
	Sliabh Radharc Garden	Knockanure, Bunclody	053 9376908/087 4121712
	Johnstown Castle Gardens & Museum	Irish Agricultural Museum, Johnstown Castle Estate	053 9171247/053 9184671 www.irishagrimuseum.ie
	JFK Arboretum	New Ross	051 388171 www.heritageireland.ie
	Kilmokea Gardens	Great Island, Campile	051 388109/086 0853308 www.kilmokeagardens.com
	Tombrick Garden	Tombrick, Ballycarney, Enniscorthy	053 9388863/087 2961340
	Coolaught Gardens	Clonroche, Enniscorthy	053 9244137/087 6446882
	Woodville House Gardens	Woodville, New Ross	051 422957/087 9709828

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide



NEW BORDER



ALTAMONT GARDEN PATH



## ACTIVITIES

# Golf

**The South East known to everyone as “the sunny South East”, is home to some of the finest and most enjoyable golf courses in Ireland.**

The mix of fine weather, proximity to Dublin and of course some of the finest courses in the country make the South East's golf courses popular with visitors. Boasting a selection of coastal links on both the Irish Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, the South East also offers golfers challenging world-class parkland courses. The region is nicely sprinkled with luxurious golf resorts complete with ancient castles and grand houses, all with beautiful views of the rolling countryside.

Carlow is home to Mount Wolesey Golf Club, the Borris Golf Club and an even younger golf club is the Leinster Hills Golf Club. In Kilkenny the big name is the Jack Nicklaus designed, Mount Juliet. It is one of the top inland courses in the country. Nearby is Kilkenny City Golf Club, a mature parkland course that never fails to entertain. County Tipperary is home to a superb group of courses including the likes of Cahir Park, and Tipperary Golf Club further south in Waterford, Dunmore East is well worth a visit. It has spectacular views of the bay and the Waterford Harbour estuary. Waterford is another highly-respected parkland course. Designed by the great James Braid it is renowned for the quality of its greens and its friendly clubhouse atmosphere. Championship parklands such as Tramore, Waterford Castle and Faithlegg should also make your itinerary as well as Dungarvan and the Gold Coast Golf Clubs.

In Wexford look out for St Helen's Bay, Rosslare and Seafield. St Helen's bay is a delightful mix of parkland and links and never fails to capture the imagination. Rosslare is a traditional links by the Irish Sea and Seafield is one of the friendliest clubs in Ireland.

From beginners to the most experienced golfer, you won't be disappointed with a choice of lush green parkland to rugged coastal dunes the South East of Ireland is unbeatable in terms of choice and quality of golf courses.

## ACTIVITIES

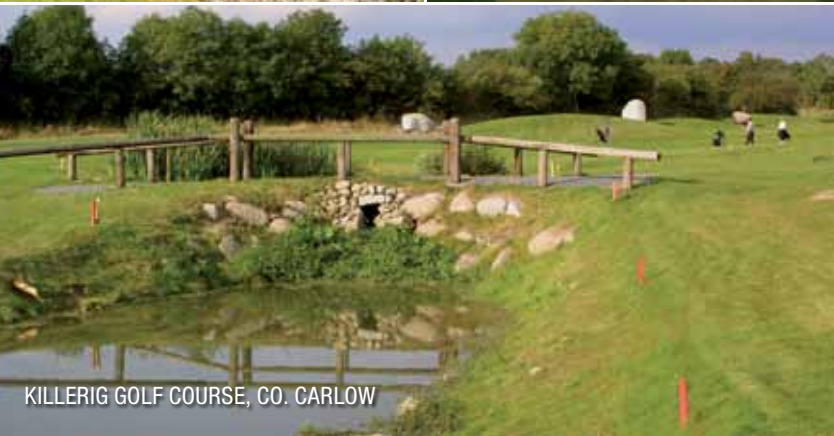




MOUNT JULIET, CO. KILKENNY



SEAFIELD GOLF CLUB, GOREY



KILLERIG GOLF COURSE, CO. CARLOW



South East Ireland  
Pocket Guide

GOLF IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST					
	Name	Holes	Location	Telephone	Web
CARLOW	Carlow	27	Carlow	059 913 1695	<a href="http://www.carlowgolfclub.com">www.carlowgolfclub.com</a>
	Killerig	18	Tullow	059 916 3000	<a href="http://www.ramadakillerig.com">www.ramadakillerig.com</a>
	Leinster Hills	18	Nurney	059 914 8974	<a href="http://www.leinsterhillsgolf.com">www.leinsterhillsgolf.com</a>
	Mount Wolseley	18	Tullow	059 915 1674	<a href="http://www.mountwolseley.ie">www.mountwolseley.ie</a>
	Borris Golf Club	9	Borris	059 977 3310	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Carrigleade Golf Club	18	St. Mullins	059 9724370	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
KILKENNY	Callan	18	Callan	056 772 5136	<a href="http://www.callangolfclub.com">www.callangolfclub.com</a>
	Castlecomer	18	Castlecomer	056 4441139	<a href="http://www.castlecomergolf.com">www.castlecomergolf.com</a>
	Gowran Park	18	Gowran	056 772 6699	<a href="http://www.gowranpark.ie">www.gowranpark.ie</a>
	Kilkenny City	18	Kilkenny	056 776 5400	<a href="http://www.kilkennygolfclub.com">www.kilkennygolfclub.com</a>
	Mount Juliet	18	Thomastown	056 777 3064	<a href="http://www.mountjuliet.ie/golf">www.mountjuliet.ie/golf</a>
	Mountain View	18	Ballyhale	056 776 8122	<a href="http://www.mviewgolf.com">www.mviewgolf.com</a>
TIPPERARY	Cahir Park	18	Cahir	052 744 1474	<a href="http://www.cahirparkgolfclub.com">www.cahirparkgolfclub.com</a>
	Carrick-on-Suir	18	Carrick-on-Suir	051 640047	<a href="http://www.carrickgolfclub.com">www.carrickgolfclub.com</a>
	Clonmel	18	Clonmel	052 612 4050	<a href="http://www.clonmelgolfclub.com">www.clonmelgolfclub.com</a>
	Dundrum House	18	Tipperary	062 71116	<a href="http://www.dundrumhousehotel.com">www.dundrumhousehotel.com</a>
	Slievenamon	18	Clonmel	052 613 2213	<a href="http://www.slievenamongolfclub.com">www.slievenamongolfclub.com</a>
	Tipperary Town	18	Tipperary	062 51119	<a href="http://www.tipperarygolfclub.com">www.tipperarygolfclub.com</a>
WATERFORD	Dungarvan Golf Club	18	Dungarvan	058 43310	<a href="http://www.dungarvangolfclub.com">www.dungarvangolfclub.com</a>
	Dunmore East	18	Dunmore East	051 383151	<a href="http://www.dunmoreeastgolfclub.ie">www.dunmoreeastgolfclub.ie</a>
	Faithlegg	18	Waterford City	051 382241	<a href="http://www.faithlegg.com">www.faithlegg.com</a>
	Gold Coast	18	Dungarvan	058 44055	<a href="http://www.goldcoastgolfclub.com">www.goldcoastgolfclub.com</a>
	Lismore	18	Lismore	058 54026	<a href="http://www.lismoregolf.org">www.lismoregolf.org</a>
	Tramore	18	Tramore	051 386170	<a href="http://www.tramoregolfclub.com">www.tramoregolfclub.com</a>
	Waterford	18	Waterford City	051 876748	<a href="http://www.waterfordgolfclub.com">www.waterfordgolfclub.com</a>
	Waterford Castle	18	Waterford City	051 871633	<a href="http://www.waterfordcastle.com">www.waterfordcastle.com</a>
	West Waterford	18	Dungarvan	058 43216	<a href="http://www.westwaterfordgolf.com">www.westwaterfordgolf.com</a>
	Williamstown	18	Waterford City	051 853131	<a href="http://www.waterfordcity.ie/city/golfcourse.htm">www.waterfordcity.ie/city/golfcourse.htm</a>
WEXFORD	Ballymoney	9	Gorey	053 942 1976	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Bunclody Golf Club	18	Bunclody	053 937 4444	<a href="http://www.bunclodygfc.ie">www.bunclodygfc.ie</a>
	Courtown	18	Courtown	053 942 5166	<a href="http://www.courtowngolfclub.com">www.courtowngolfclub.com</a>
	Enniscorthy	18	Enniscorthy	053 923 3191	<a href="http://www.enniscorthygc.ie">www.enniscorthygc.ie</a>
	New Ross	18	New Ross	051 421433	<a href="http://www.newrossgolfclub.ie">www.newrossgolfclub.ie</a>
	Rosslare	27	Rosslare	053 913 2203	<a href="http://www.rosslaregolf.com">www.rosslaregolf.com</a>
	St Helen's Bay	18	Rosslare Harbour	053 913 3234	<a href="http://www.sthelensbay.com">www.sthelensbay.com</a>
	Seafeld	18	Gorey	053 942 4777	<a href="http://www.seafielddhotel.com">www.seafielddhotel.com</a>
	Wexford Golf Club	18	Wexford	053 914 2238	<a href="http://www.wexfordgolfclub.ie">www.wexfordgolfclub.ie</a>

For pitch and putt course listings in the South East Region log on to the Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland website on [www.ppui.ie](http://www.ppui.ie)

ACTIVITIES





MOUNT JULIET HORSE RIDING

# Equestrian

The going is always good for horse riding and racing enthusiasts in the South East. The region is famed for its long history in breeding some of the finest bloodstock in the world and is the ideal destination for any equestrian fan.



There are four Fáilte Ireland Approved Equestrian Centres' located in the South East Region.

"These Centres are recognised by Fáilte Ireland as offering the highest of standards".

Visit [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

You can enjoy equestrian activities as a refreshing aside to your holiday or make it the main theme of a thoroughly enjoyable break. Many of the region's equestrian centres and riding schools offer residential courses where tuition, accommodation, transport and all other aspects of a great holiday are catered for. Visit [www.aire.ie](http://www.aire.ie) for an up-to-date list of AIRE approved riding centres or Equestrian Holidays Ireland on [www.ehi.ie](http://www.ehi.ie)

Generally peaceful and scenic, trekking is one of the most pleasurable ways to spend a tranquil few hours with an equine partner. Other horse riding activities available in the region include Polo-cross, horse shows and cross country events.

The region is also famous for its great racing, its world famous trainers and its happy punters, with five of the finest racecourses in the country. Gowran Park, Clonmel, Tramore, Tipperary and Wexford Town. The South East runs a busy calendar of track fixtures for both flat and hunt meetings throughout the year. Visit Horse Racing Ireland on [www.hri.ie](http://www.hri.ie).

## ACTIVITIES



MOUNT JULIET



TIPPERARY HORSE RIDING



HORSE RIDING GLEN OF AHERLOW



EQUESTRIAN IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Address	Telephone & Web
FALTEE IRELAND APPROVED	Mount Juliet Equestrian Centre	Thomastown Co. Kilkenny	056 7773044 <a href="http://www.mountjuliet.ie/equestrian">www.mountjuliet.ie/equestrian</a>
	Doyles Equestrian Centre	Rathvilly	059 9161000 <a href="http://www.doylesequestriancentre.ie">www.doylesequestriancentre.ie</a>
	Lake Tour Stables	Tramore	051 381958/086 8128631 <a href="http://www.laketourstables.ie">www.laketourstables.ie</a>
	Stonehaven Equestrian Centre	Waterford City	086 8887785 <a href="http://www.stonehavenec.com">www.stonehavenec.com</a>
CARLOW	Carrigbeg Riding School	Bagenalstown	059 9721962 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Equine Trails	Borris	059 9771695 <a href="http://www.equinetrails.ie">www.equinetrails.ie</a>
KILKENNY	Belline Estate Equestrian	Belline Estate Piltown	051 640000/087 2640000 <a href="http://www.bellineestate.ie">www.bellineestate.ie</a>
	Grennan College Equestrian Centre	Ladywell St., Thomastown	056 7724112/087 6743449 <a href="http://www.grennancollege.ie">www.grennancollege.ie</a>
	Rockafoyle Stables	Castlecomer	087 7453662/056 4441591
	Kildalton College	Piltown	051 644029/087 2468927
	Meadow Lane Riding School	Ballinunnery, The Rower	051 423877/087 2116670 <a href="http://www.meadowlaneridingschool.com">www.meadowlaneridingschool.com</a>
	Nuenna Equestrian Centre	Freshford	056 8832614/087 2786684
	Warrington Top Flight Equestrian Centre	Warrington	056 772 2682 <a href="http://www.warringtonec.ie">www.warringtonec.ie</a>
TIPPERARY	Cahir Equestrian Centre	Cahir	052 7441426/086 2515875 <a href="http://www.cahirequestrian.com">www.cahirequestrian.com</a>
	Solohead Equestrian Centre (Near Tipperary Town)	Solohead, Monard	087 1253481 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Whitechurch Riding School	Carrick on Suir	087 288 9081/051 640289 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
WATERFORD	Donna's Livery Stables	Dungarvan	087 2754013/058 42505
	Kilotteran Equitation Centre	Kilotteran	051 384158/085 7357952 <a href="http://www.kec.ie">www.kec.ie</a>
	Pallas Equestrian Centre	Woodstown	051 382112/086 3821157
WEXFORD	Anvil Lodge Stables	Enniscorthy	087 680 0919 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Ballyellen Equestrian Centre	Inch, Gorey	086 3311128 <a href="http://www.ballyellenequestrian.ie">www.ballyellenequestrian.ie</a>
	Ballycanew Riding Centre	Gorey	087 277 0355 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
	Butterfly Farm	Camolin, Enniscorthy	087 7666618/087 4189733 <a href="http://www.butterflyequitation.com">www.butterflyequitation.com</a>
	Kingsford Equestrian Centre	Barntown, Wexford	053 9134065/086 3818267 <a href="http://www.kingsfordequestrian.com">www.kingsfordequestrian.com</a>
	Shelmalier Riding Stables	Taghmon	053 913 9251 <a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>

ACTIVITIES





HORSE RACING



GREYHOUND RACING

# Sporting Events

**Sport is the heart beat of the South East, with sporting activities of all kinds played in every town, village and city throughout the region.**

> **Gaelic Games** Chief amongst sporting activities in the South East are our native Gaelic sports including the thrilling game of Hurling, famed for its break-neck pace and exciting encounters. Gaelic Football, Camogie, Hurling and Ladies Football are played in every town for at least nine months of the year. Why not experience the excitement and thrill of great club and county rivalry first hand by going along to any of the local Gaelic Games events held throughout the region. Visitors are always welcome to come and watch – it's a unique experience you won't forget! [www.gaa.ie](http://www.gaa.ie)

> **Horse Racing** In the South East, you're never too far from a race meeting. Meetings are held throughout the year at the region's five renowned race courses – Clonmel, Gowran Park, Tramore, Tipperary and Wexford Town. Elsewhere, thrilling point-to-point races are held at rural tracks in Lismore, Tallow, Dungarvan, Kill, Gowran, Tipperary and Wexford from October to April. [www.hri.ie](http://www.hri.ie)

> **Soccer** Soccer is played in clubs across the region throughout the year. There are clubs in all the major towns and some rural areas. Clubs have their own grounds, and matches take place during the week and at weekends. [www.fai.ie](http://www.fai.ie)

> **Greyhound Racing** An exciting night out can be enjoyed at any of the South East's busy greyhound racing tracks. Many of the venues now offer a full catering service for individuals and groups. The region's main Greyhound Stadia are at Waterford, Clonmel, Enniscorthy and Kilkenny. [www.igb.ie](http://www.igb.ie)

> **Rugby** Rugby Union is popular across the South East with thriving clubs in most large towns and cities. Games are played during most of the year except in summer. [www.irishrugby.ie](http://www.irishrugby.ie)

For local fixtures and information, visit one of our Discover Ireland Centres or Tourist Offices (Please see the inside front cover of this Guide for contact details) or our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

## ACTIVITIES





TIPPERARY CYCLING



WALKING FESTIVAL GLEN OF AHERLOW

# Walking & Cycling

**Walking and cycling are great ways to get off the beaten track and enjoy all the beautiful scenery the South East has to offer.**

Cycling is enjoyed by visitors of all ages to the region, with many uncrowded and scenic routes passing along the coast and through the countryside. A list of cycling operators that provide guided tours and bicycle hire is featured in this section.

## Walking Destinations:

- > **The Glen of Aherlow**, Co. Tipperary a walking centre of excellence, provides plenty of opportunity for walking, rambling, horse riding, cycling and fishing. [www.aherlow.com](http://www.aherlow.com)
- > **The Nire Valley**, Co. Waterford has terrain to suit every grade of walker from complete beginner to experienced mountaineer.
- > **Kilkenny**, has a number of looped walks and leisure Cycle routes, see [www.trailkilkenny.ie](http://www.trailkilkenny.ie)
- > **Bunclody**, Co. Wexford is an ideal base for cyclists and walkers with access to mountains, rivers, historic and coastal routes.

These destinations are set in idyllic countryside locations, with many accommodation providers specialising in walking holidays.

## Waymarked Ways:

These walking trails, signposted with waymarkers, are suitable for walkers of all ages and abilities. The trails can be walked from beginning to end, or in sections.

- > **South Leinster Way** (100km) starts in Kildavin (Co. Carlow) and ends in Carrick-on-Suir (Co. Tipperary).
- > **Barrow Way** (114km) starts in Robertstown, Co. Kildare and ends at St. Mullins, Co. Carlow.
- > **East Munster Way** (70km) starts in Carrick-on-Suir and ends in Clogheen.
- > **Tipperary Heritage Trail** (56km) starts at the Vee (scenic area north of Lismore) and ends in Cashel.
- > **Blackwater Way** (168km) starts in Clogheen, Co. Tipperary and ends in Shrone, Co. Kerry.
- > **Ballyhoura Way** (80km) starts at St. John's Bridge, Co. Cork, and ends at Limerick Junction Railway Station (Co. Tipperary).

## ACTIVITIES

LOOPED WALKS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

	Name	Location	Category	Time (hrs)	Category
CARLOW	Oakpark Loop	Oakpark	Nature	1	Easy
	Kilbrannish Loop	Kilbrannish	Nature	1.5-2	Moderate
	Windfarm Loop	Kilbrannish	Nature	1	Easy
TIPPERARY	Clogrennan Loop	Clogrennan	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Eamonn a Chnoic Loop	UpperChurch	Nature	3	Moderate
	Woodland Loop	Glen of Aherlow	Nature	1	Easy
	Bianconi Loop	Glen of Aherlow	Nature	2	Moderate
	Ballinacourty Loop	Glen of Aherlow	Mountain	1.5	Easy
	Rock an Thorabh Loop	Glen of Aherlow	Mountain	3	Moderate
	Millenium Stone Loop	Glen of Aherlow	Mountain	2.5	Moderate
	Carrolls Loop	Lisvarriane	Nature	1	Easy
	Padraigs Loop	Lisvarriane	Nature	1.5	Easy
	Dolmen Loop	Lisvarriane	Mountain	3	Moderate
	Grange Loop	Grange	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Crag Loop	Grange	Nature	2	Moderate
	Red Hugh Loop	Upperchurch	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Knockalough Loop	Upperchurch	Mountain	2-3.	Moderate
	Birchhill Loop	Upperchurch	Nature	2-3.	Moderate
	Glenbawn Loop	Clonmel	Nature	0.30-0.45	Easy
	Fox Covert Loop	Clonmel	Nature	0.45-1	Easy
	Dun Ui Faoilean Loop	Clonmel	Nature	1.5-2	Moderate
	Loch Doire Bhile Loop	New Birmingham	Nature	1.5-2	Easy
	Knockballiniry Loop	Goatenbridge	Nature	1.5-2	Easy
	Liam Lynch Loop	Goatenbridge	Nature	3.5-4.5	Moderate
	Gleann Beag Loop	Newcastle	Nature	1.5-2	Easy
	Devil's Bit Loop	Templemore	Mountain	1.5-2	Moderate
	Kilcommon Loop	Kilcommon	Nature	2-2.5	Moderate
KILKENNY	Kilmacoliver Loop	Tullahought	Nature	2	Moderate
	Fern Loop	Castlemorris	Nature	1	Easy
	Holly Loop	Castlemorris	Nature	1.5	Easy
	Aghaviller Loop	Castlemorris	Nature	2	Easy
	Sliabh Greine Loop	Tory Hill	Nature	1.5	Easy
	Fraughan Loop	Tory Hill	Nature	1.5	Moderate
	Grove Loop	Piltown Mountain	Nature	1.5	Easy
	Walled Garden Loop	Jeninstown Wood	Nature	1	Easy
	Jeninstown Wood Loop	Jeninstown Wood	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Captains Loop	Castlecomer	Nature	0.45-1	Easy
	Ardra Castle Loop	Castlecomer	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Brandon Hill Loop	Graiguenamanagh	Mountain	4.5.	Hard
	O' Gorman's Lane Loop	Bennettsbridge	Nature	1-1.5	Easy
	Freshford Loop	Freshford	Nature	2.5-3	Moderate
	Garryduff Loop	Piltown	Nature	1.5 - 2	Easy
WATERFORD	Rath Beag Loop	Lough Mohra	Nature	1	Easy
	Lough Mohra Loop	Lough Mohra	Nature	1	Moderate
	Glenpatrick Bridge Loop	Glenpatrick	Nature	2.5	Moderate
	Inchidrisla Loop	Colligan Woods	Nature	1.5	Easy
	Greenane Loop	Colligan Woods	Nature	2-2.5	Moderate
WEXFORD	Raven Point Loop	Curraghcloe	Coastal	2	Moderate
	Askamore Loop	Askamore	Nature	1.5-2	Easy
	Ballybeg Loop	Askamore	Nature	2.5-3.5	Moderate
	Slieveboy Loop	Askamore	Nature	3.5-4.5	Moderate

WALKING IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

Name	Details	Address	Telephone & Web
WALKING FESTIVALS			
Dunmore East Rambling Weekend	20th – 22nd May	Dunmore East, Co. Waterford	www.dunmorewalks.com
Glen of Aherlow Walking Festival	3rd – 6th June	Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary	www.aherlow.com 06256331
Galtee Challenge Walk	26th June	Galtee	www.galteeawalkingclub.ie
Carlow Autumn Walking Festival	7th – 9th October	Carlow	www.carlowtourism.com 059 9130411
Nire Valley Walking Festival	7th – 9th October	Nire Valley, Co. Waterford	www.hanorascottage.com
CYCLING OPERATORS			
Celtic Cycling in Ireland	Leisurely cycling holidays	Bagenalstown Co. Carlow	059 9775282 www.discoverireland.ie
Easy Wheelin Cycle Tours	Guided cycling tours and bicycle hire	Tramore, Co. Waterford	051 390706 www.discoverireland.ie
Altitude Cycling and Outdoor Centre	Bicycle hire plus outdoor equipment	Ballybricken, Waterford City	051 870356 www.altitude.ie
Hayes Cycles	Bicycle Hire	Wexford Town	053 9122462 www.discoverireland.ie
Springhouse Bicycle Hire	Bicycle Hire	Tipperary	062 31329 www.discoverireland.ie
Harbour Office	Bicycle Hire	Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford	053 9129955 www.discoverireland.ie
Tramore Bike Tours.	Guided cycling tours of Waterford and Southeast.	Tramore, Co. Waterford	087 2344867/ 051 386988 www.tramorebiketours.com
Lismore Cycling Holidays	Packaged cycling holidays and bicycle rental	Dungarvan, Co. Waterford	087 9356610 www.cyclingholidays.ie
Tony O'Mahony,	Bicycle Hire and Sales	Abbeyside, Dungarvan	058 43346
Kilkenny Cycling Tours	Bicycle Hire	Kilkenny	086 8954961 www.kilkennycyclingtours.com
WALKING OPERATORS			
Rathgormack Hiking Centre	Hiking Centre located at foot of Comeragh Mts	Rathgormack, Co. Waterford	051 646969 www.discoverireland.ie
Mountain Zone	Overnight hiking trips for groups in the Comeragh Mountains	Dunmore East, Co. Waterford	087 9262117 www.mountainzone.ie
Glen of Aherlow Faiite	Route Maps & Guided walks on the Galty Mts	Glen of Aherlow Co. Tipperary	062 56331 www.aherlow.com
South East Coastal Walks	Panoramic coastal walks of the South East	Kilmore, Co. Wexford	086 1508498 www.southeastcoastalwalks.ie
Explore Ireland Tours	Leisurely walks and bike rides	Kilkenny and Wicklow	091 335588 www.exploreirelandtours.ie

**Fáilte Ireland looped Walks:** [www.discoverireland.ie/walking](http://www.discoverireland.ie/walking)  
This website contains very comprehensive information, walks are listed by county, there is an accompanying orientation map to show the location of the walk and its starting point. There is then a more detailed route map showing the actual route of the looped walk.

**Useful National websites**  
Coillte Outdoors (Irish Forestry Walks): [www.coillteoutdoors.ie](http://www.coillteoutdoors.ie)  
Long Distance Walking Routes: [www.irishtrails.ie](http://www.irishtrails.ie)  
Slí na Sláinte (Health Walks)/Irish Heart Foundation: [www.irisheart.ie](http://www.irisheart.ie)

**Other useful websites**  
Kilkenny: [www.trailkilkenny.ie](http://www.trailkilkenny.ie)  
Waterford: [www.welcomewaterford.ie/seankellytour](http://www.welcomewaterford.ie/seankellytour)  
Wexford: [www.discoverireland.ie/cycling](http://www.discoverireland.ie/cycling)  
Tipperary – Glen of Aherlow: [www.aherlow.com](http://www.aherlow.com)

ACTIVITIES





KILKENNY DINING



SEA FOOD PLATTER

# Food & Dining

**Taste is all around you... so tantalize your taste buds! A holiday to the South East wouldn't be complete without sampling the region's fine food.**

With the mighty Atlantic washing its beautiful coastline, the South East offers incredible seafood from the small pubs in seaside villages to the many larger, friendly restaurants in the towns and cities across the region. Wexford is known for its rich, ripe strawberries which take centre stage at the famous annual Wexford Strawberry Festival in Enniscorthy. When in Waterford, don't forget to try the great tasting blaa, a bread roll unique to this county.

Trail Kilkenny is delighted to offer visitors a chance to experience the rich and varied food culture of County Kilkenny. Created by the food producers and restaurants of the county, the food trail has 38 participants entities. [www.trailkilkenny.ie](http://www.trailkilkenny.ie)

## FOOD FESTIVALS:

To sample the best food and wine combined with a great day out, why not visit one of our food festivals taking place this year.

**Dunmore East Festival of Food – Fish & Fun** 10th – 12th June  
[www.discoverdunmore.com](http://www.discoverdunmore.com) Cookery demonstrations; food tastings; sustainable lifestyle talks; farmers' market; fun and entertainment for all the family.

**Kilmore Quay Seafood Festival** 7th – 10th July  
[www.kilmorequayseafoodfestival.com](http://www.kilmorequayseafoodfestival.com) Music, stalls, exhibitions, lots of fun activities and of course our famous Seafood Platters.

**Waterford Harvest Food Festival** 4th – 11th September  
[www.slowfoodireland.com](http://www.slowfoodireland.com) A series of events celebrating our food heritage and culture.

**Savour Kilkenny** 28th – 31st October [www.savourkilkenny.com](http://www.savourkilkenny.com)  
A celebration of food from the producer to the table.

## ACTIVITIES



LOGANBERRIES



RASPBERRY DESSERT



TANNERY COOKERY SCHOOL

### COOKERY SCHOOLS:

Expert tuition, the best of ingredients and stacks of warm hospitality are features of the South East's cookery schools.

**Ballyderrin House and Cookery School**, Tullow, Co. Carlow

Tel: 059 9152742. [www.ballyderrin.com](http://www.ballyderrin.com) The cookery school includes a series of day, weekend and evening courses to suit all tastes and abilities.

**Tasteworks Cookery School**, Shillelagh Road, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow

Tel: 059 97 22786. [www.tasteworks.ie](http://www.tasteworks.ie) Innovative cookery workshops and demonstration classes for adults and children, embracing the diversity of Irish cuisine. Shop/Coffee Shop.

**Tannery Cookery School**, Church Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford

Tel: 058 45420. [www.tannery.ie](http://www.tannery.ie) Paul Flynn and guest chefs will provide a wide range of courses from beginners to more advanced and adventurous cooks.

**Dunbrody Country House Cookery School**, Arthurstown, Co. Wexford

Tel: 051 389600 [www.dunbrodyhouse.com](http://www.dunbrodyhouse.com) Under the care and guidance of Masterchef Kevin Dundon, Dunbrody Cookery School has been designed to cater for all levels of cooking, from budding enthusiasts to the experienced gourmet.

**Dunbrody Abbey Cookery Centre**, Campile, Co. Wexford Tel: 051 388933.

[www.cookingireland.com](http://www.cookingireland.com) Small, long established, exclusive cookery school with accommodation. Courses available all year round.

**Phelim Byrne Cookery Academy**, Wexford Town Tel: 053 9184995.

[www.phelimbyrne.ie](http://www.phelimbyrne.ie) With a variety of different themes, Phelim Byrne's cookery courses offer classes to cover all tastes.

**The Country Cookery School**, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford Tel: 053 9130423.

This cookery school offers a complete cookery course that will enable you to cook for family and friends with ease and enjoyment.

**Ryeland House Cookery School**, Cuffes Grange, Co. Kilkenny.

Tel: 056 772 9073/086 276 7656 [www.ryelandhousecookery.com](http://www.ryelandhousecookery.com)

Ryeland House first open its doors in Kilkenny in 1991 to provide cooking classes. Much of the food used at Ryeland House is grown on the home farm, our neighbours farms or is produced locally by skilled artisan food makers.

### ACTIVITIES





WATERFORD HARVEST FESTIVAL



WEXFORD CHEESE



FARMERS MARKET

## FARMERS' MARKETS:

Take in the atmosphere of our farmers' markets, by browsing around and sampling the local and organic produce such as farmhouse cheeses, salmon, meats and a wide range of organic fruit and vegetables.

### CARLOW

**Carlow Farmers' Market** Potato Market, Carlow. Saturday 9.00 - 14.00.

### KILKENNY

**Kilkenny Farmers' Market** Mayors Walk, The Parade, Kilkenny.  
Every Thursday 9.30 - 14.30.

### TIPPERARY

**Cahir Farmers' Market** Beside The Craft Granary, Cahir.  
Saturday 9.00 - 13.00.

**Carrick-on-Suir** Heritage Centre, Main St. Friday 10.00 - 14.00.

**Clonmel Farmers' Market** Kickham Street. Saturday 10.00 - 14.00.

**Nenagh Farmers' Market** Quintins Way, Nenagh. Saturday 10.00 - 15.00.

**Premier Organic Market** Showgrounds Shopping Centre, Clonmel.  
Friday 11.00 -18.00.

**Templemore** Templemore. Wednesday 9.00 - 15.00.

**Thurles** Greyhound Stadium, Thurles. Saturday 9.30 - 12.30.

**Tipperary Town Farmers' Market** Tipperary Shopping Centre.  
Saturday 9.00 - 14.00.

### WATERFORD

**Ardkeen Producers Market** Ardkeen Quality Food Store, Waterford.  
2nd Sun. each month 10.00 -14.00.

**Blackwater Farmers' Market** Blackwater Garden Centre, Kinsalebeg.  
Saturday 10.00 - 13.00.

**Dungarvan Farmers' Market** The Square Dungarvan. Thursday 9.30 -14.00.

**Dunhill Farmers Market** Parish Hall, Dunhill. Last Sun. of month 11.30-14.00.

**Kilmacthomas** Kilmacthomas. Thursday 9.30 - 14.00.

**Lismore Farmers' Market** The Castle Avenue, Lismore. Sunday 10.00 - 16.00.

**Waterford Food Market** Jenkins Lane, Waterford. Saturday 10.00 - 16.00.

### WEXFORD

**Enniscorthy Farmers' Market** The Abbey Square Carpark.  
Saturday 9.00 - 14.00.

**Gorey Farmers' Market** Esmonde Street, Gorey. Saturday 9.00 - 14.00.

**New Ross Farmers' Market** The Quay, New Ross. Saturday 9.00 - 14.00.

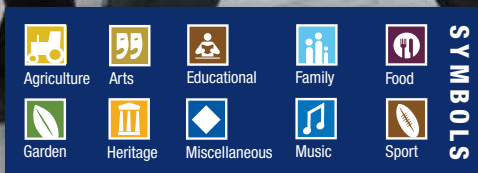
**Wexford Farmers' Market** Supervalu Car Park, Wexford. Friday 9.00 - 14.00.

For more information log on to [www.bordbia.ie/aboutfood/farmersmarkets](http://www.bordbia.ie/aboutfood/farmersmarkets)

## ACTIVITIES



SPRAOI FESTIVAL,  
WATERFORD



# Festivals & Events

**Sing, dance, laugh out loud or just sit back and enjoy the fun-filled festivals and events taking place across the South East in 2011.**

Éigse Carlow Arts Festival takes place across Carlow town and county in June. Éigse is an internationally renowned festival of film, dance, street theatre, sculpture and fine art.

Kilkenny hosts the Smithwick's Kilkenny Rhythm and Roots Festival in April with four days of the best in Americana and Roots music in over 30 venues throughout the city. June brings the hilarious Cat Laughs Comedy Festival, a world class comedy programme blending the best in Irish & international talent.

June 30th to July 3rd will be four extraordinary days in Waterford as Ireland once again hosts The Tall Ships Race. This is one of the most spectacular and colourful events in the world and Waterford is gearing up to host over 70 majestic Tall Ships. The Tall Ships Race is set to be the biggest event in Ireland in 2011 and will be celebrated with a festival programme capturing the very best of Irish and international acts including street theatre, fireworks music and food.

Tipperary steps up to it in January and June with a stroll or hike as part of the renowned Glen of Aherlow Walking Festivals. The summer really kicks in with The Clancy Brothers Music and Arts Festival in Carrick on Suir and the Brú Ború Summer Seisúin of Irish traditional music, song and dance in Cashel.

Wexford hits the high note this spring with a new Theatrical Music Festival taking place in March at the Opera House. WWI and WW2 battles and more can be experienced at the Duncannon Fort Annual Military Re-enactment. Wexford Book Festival is a celebration of books with author readings, literary workshops, poetry, story telling and much more! Wexford Fleadh Cheoil is an annual festival as is the Strawberry Festival in June.

Check out our website [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie) for an up-to-date list of events taking place throughout the year.

## ACTIVITIES



FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

JUNE 2011

**Tramore Racing June 2 Day Meeting**  
3rd - 4th June  
Tramore, Co. Waterford  
[www.tramore-racecourse.com](http://www.tramore-racecourse.com)  
Great Races. Live entertainment after racing. Three Bars, Two Restaurants, One great atmosphere.

**The Cat Laughs Comedy Festival**  
2nd – 6th June  
Kilkenny City  
[www.thecatlaughs.com](http://www.thecatlaughs.com)  
World-class comedy programme blending the best in Irish and international talent with shows featuring renowned comic stars as well as upcoming talent.

**All Ireland and International Sheep Shearing and Wool Festival 2011**  
4th - 5th June  
Cillin Hill, Kilkenny  
[www.sheepshearing.ie](http://www.sheepshearing.ie)  
The event is held on the bank holiday weekend, 4th and 5th June 201. Competitions Venue at Cillin Hill & various City locations.

**Art on Cathedral Square**  
4th & 18th June 11am - 4pm  
Cathedral Square, Waterford City  
[www.christchurchwaterford.com](http://www.christchurchwaterford.com)  
This is a free open air exhibition by Waterford artists on the railing on Cathedral Square.

**Clancy Brothers Music and Arts Festival**  
3rd - 5th June  
Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary  
[enquiries@clancybrothersfestival.org](mailto:enquiries@clancybrothersfestival.org)  
A major event to highlight the achievement of the Clancy Brothers' success in putting Ireland on the world stage with Irish entertainment.

**Glen of Aherlow Walking Festival 2011**  
3rd - 6th June  
Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary  
[www.aherlow.com](http://www.aherlow.com)  
T: 06256331  
Three day annual walking festival offering 10 guided walks on the Galtees and Slievenamuck Hills. Caters for all levels of walkers.

**Lismore Music Festival**  
3rd - 5th June  
Lismore Town; Lismore Castle & Gardens; Blackwater Valley, Co. Waterford  
[www.lismoremusicfestival.com](http://www.lismoremusicfestival.com)  
A unique Summer music & opera event in the stunning surroundings of Lismore town & Castle and the Blackwater Valley each June Bank Holiday Weekend.

**Carlow Regatta**  
4th - 5th June  
River Barrow, Co. Carlow  
[michael.curran@zurich.ie](mailto:michael.curran@zurich.ie)  
Carlow Regatta is one of the oldest sporting events in Carlow and we are also one of the oldest sports clubs in the county.

South East Ireland  
Pocket Guide

For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)  
Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

**Duncannon Fort**  
**Annual Military Re-enactment**  
4th - 5th June  
Duncannon Fort, Duncannon, New Ross, Co. Wexford  
[info@duncannonfort.com](mailto:info@duncannonfort.com)  
Annual military re-enactment featuring WWI and WW2 battles, archery, medieval fair, vintage army vehicles, weaponry and more.

**Summer Magic at**  
**Waterford & Suir Valley Railway**  
5th June  
Kilmeaden Co. Waterford  
Tel: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Enjoy a magic show with Mondo the Magician between trips.

**Immrama The Lismore Festival of Travel Writing**  
9th - 12th June  
Various venues in Lismore, Co. Waterford  
[www.lismoreimmrama.com](http://www.lismoreimmrama.com)  
Immrama includes literary presentations by top national and international travel writers and bi-lingual workshops augmented by ancillary events.

**The International Gordon Bennett Rally**  
10th - 12th June  
[www.ivvcc.ie](http://www.ivvcc.ie)  
Commemorating the original 1903 Gordon Bennett Cup Car Race. Will feature over 175 antique, veteran and vintage cars pre 1930. Headquarters Mount Wolseley Hotel, Carlow.

**Dunmore East Festival of Food,**  
Fish & Fun  
10th - 12th June  
Dunmore East, Co. Waterford  
[www.discoverdunmore.com](http://www.discoverdunmore.com)  
Cookery demonstrations; food tastings; sustainable lifestyle talks; farmers' market; fun and entertainment for all the family; all local food outlets involved.

**Éigse Carlow Arts Festival**  
10th - 19th June  
Carlow Town & County  
[www.eigsecarlow.ie](http://www.eigsecarlow.ie)  
Annual festival of visual arts, music, theatre, literature, dance, film and street entertainment. 2011 will focus on showcasing world renowned artists.

**Teddy Bears Picnic at**  
**Waterford & Suir Valley Railway**  
12th June  
Kilmeaden Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Bring your own picnic to enjoy with the Teddy Bears.

**Wexford Fleadh Cheoil**  
Mid June (dates TBC)  
T: 062 61122  
Wexford Fleadh Cheoil - annual festival of Irish traditional music, dance, song and language.

**South East Garden Show & Modern Homes Exhibition**  
17th - 19th June  
The Hub at Cillin Hill, Kilkenny.  
The South East Garden Show is a showcase for everything to do with the house, home and garden.

ACTIVITIES

FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

Rose Week at Altamont Gardens

20th - 24th June  
Tullow, Co. Carlow  
[altamontgardens@opw.ie](http://altamontgardens@opw.ie)  
Great opportunity to view the superb collection of roses in Altamont Gardens.



Ballykeeffe Midsummer Festival

Mid June - Mid August  
Kilmanagh, Co. Kilkenny  
[www.ballykeeffe.com](http://www.ballykeeffe.com)  
Family fun day, Theatres, Traditional, Classical, Rock and Contemporary Music in an outdoor location.



Cartoon Characters at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

26th June  
Kilmeaden Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Meet your favourite characters at the Railway.



The Byrne Perry School Summer Festival

24th - 26th June  
St Joseph's School, Gorey, Co. Wexford  
T: 053 9421248  
[www.byrneperry.ie](http://www.byrneperry.ie)

This year it will explore the ways that the histories of Ireland, France and U.S. are entwined.



County Wexford Strawberry Festival

22nd - 26th June  
Enniscorthy Town, Co. Wexford  
[www.wexfordstrawberryfestival.com](http://www.wexfordstrawberryfestival.com)  
Opening with the Gala Ball, the Strawberry Festival includes music, street theatre, family fun, festivities, local produce, strawberries & cream.



Brú Ború Summer Seisiún

25th June - 20th August  
Cashel, Co. Tipperary  
[www.comhaldas.com](http://www.comhaldas.com)  
Songs and dancing Tuesday – Saturday five nights each week at the Brú Ború Cultural Centre.



Galtee Challenge Walk

26th June  
[www.galteewalkingclub.ie](http://www.galteewalkingclub.ie)  
Challenging walk across the Galtees talking in all the peaks.



Raven Rock Car Rally

26th June  
Kilkenny City  
[www.carrickonsuirmotorclub.com](http://www.carrickonsuirmotorclub.com)



JULY 2011

The Tall Ships Races 2011

30th June - 3rd July  
Quayside, Waterford City  
[www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie](http://www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie)  
The Tall Ships Race is set to be the biggest event in Ireland in 2011 and Waterford will celebrate with a festival programme capturing the very best of Irish and international acts; street theatre; fireworks; music and food.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Art on Cathedral Square

30th June to 3rd July 11am - 4pm  
Sat 16th & 30th July 11am - 4pm  
Christ Church Cathedral Square, Waterford City  
[www.christchurchwaterford.com](http://www.christchurchwaterford.com)  
This is a free open air exhibition by Waterford artists on the railing on Cathedral Square.



George Bernard Shaw Summer School Festival

2nd July  
Visual Theatre, Carlow  
[www.visualcarlow.ie](http://www.visualcarlow.ie)  
Celebrating many aspects of George Bernard Shaw life.



Kilmore Quay Seafood Festival

7th - 10th July  
[www.kilmorequayseafoodfestival.com](http://www.kilmorequayseafoodfestival.com)  
This year's programme celebrated a Festival with Music, Street Theatre, Stalls, Exhibitions, lots of fun activities for the kids and of course our famous Seafood Platters.



Cahir go Léir & the TRI3 Triathlon.

9th - 11th July  
Cahir, Co. Tipperary  
[www.cahir.ie](http://www.cahir.ie)  
A festival music and entertainment for all. The with the TRI3 Triathlon will take place on the 10th July.



Cartoon Characters at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

10th & 24th July  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Meet your favourite characters at the Railway.



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Clonmel Junction Festival

1st - 10th July  
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary  
[www.junctionfestival.com](http://www.junctionfestival.com)  
Nine days of theatre, music, dance spectacle, workshops and more!



Teddy Bears Picnic at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

17th July  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
Tel: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Bring your own picnic to enjoy with the Teddy Bears.



Ardmore Pattern Festival

22nd - 24th July  
Ardmore, Co. Waterford  
[www.ardmorepatternfestival.ie](http://www.ardmorepatternfestival.ie)  
Weekend of fun-packed activity and entertainment for all the family - fireworks, live music, dance, sports, games and tours - most of which are free.



JFK Dunbrody Festival

22nd - 24th July  
New Ross, Co. Wexford  
[www.jfkunbrodyfestival.org](http://www.jfkunbrodyfestival.org)  
Free open-air concerts, crafts, sports and street entertainment for all ages.



Eigse Eathariaí

22nd - 24th July  
Tig Roy, Galbally, Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary.  
[www.eathariai.ie](http://www.eathariai.ie)  
Traditional Music Song & Dance summer school.



ACTIVITIES



FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

Horse Racing – Wexford

22nd & 23rd July (2 day meeting)  
Wexford, Co. Wexford  
T: 053 9142307  
[www.horseracingireland.com](http://www.horseracingireland.com)



Duckett's Grove Country Fairs

31st July  
Reinstown, Carlow  
[www.carlowtourism.com](http://www.carlowtourism.com)  
A hive of activity can be enjoyed in this truly spectacular setting with the courtyard at Duckett's Grove featuring a fantastic selection of stands showcasing the best of Carlow from food to craft and musical entertainment.



Wexford Art in the Open

29th July - 1st August  
Wexford  
[www.artintheopen.org](http://www.artintheopen.org)  
Art in the Open 2011, Europe's largest annual plein air painting festival.



Graignamanagh/Tinnahinch Regatta & Rowing Festival

31st July - 1st August 2011  
Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny  
Tel: 087-6371949  
2 days of rowing, swimming, diving, cot racing, competitions plus novelty events.



Summer Magic at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

31st July  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Enjoy a magic show with Mondo the Magician between trips.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

AUGUST 2011

Carlow Floral Festival Trail -

throughout Co. Carlow,  
30th July - 7th August  
[www.carlowfloralfestival.com](http://www.carlowfloralfestival.com)  
Floral fun and facts with gardening and floral workshops by some of Ireland's most respected gardening personalities.



SPRAOI Festival

29th July - 31st July  
Waterford City Centre  
[www.spraoi.com](http://www.spraoi.com)  
International street theatre & world music festival. Spraoi is a family-friendly weekend full of colour & imagination. All events at Spraoi are free.



Draiocht na Faille Deirge

2nd August - 1st September  
Clogheen, Co. Tipperary  
A fast moving colourful and energetic traditional music, song, and dance show performed every Tuesday and Thursday night.



Kilkenny Arts Festival

5th - 14th August, Kilkenny  
[www.kilkennyarts.ie](http://www.kilkennyarts.ie)  
Kilkenny Arts Festival is ten days of the best in music, art, theatre, craft, dance and literature. The Festival is renowned for the excellence of its programme, chosen by a panel of curators, each one a specialist in a strand of the arts. They bring acts and exhibits from all over the world to the intimate setting of the medieval city.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Art on Cathedral Square

6th & 20th August 11am - 4pm  
Cathedral Square, Waterford City  
[www.christchurchwaterford.com](http://www.christchurchwaterford.com)  
This is a free open air exhibition by Waterford artists on the railing on Cathedral Square.



Teddy Bears Picnic at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

7th August  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Bring your own picnic to enjoy with the Teddy Bears.



Duncannon Sand Sculpting Festival

12th - 14th August  
Duncannon, New Ross, Co. Wexford  
[www.visitduncannon.com](http://www.visitduncannon.com)  
Festival fun for all the Family! Star attractions include sand sculptures on the beach, beach parties, fireworks, street theatre and live music all weekend.



Tramore August Racing Festival

11th, 12th, 13th, 14th August,  
Tramore, Co. Waterford  
[www.tramore-racecourse.com](http://www.tramore-racecourse.com)  
Great Races. Live entertainment after racing. Three Bars, Two Restaurants, One great atmosphere.



Cartoon Characters at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

14th & 28th August  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Meet your favourite characters at the Railway.



Enniscorthy Street Rhythms

Dance Fest.  
19th - 21st August, Enniscorthy,  
Co. Wexford  
[www.enniscorthystreetrhythms.com](http://www.enniscorthystreetrhythms.com)  
Lively and fun street dance and rhythms with a parade and fireworks on Friday night, street dancing, ceili and craft fair.



Rosslare Harbour/ Kilrane Summer Festival

19th - 21st August  
Rosslare, Co. Wexford  
[www.rosslareharbour.ie](http://www.rosslareharbour.ie)  
Live entertainment, family filled day, food, horse riding, water activities, etc.



Camphire International Horse Trials Eventing

19th - 21st August  
[www.camphirehorsetrials.com](http://www.camphirehorsetrials.com)  
Camphire International Horse Trials a stunning new, international eventing location!



Fethard Walled Town Medieval Festival

20th - 21st August  
Fethard, Co. Tipperary  
[www.fethard.com/walledtown](http://www.fethard.com/walledtown)  
Family Event, recreating the medieval era in which Fethard was founded and flourished in the 12th Century.



Summer Magic at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

21st August  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)  
Enjoy a magic show with Mondo the Magician between trips.



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ACTIVITIES

FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

Heritage Week - through the county,  
20th - 28th August 2011

Week of indoor and outdoor events throughout the country celebrating heritage week in your area.



Tullow Agricultural Show,  
21st August 2011

One of the most established agricultural shows in the country.



Norman Connection Festival

25th - 29th August  
The Hook Peninsula,  
Fethard on Sea, Co. Wexford.

React - Recreate the Norman Invasion  
1169: Archery Competition, Triathlon,  
Norman Battle, Historical Lectures  
Music and Activities.



Guinness Dunmore  
East Bluegrass Festival

25th - 28th August, Dunmore East  
[www.discoverdunmore.ie](http://www.discoverdunmore.ie)

American Bluegrass has its roots in Irish, Scottish and English traditional music, live sessions throughout the day and evenings



Iverk Agricultural Show

27th August  
Piltown, Co. Kilkenny  
[www.iverkshow.com](http://www.iverkshow.com)

One of the largest agricultural shows in the country, the Show is a family day out with plenty of entertainment for kids. There is also a serious side to the show with entrants competing for a prize in the agricultural classes



The Sean Kelly Cycling Tour

27th - 28th August  
Dungarvan, Co. Waterford  
[www.theseankellytour.com](http://www.theseankellytour.com)

The Sean Kelly Cycling Tour has something for all cyclists. Three different routes showcasing the unrivalled scenery of County Waterford.



SEPTEMBER 2011

Waterford Harvest Food Festival

4th - 11th September

[www.slowfoodireland.com](http://www.slowfoodireland.com)

Waterford Harvest Food Festival is a series of events celebrating our food heritage and culture.



Art on Cathedral Square

4th September 11am - 4pm  
Cathedral Square, Waterford City  
[www.christchurchwaterford.com](http://www.christchurchwaterford.com)

This is a free open air exhibition by Waterford artists on the railing on Cathedral Square.



Cartoon Characters at  
Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

11th & 25th September  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)

Meet your favourite characters at the Railway.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Fenagh Steam Rally

11th September  
[www.carlowtourism.com](http://www.carlowtourism.com)

Steam engines, vintage tractors, vintage cars, tractor pulling, dog show, baby show stalls and amusements, fun for all the family.



Grauguenamanagh Town of Books

16th - 18th September  
[www.booktownireland.com](http://www.booktownireland.com)

Ireland's leading sellers of antiquarian, second hand, bargain and specialist books will set up shop in this charming medieval river town.



Rosdillig Vintage  
Rally & Steam Threshings

18th September  
Rosdillig, Borris, Co. Carlow  
Parade of vintage farm engines, all kinds of vintage tractors, cars and engines.



National Ploughing Championship

20th - 22nd September  
Cardenton, Athy, Co. Kildare  
[www.npa.ie](http://www.npa.ie)  
National Ploughing Championship.



New Ross Piano Festival

22nd - 25th September,  
St Mary's Church and other locations  
in New Ross, Co. Wexford  
[www.newrosspianofestival.com](http://www.newrosspianofestival.com)  
International weekend festival focused on the piano.



Tramore Oceanic Surf and Sea Festival

22nd - 25th September  
Tramore, Co. Waterford  
T: 051-390944  
[www.oceanics.ie](http://www.oceanics.ie)

A weekend of family fun open to all on Tramore beach including, a ladies surf weekend, eco-walks, kite surfing exhibitions and kite building and much more.



Kilkenny Racing Festival  
at Gowran Park

30th September -1st October  
Gowran Park, Co. Kilkenny  
T: +353 (0)56 - 7726225  
[www.horseracingireland.com](http://www.horseracingireland.com)



OCTOBER 2011

Kilkenny Celtic Festival/Féile Cheilteach  
Chill Channigh

28th September - 1st October  
[www.celticfestival.ie](http://www.celticfestival.ie)

This festival is dedicated to encouraging a wider and deeper appreciation of all things Celtic expressed through language, song, music, dance & food.



Eireman X The off the road  
Triathlon & Duathlon

1st October  
Courtown Harbour, Co. Wexford  
E: [info@eireman.org](mailto:info@eireman.org)  
Eireman X is the only off the road Triathlon & Duathlon in Ireland.



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ACTIVITIES



FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

Carlow Autumn Walking Festival

7th - 9th October  
T: 059 9130411  
[www.carlowtourism.com](http://www.carlowtourism.com)  
Great opportunity for beginner experienced or advanced walkers to enjoy the challenge of Carlow's mountain treks or its peaceful rivers & forests. All walks lead by local knowledgeable guides.



Nire Valley Walking Festival

7th - 9th October  
Nire Valley, Co. Waterford  
[www.hanorascottage.com](http://www.hanorascottage.com)  
Annual Walking Festival in the scenic Comeragh Mountains and the Nire Valley.



Style Clonmel Festival

8th - 18th October  
Clonmel, Co. Tipperary  
[www.styleclonmel.com](http://www.styleclonmel.com)  
10 Days of Fashion and Fun with fashion shows and makeovers etc.



Wexford Fringe Festival

Friday 21st October - 6th November  
Wexford Town  
[www.wexfordfringe.ie](http://www.wexfordfringe.ie)  
Internationally regarded as one of the most energetic and fun Fringe Festivals in Europe by festival goers, this cultural fiesta is not to be missed.



Wexford Festival Opera

21st October - 5th November  
Wexford Town  
[www.wexfordopera.com](http://www.wexfordopera.com)  
One of the world's most important Opera Festivals, with visitors promised a rare experience through a unique programme of opera, concerts and recitals.



Imagine Arts Festival

21st - 30th October  
Waterford City  
[www.imagineartsfestival.com](http://www.imagineartsfestival.com)  
Imagine is a multi-disciplinary arts festival encompassing dance, film, theatre, comedy, music, visual art, literature and children's programming.



Return to the Deise Festival

28th - 31st October  
Dungarvan, Co. Waterford  
[www.returntothedeise.com](http://www.returntothedeise.com)  
Take a trip down memory lane and meet up with pals, former colleagues and family.



Halloween Ghostly Guided Tours

24th - 31st October  
Hook Lighthouse, Fethard-On-Sea, Co. Wexford  
[www.hookheritage.ie](http://www.hookheritage.ie)  
Ghostly tours of the lighthouse and spooky disco every evening up to and including Halloween, storyteller, children witchcraft and wizardry school.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)  
Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

Halloween at Castlecomer

Discovery Park  
25th - 31st October (Dates TBC)  
Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny  
[www.castlecomerdiscoverypark](http://www.castlecomerdiscoverypark)  
House of Horrors, Bubble & Squeak, Turnip Carving and Trick or Treat Trail.



Halloween Spookfest

24th - 31st October  
Waterford City  
[www.waterfordchamber.ie](http://www.waterfordchamber.ie)  
Scare yourself silly this October at the Waterford City Halloween Spookfest. Meet ghosts, ghouls, witches and demons of all ages – trick or treat?



Irish Conker Championship Festival

28th - 30th October  
The Square, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny  
[www.irishconkerchampionship.com](http://www.irishconkerchampionship.com)  
Ancient game for everyone from 8 year olds up. Crammed with events for the whole family, exhibitions, music, workshops.



Halloween Spooky Express at Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

29th October  
Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford  
T: 353 (0)51 384058  
[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)



Savour Kilkenny

28th - 31st October, Kilkenny  
[www.savourkilkenny.com](http://www.savourkilkenny.com)  
A celebration of food from the producer to the table.



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NOVEMBER 2011

Waterford International Music Festival

1st - 13th November  
Waterford City  
[www.waterfordintlmusicfestival.com](http://www.waterfordintlmusicfestival.com)  
The premier event of its kind in these islands celebrating what's best about music, from popular musicals to soulful gospel and alternative sounds.



Kilkenomics – Kilkenny

8th - 13th November  
[www.kilkenomics.com](http://www.kilkenomics.com)  
Kilkenomics is an Economics festival which will run in Kilkenny city from 8th – 13th November. Money is serious. Comedy is funny. This could be seriously funny and seriously useful too.



Waterford Fashion Week

2nd - 12th November (Provisional)  
[www.waterfordchamber.ie](http://www.waterfordchamber.ie)  
A weeklong series of fashion events designed to suit all tastes, types and ages. There is something for everyone at Waterford Fashion Week.



Wexford Theatrical Music Festival

18th – 20th November  
Wexford Opera House, Wexford Town  
[www.wexfordoperahouse.ie](http://www.wexfordoperahouse.ie)  
A mixed programme concert of West End performers, musical theatre, films and much more.



ACTIVITIES

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS IN IRELAND'S SOUTH EAST

### Cashel Arts Festival

11th - 20th November

Cashel, Co. Tipperary

[www.cashelartsfest.com](http://www.cashelartsfest.com)

Cashel Arts Festival is a 10 day festival of music, dance, visual art, theatre, comedy, talks, poetry, street performance, family and children's events.



### Waterford Film Festival

4th - 6th November (Dates TBC)

[www.waterfordchamber.ie](http://www.waterfordchamber.ie)

Greyfriars Art Gallery, Waterford City  
The Waterford Film Festival screens films from around the world, from short films to feature film to documentaries.



### Bulmer's Comedy Festival

16th - 20th November

Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

[www.clonmelcomedy.com](http://www.clonmelcomedy.com)

The Bulmer's Comedy Festival will celebrate its 5th anniversary over 5 days hosting the very best in Irish and international stand up comedians.



### WexWorlds Sci-Fi & Fantasy

#### Fiction Festival

18th - 20th November

Wexford Town

[www.wexworldfestival.com](http://www.wexworldfestival.com)

Festival celebrating science fiction and fantasy fiction through a variety of events for all ages and fantastic imaginations.



## DECEMBER 2011

### Rathwood Santa Train

22nd November - 24th December

Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow

[www.rathwood.com](http://www.rathwood.com)

Visit Santa and Mrs. Claus at Rathwood. Great fun for all the family with a train ride through the woods to Santa's woodland home. Advance booking necessary, available from September 1st.



### Christmas in Waterford

1st - 31st December

[www.waterfordchamber.ie](http://www.waterfordchamber.ie)

This annual celebration is now in its fourth year and each year the festival just gets better and better and 2011 will be one of the best yet – choirs, carol singing, outdoor markets, free children's activities, Christmas funfairs, and of course great Christmas Shopping.



### The Santa Express

#### Waterford & Suir Valley Railway

In December

Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford

T: 353 (0)51 384058

[www.wsvrailway.ie](http://www.wsvrailway.ie)

Christmas is a very special time at the Waterford & Suir Valley Railway. Santa visits the station every year with his helpers to meet as many children as he can. Tickets must be booked in advance.



For full up to date Festival details log on to [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie)

Note: Dates for any of the events may be subject to change. Please check before attending.

### Santa's Grotto at Castlecomer - Discovery Park

In December (Dates TBC)

Castlecomer Discovery Park,  
Co. Kilkenny

[www.discoverypark.ie](http://www.discoverypark.ie)

Visit Santa and Mrs Clause in their magical indoor grotto.



### Duckett's Grove Christmas Craft & Food Fair

11th December

Near Carlow Town

[www.carlowtourism.com](http://www.carlowtourism.com)

Enjoy the magic and fun of Christmas in the unique setting of Duckett's Grove Historic House, Walled Gardens and Pleasure Grounds with a fantastic selection of stands showcasing the best of Carlow from food to craft and musical entertainment.



### Christmas in Kilkenny

December

[www.kilkennychristmasmarket.com](http://www.kilkennychristmasmarket.com)

There will be delicious food and drink for you to enjoy as you peruse the market stalls.



### Horse Racing – New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

31st December & 1st January 2012

Tramore, Co. Waterford

T: 051-381425

[www.tramore-racecourse.com](http://www.tramore-racecourse.com)



KILKENNY ARTS FESTIVAL

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

## ACTIVITIES



## Travel Options

Its never been easier to get to the Sunny South East. The region is one of the few that can boast direct air and sea access. Beat the traffic jams and fly direct into Waterford Regional Airport or sail in to Rosslare Europort.

There are regular air services to the UK and there are also seasonal flights to other destinations, so keep an eye on [www.flywaterford.com](http://www.flywaterford.com) and [www.aerarann.com](http://www.aerarann.com) for good value flights. There are a number of ferry companies servicing the region with UK and French connections, see the ferry company details further on in this section.

Internal transport in Ireland is available via Irish Rail and via Bus operators. There are rail connections from Rosslare Europort and from Waterford City (near Waterford Airport).

### AIR

#### Waterford Airport

Tel: +353 51 875589  
[www.flywaterford.com](http://www.flywaterford.com)  
 Waterford Airport is situated:  
 > 84 kms (52.5 miles) from Carlow  
 > 57.8 kms (35.9 miles) from Kilkenny  
 > 57 kms (35.4 miles) from Clonmel  
 > 10 kms (6 miles) south of Waterford City  
 > 65.9 kms (43 miles) from Wexford Town.

Taxis and car rental are available at the airport.

#### Cork International Airport

Tel: +353 21 431 3131  
[www.corkairport.com](http://www.corkairport.com)  
 Cork International Airport is situated:  
 > 210 kms (125 miles) from Carlow  
 > 155 kms (96.5 miles) from Kilkenny  
 > 102 kms (64 miles) from Clonmel  
 > 127 kms (80 miles) from Waterford City  
 > 187 kms (116 miles) from Wexford Town.

Buses, taxis, and car rental are available at the airport.

#### Dublin International Airport

Tel: +353 1 814 1111  
[www.dublinairport.com](http://www.dublinairport.com)  
 Dublin International Airport is situated:  
 > 98 kms (61 miles) from Carlow  
 > 136 kms (84 miles) from Kilkenny  
 > 206 kms (128 miles) from Clonmel  
 > 172 kms (107 miles) from Waterford  
 > 171 kms (107 miles) from Wexford Town.

Buses, taxis, and car rental are available at the airport.

#### Shannon International Airport

Tel: +353 61 712 000  
[www.shannonairport.com](http://www.shannonairport.com)  
 Shannon International Airport is situated:  
 > 173 kms (107 miles) from Carlow  
 > 154 kms (96 miles) from Kilkenny  
 > 103 kms (64 miles) from Clonmel  
 > 150 kms (93 miles) from Waterford City  
 > 209 kms (130 miles) from Wexford Town.

Buses, taxis, and car rental are available at the airport.

#### Aer Arann

Tel: 0818 210 210 from Ireland  
 0870 876 7676 from UK  
[www.AerArann.com](http://www.AerArann.com)  
 Aer Arann operates flights from the South East to Irish and UK destinations and to seasonal summer routes in Europe.  
 Fly Aer Arann from Waterford to  
 > Manchester  
 > Birmingham  
 > London Luton  
 > Southend

### SEA

A number of Ferry Carriers link the South East with the UK and Mainland Europe. Direct connections servicing the region are as follows:

**Stena Line** [www.stenaline.ie](http://www.stenaline.ie)  
 Tel: +353 1 204 7777

- > Fishguard to Rosslare Europort
- > Holyhead to Dun Laoghaire, Dublin
- > Holyhead to Dublin Port, Dublin

**Irish Ferries** [www.irishferries.com](http://www.irishferries.com)  
 Tel: +353 1 818 300 400

- > Pembroke to Rosslare Europort
- > Roscoff, Brittany to Rosslare Europort
- > Cherbourg to Rosslare Europort
- > Holy Head to Dublin

## South East Ireland Pocket Guide

### ACTIVITIES



SEA [CONTINUED]

- Brittany Ferries**  
www.brittany-ferries.ie  
Tel: +353 21 4277801  
> Roscoff, Brittany to Cork
- P&O Ferries** www.poirishsea.com  
Tel: +353 1 4073434  
> Liverpool to Dublin
- LD Lines** www.ldlines.co.uk  
Tel: +44 844 567 8836  
> Rosslare to Cherbourg
- Celtic Link Ferries**  
www.celticlinkferries.com  
Tel: +353 53 9162688  
> Rosslare to Cherbourg

DRIVING

A valid driving licence is required by the visitor from their country of residence. Driving in Ireland is on the left hand side of the road. Safety belts must be worn at all times by front and back seat passengers. Motorcyclists and their passengers must wear safety helmets whilst driving.

The speed limit is 120kph on motorways, 100kph on national roads and 80kph on non-national roads. Brown signposts with white lettering provide information on visitor attractions including castles, accommodation, tourist information offices, scenic areas and picnic sites.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

**Bus Éireann** – National bus company servicing all main towns and cities.  
Tel: 01 836 6111 www.buseireann.ie

**Iarnród Éireann** – Irish Rail Network  
Tel: 1850 366222  
www.irishrail.ie  
See the rail network map on the opposite page.

CAR HIRE

Most of the major car rental companies have desks at the airports terminals and large towns throughout the region. All drivers must have valid licences. It is advisable to book in advance, especially if you are travelling in high season or if you require an automatic car or child seats.

INTERNAL FERRIES

**Passage East Car Ferry**  
Tel: 051 382480 or 382488  
This widely used 4 minute scenic crossing of the Suir Estuary from Ballyhack, Co. Wexford to Passage East, Co. Waterford is part of the South East Coastal Drive and saves time on your trip between Co. Waterford and Co. Wexford.

TAXI SERVICES

There are many taxi companies offering services in the cities, towns and villages in the south east, for their contact details contact in Ireland directory enquires 11811 or 11850.

IRISH RAIL NETWORK



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ACTIVITIES

# Practical Information

## BANKS

Banks are generally open from Monday to Friday from 10.00 – 16.00. Each bank has one later opening day per week. Bureau de Change facilities as well as ATM machines are available at most banks. Money transfers can be organised through Western Union Money Transfer.

## CLIMATE

Influenced by the Gulf Stream, Ireland has a mild temperature climate with the average summer temperature around 15°C. Areas close to the coast rarely have a large difference between summer and winter conditions, with an average 10°C difference between January and July. Typical winter weather in Ireland is cloudy and raining with the occasional sunny spell. Temperatures around January average 5°C. For regional forecasts, please log onto: [www.met.ie](http://www.met.ie)

## CREDIT CARDS

MasterCard, Visa and American Express credit cards are widely accepted in Ireland.

## CURRENCY

The unit of currency in the Republic of Ireland is the Euro. One euro consists of 100 cents. Notes are €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200, €500. Coins are 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, €1 and €2.

## ELECTRICITY

The standard voltage in the Republic of Ireland is 220 volts. Plugs are 3-pin flat, therefore adapters are required for 2-pin appliances. En-suite bathroom shaving points normally have 110 and 240 volt outlets.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

In Ireland the general Emergency Telephone number is 999 or 112 – no coins required in telephone coin boxes. These numbers will alert the appropriate service – Fire, Gardaí (Police), Lifeboat, Coastal, Mountain and Cave Rescue Services.

## HEALTH AND MEDICAL TREATMENT

EU Citizens are entitled to free hospital treatment in a public ward and should obtain a European Health Insurance Card (which replaced the old E111 form) prior to departure. For further details see [www.ehic.ie](http://www.ehic.ie). Private medical insurance is advised for Visitors from non-EU countries.

**St. Luke's General Hospital**, Kilkenny  
Tel: +353 (0)56 778 5000

**Our Lady's Hospital**, Cashel,  
Co. Tipperary Tel: +353 (0)62 61022

**St. Joseph's Hospital**, Clonmel,  
Co. Tipperary Tel: +353 (0)52 617 7000

**Waterford Regional Hospital**,  
Waterford Tel: +353 (0)51 848 000

**Wexford General Hospital**, Wexford  
Tel: +353 (0)53 9142233.

**GP Out of Hours Services** Service usually operate from 18.00 – 22.00, Monday – Friday and 10.00 – 18.00 at the weekends.  
Care Doc 1850 334 999.

## INTERNET & EMAIL

Many libraries in the South East have internet facilities. Internet cafes that can be found across the region, including the following:

**Webtalk**, 44 Tullow Street, Carlow Town  
Tel: +353 (0)59 9139721

**Internet Café**, Castle Street, Carlow Town  
Tel: +353 (0)59 913 5610

**Café Net**, 4 Lower Patrick Street, Kilkenny  
Tel: +353 (0)56 777 0051

**Circles**, 14 Market Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary  
Tel: +353 (0)52 612 3315

**Waterford E-centre**, 10 O'Connell Street, Waterford City

Tel: +353 (0)51 878 448

**FDYS**, Francis Street, Wexford Town.  
Tel: +353 (0)53 912 3370

**Gigabites**, 39b Esmonde Street, Gorey, Co Wexford

Tel: +353 (0)53 948 1250

## LANGUAGE

Irish (Gaelic) and English are the official languages of the Republic of Ireland. Street and road signs are all bilingual. Gaeltacht is the name given to parts of Ireland where Irish (or Gaelic) can still be heard as an everyday community language.

## PASSPORTS/VISAS

For the latest information on passports and visa requirements for Ireland, contact the Department of Foreign Affairs, 80 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland. Tel: + 353 (0)1 478 0822  
[www.foreignaffairs.gov.ie](http://www.foreignaffairs.gov.ie)

## POST

An Post is Ireland's national postal service provider. Generally, Post Offices are open from 9.00 – 17.30, Monday – Friday, and 9.00 – 13.00 on Saturday. For more information visit [www.anpost.ie](http://www.anpost.ie)

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

The following are the 2011 public holidays in the Republic of Ireland. Most companies and shops are closed on these days.

New Year's Day	January 1
St Patrick's Day	March 17
Easter Monday	April 25
May Bank Holiday	May 2
June Bank Holiday	June 6
August Bank Holiday	August 1
October Bank Holiday	October 31
Christmas Day	December 25
St Stephens Day	December 26

## SHOPPING HOURS

Shops are generally open from 9.00 – 18.00, Monday – Saturday. Most large stores have a late-night shopping evening or two during the week. Some large stores are also open on Sundays, particularly in the larger towns.

## TELEPHONE

**Directory enquiries:**

call 11811/11850/11890

**International enquiries:** call 11818.

## TIPPING

It is customary to add a gratuity of between 12 and 15 per cent to the bill in restaurants or hotels, when a service charge is not already included in your bill. Tipping is not usual in pubs, except when you are served at your table.

## ACTIVITIES



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# IRELAND South East



**SYMBOLS**

- Tourist Information
- National Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Regional Roads
- Rivers
- Regional Borders

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## ACTIVITIES