

EQUESTRIAN ESCAPES Horse Riding Holidays In Ireland



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"From craggy islands and rolling hills to stunning coastlines, the landscape of Ireland is breathtaking. How better to experience this natural beauty than on horseback?"

Introduction

Known as 'the Land of the Horse', Ireland boasts some of the best riding breaks you could wish for. Whether you are an accomplished rider or are more blessed with enthusiasm than technique, there are mounts and options to suit you. Choose from beach rides where you could gallop down an empty strand, point-to-point treks which will explore the finest local scenery or cross-country routes that will challenge your skills. Whichever you pick, one thing is for sure – you'll end the day on a fresh air high and with a smile on your face!

For more information on a horse riding holiday in Ireland see www.discoverireland.ie/equestrian



Follow the Shamrock

For guaranteed quality look for the Shamrock. If you want to be certain that you are choosing an equestrian centre with exceptionally high standards, make sure it is displaying the Shamrock symbol.

An equestrian centre that boasts the Shamrock has demonstrated 100 per cent commitment to delivering excellent quality services and facilities. Each and every one has been independently assessed and quality assured by Fáilte Ireland, The National Tourism Development Authority. And it will have the certificate to prove it!

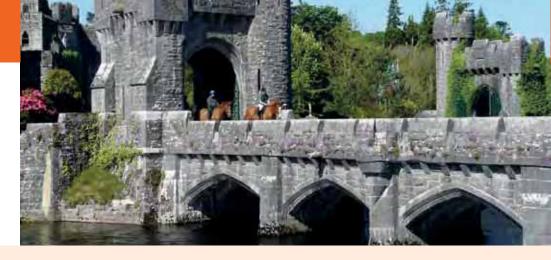
Whenever you see the Shamrock symbol being proudly displayed at an equestrian centre, you can be certain that you're in for the best possible horse-riding experience. Shamrock-approved equestrian centres offer an astounding range of horse-riding options, from beach treks and leisurely hacks, to crosscountry jumping and multi-day trips. Many also offer accommodation or choose from local B&Bs, hotels and self-catering accommodation if you'd like to make a weekend or even a week out of your equestrian experience.

You'll find a full list of approved accommodation at *www.discoverireland.ie*

For more information on horse riding holidays in Ireland at quality-assured Fáilte Ireland equestrian centres with outstanding standards visit www.discoverireland.ie/equestrian







Ashford Equestrian Centre 🖊

Imagine riding your horse into a 3,000-acre forest steeped in history and heritage. The Ashford Castle Estate, once home to the Guinness family and a millionaires' playground in the 19th Century, is located in Co. Mayo. It is close to Connemara and 45 minutes' drive from Galway city. It plays host to underground rivers, caves, castles, towers, abbeys and ring forts. It is also home to some of Ireland's oldest species of wildlife, such as red squirrels and pine martins.

Ashford Equestrian Centre, adjacent to Ashford Castle, aims to give you a local insight into the history and natural features that abound here. Whether you are a cautious beginner or a veteran of the saddle, the experienced staff can cater for you. The family run Ashford Equestrian Centre has bred Connemara ponies and Irish draughts for over 25 years and they feature heavily in the stables. Half- and full-day trail rides are available, as well as lessons in the outdoor and indoor arena. Ashford Equestrian Centre can provide bike hire, archery and clay pigeon shooting on site. There is a wide variety of nearby accommodation ranging from hostels to a five-star hotel.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 94 9546507, Mobile: 00353 87 3161061 Address: Cong, Co. Mayo. Website: www.ashfordequestrian.com Email: ashfordsports@eircom.net



Calvey's Equestrian 🖊

Discover the pristine beaches, historical sites and wonderful wildlife of Achill Island in Co. Mayo on horseback. Calvey's Equestrian & Homestay Riding Language Holidays offers guided treks along deserted bog roads and sandy beaches on safe and surefooted homebred Connemara ponies and Irish draught horses.

Complete beginners are welcome, with a lesson before you head out to make you feel confident and relaxed in the saddle. For advanced riders, there is the two-hour beach gallop across Keel Beach. You ride at a thundering pace along kilometres of sand alongside the crashing Atlantic waves, a real treat for those who want to experience the true pace of an Irish beach trek. Achill offers the horseback rider beautiful unspoilt landscapes for trekking, particularly at Keel Beach with its sand dunes, and the Deserted Village, which dates back to the Irish Famine.

These home-stay holidays provide horse riding activities, whale and dolphin watching, wildlife walks, fishing trips, kayaking and surfing. The fully qualified and experienced team of staff are friendly, approachable, multilingual, and prides itself on its professional, efficient and one-to-one service.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 9881093 Address: Keel, Achill Island, Co. Mayo. Website: www.calveysofachill.com Email: ponytrek@calveysofachill.com

WEST





Carrowholly Stables 🖊

Carrowholly Stables is 5km from Westport town in Co. Mayo on the beautiful west coast of Ireland and offers pony camps, group parties, beach rides and trail rides for all levels of rider, from beginners to more accomplished enthusiasts.

Trekking along the open strands of Clew Bay is the main attraction of Carrowholly Stables. Beach rides allow you to enjoy magnificent views of Clew Bay and its enchanting islands, with Croagh Patrick Mountain lurking in the background. Be sure not to disturb the seals as you pass Seals Rock and remember to look out for Dora Inch Island, formerly owned by John Lennon of The Beatles fame.

There is also a choice of spectacular trail rides, such as the Mulranny Mountain Trail and the Rosturk Trail. These trail rides are for experienced riders and take you through breathtaking landscapes steeped in history, myths and legends.

Carrowholly Stables is owned and managed by the Kelly family who will ensure that you have an enjoyable horse riding experience. They provide a wide range of horses and ponies to suit all abilities and packages can be tailored to suit your individual needs.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 98 27057 Mobile: 00353 87 9393634 / 00353 87 6366278 Address: Carrowholly, Westport, Co. Mayo. Website: www.carrowholly-stables.com Email: Carrowhollystables1@eircom.net



Aille Cross Equestrian Centre 🖊

Willie Leahy is a legendary Irish horseman based in the timeless, wild and beautiful landscape of Connemara in Co. Galway. He was one of the first men to lead a vacation trail ride anywhere in the world, is the world's biggest breeder of Connemara ponies and also the Field Master of the famous Galway Blazers Hunt. For more than 30 years the Leahy family have enjoyed introducing visitors to this very special part of Ireland.

The Leahy family offer trail rides through the spectacular scenery of Connemara on surefooted Connemara ponies and Irish hunters. There is also the Aille Cross-country Trail, which is a superb trail ride including a huge range of natural and man-made fences. It is set in the Loughrea area amidst beautiful scenery. And, for the ultimate experience the Leahy family can arrange hunting during the season with the Galway Blazers. For an equestrian experience without climbing aboard a horse at all, Willie Leahy has pioneered the Dartfield Museum, also in Loughrea, Co. Galway. This is the only museum in the world dedicated to Irish horses, Connemara ponies and Irish dogs.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 91 843968 Address: Kilrickle, Loughrea, Co. Galway. Website: www.connemaratrail.com www.aillecross.com www.dartfieldhorsemuseum.com Email: info@dartfield.com







Drummindoo Stud & Equitation Centre 🎝

A family-run business, Drummindoo Stud & Equitation Centre near scenic Westport in Co Mayo has a great selection of horses and ponies so you can be sure you'll find one to suit your level.

Drummindoo offers horse riding instruction in English and Western riding, children's lead-rein rides, pony camps, pony trekking, beach rides and multi-day horse riding holidays.

Facilities include an indoor arena, outdoor arena, gallop track (all with a sand and rubber surface) and full set of showjumps. Whether you are a complete beginner or more experienced rider, Drummindoo Stud will match you with the right horse. All activities are overseen by a qualified and experienced instructor.

The Clew Bay Trail Ride is a real favourite. Choose from one to five days of riding through ever-changing landscapes of small

villages, breathtaking sandy beaches, sea and offshore islands, stopping for picnics along the way. Each night you can stay in a top-class hotel and sample great Irish cuisine, or you can arrange your own accommodation. Riding time is approximately four to five hours per day.

Drummindoo Stud is open from Easter to September, Monday to Saturday, on Saturdays year round, and the rest of the year by arrangement.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 98 25616 Address: Knockranny, Westport, Co. Mayo. Website: www.drummindoo.com Email: info@drummindoo.com



Errislannan Riding Centre & Connemara Pony Stud 🗸

What better place to take a ride on a Connemara pony than in the county that gave it its name? These reassuringly solid and mild-mannered ponies are a joy to ride. You will quickly bond with your new friend as you are taken on a journey through some of the most scenic places on earth courtesy of the excellent Errislannan Riding Centre and Connemara Pony Stud in Clifden, Co. Galway.

This ancient place is steeped in history. Neolithic remains can be seen as well as an abundance of wildlife and awe-inspiring views of Croagh Patrick, Galway Bay and the world- renowned Burren, an area of great natural beauty with tombs and monuments older than Egypt's pyramids. If you are looking for something a little more challenging, then try the cross-country course. Its stone walls and fences are all sized for ponies. There are also lessons available for five-yearolds to adults. To make sure everyone gets due attention, the classes have a maximum of eight participants.

German, French and English are spoken at this centre and the staff look forward to welcoming you in any language!

Contact Details Phone: 00353 95 21134 Address: Errislannan Manor, Clifden, Co. Galway. Website: www.errislannanmanor.com Email: errislannanmanor@eirom.net



Galway Equestrian Centre 📩

Whether it's horse-riding lessons for beginners or competitive showjumping, the Galway Equestrian Centre at Peakroe Farm has something for every level of rider. Set in the beautiful countryside of Athenry, the centre is family run and is just a short journey from the Dublin to Galway motorway (M6). Its unique location makes it an ideal choice.

The exceptional facilities include both outdoor and indoor arenas, and more than 100 acres for trekking and crosscountry. There are also qualified instructors and more than 25 trained horses and ponies, which are specially selected for their varying abilities, from confidence-giving cobs to competition thoroughbreds. All are experienced, responsive and safe to ride.

Pioneers of the Equestrian Assisted Learning technique, the Galway Equestrian Centre has seen remarkable successes in children and adults coping with a wide variety of challenges. Additionally, Galway Equestrian Centre runs weekly showjumping competitions, a number of pony camps aimed at younger riders and seasonal fun days. It also has its own tack shop to dress you for the occasion!

Contact Details Phone: 00353 86 1713601 Address: Peakroe, Athenry, Co. Galway. Website: www.galwayequestriancentre.com Email: galwayequestrian@eircom.net

WEST



Go! Trekking! 🗸



Cantering through shallow waves on a deserted beach is only a dream for many but Go!Trekking!, based just outside the town of Westport in Co. Mayo, can happily make that dream come true. Surrounded by a rugged landscape and stretches of sandy beaches, this area is the perfect place to enjoy horse riding. Whether you are a first-time rider or have years of experience, Go!Trekking! has lessons, treks and horses to suit you.

Go!Trekking! Equestrian Holidays offers a wide variety of packages from 30-minute rides to three-day treks. One of the most popular activities is beach riding. There are many nearby beaches from which to choose, some at the foot of Croagh Patrick and others further out into Clew Bay.

Tide Challenge? This fun and exciting event involves teams of two on horseback and mountain bike tackling the wild Mayo landscape, against the clock!

Accommodation for your stay with Go!Trekking! is just five minutes from the centre at the eco-friendly Westport Woods Hotel & Spa.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 98 25811 Address: Westport Woods Hotel, Quay Road, Westport, Co. Mayo. Website: www.gotrekking.ie Email: info@gotrekking.ie

Or for something really unique why not take part in the Ride &



Loughrea Equestrian Centre 📩

Situated next to some wonderful forest trails in Co. Galway, yet conveniently located a short distance off the main Dublin to Galway M6 motorway, Loughrea Equestrian Centre offers something for everyone.

Horse enthusiasts can chose from one- to four-hour daily trail rides, forest hacks, week-long riding holidays and horse-drawn carriage rides. The carriages are fully wheelchair accessible and ideal for people with a disability, young children or active retirement groups.

The week-long trails allow you to experience the history and natural beauty of Ireland from your own saddle. These holidays take in forest and coastal trails through the Burren and Connemara, along the panoramic West of Ireland. You will explore ring forts and megalithic monuments, watch waves crash against the awe-inspiring Cliffs of Moher, catch glimpses of the Aran Islands, and learn of the myths and legends of the historic Lough Derg.

Loughrea Equestrian Centre can cater for families and groups. The experienced guides will ensure that your riding experience will be the highlight of your holiday.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 91 847077, Mobile: 00353 87 1206664 Address: Killeenadeena, Loughrea, Co Galway. Website: www.horsetrailsireland.com Email: info@horsetrailsireland.com

WEST







The Lydon family's Moycullen Riding Centre is situated just a few kilometres from Galway city in the magnificent surroundings of the Connemara countryside. The centre specialises in trekking and caters for all levels, from beginners to experienced riders.

There is a choice of one- and two-hour treks for individuals, couples, families and large groups. The treks follow bog roads up into the Connemara Mountains. Riders will enjoy magnificent scenery overlooking Lough Corrib. The Lydon family aim to match the horses with the rider's experience and requirements, and experienced guides always accompany the treks. There is also the option to take part in a beach ride along the sandy shores of Rusheen Bay. For those wanting to focus on improving their riding skills, Moycullen Riding Centre runs lessons with British Horse Society-qualified instructors and seasonal pony camps for children.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 2043944 Address: Poulnaclough, Moycullen, Co. Galway. Website: www.moycullenriding.com Email: info@moycullenriding.com







Slieve Aughty Centre 🖊

Slieve Aughty Centre is a family run equestrian and activity centre set amidst the beauty and tranquillity of the Slieve Aughty Mountains in Co. Galway. Surrounded by more than 80km of woodland and river trails, it offers a wide range of activities for adults and children.

Slieve Aughty Centre provides riding holidays that match different interests and abilities. Facilities include a large all-weather outdoor arena, a cross-country course and more than 30 safe, experienced horses and ponies.

Catering for all the family, Slieve Aughty Centre also welcomes non-riders and can arrange bicycle rental or donkeys to accompany you on an Ecotourism Ireland-certified walking experience.

All holidays offer comfortable full-board accommodation. You can

dine on organic fruits and vegetables, which are grown at the farm or locally sourced. English language tuition is also available from Shannonside Language Centre.

A family holiday at Slieve Aughty Centre is an eco-friendly experience immersed in the natural beauty of the west of Ireland. Go horse riding, walking, cycling, or just relax and breathe in the fresh country air. It is a place you will want to come back to again and again.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 90 9745246, Mobile: 00353 87 6871769 Address: Kylebrack West, Loughrea, Co. Galway. Website: www.riding-centre.com Email: info@riding-centre.com



Upper Mace Equestrian Centre 🖊

Upper Mace Equestrian Centre in Co. Mayo provides qualified horse riding tuition in an international sized indoor arena and two outdoor arenas. This family run business offers a warm welcome for everyone and has a holiday cottage on site.

Facilities at the centre include over 30 stables and a smaller arena for lunging horses. Private groups, individuals and families, along with schools and foreign students are catered for. International students stay at the centre throughout the year and there are special package deals for people that want to bring their own horse with them on holiday.

Teaching is provided from beginner stage horse riding to higher level showjumping and dressage. Visitors can also enjoy the experience of horse riding outdoors on the quiet country roads. Showjumping, dressage, Irish Pony Society shows and working hunter competitions are held at this centre all year round.

The on-site holiday accommodation is a three-bedroom selfcatering cottage. It is fitted with all modern conveniences. Upper Mace Equestrian Centre is only 15 minutes from Knock airport and is centrally located to a number of major towns.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 8395233 Address: Barnacarroll, Claremorris, Co. Mayo. Website: www.uppermaceequestrian.ie Email: uppermaceequestrian@gmail.com





Abbeyfield Farm 🖊

Abbeyfield Farm is nestled in more than 240 acres of picturesque countryside in Co. Kildare. The centre is designed around both horse trekking and cross-country jumping. With quiet country lanes and open rolling countryside it has everything the seasoned rider or first timer needs. There are more than 30 horses to choose from, suiting all standards and types of rider.

The friendly and experienced staff will show you the sights along the way while giving you plenty of helpful tips on how to get the most out of your horse. The treks are all about getting out in the countryside, relaxing and making the very best of your time. As all the trails are on the estate, rides never go onto any public roads. Less than 40 minutes' drive from Dublin city centre, Abbeyfield Farm endeavours to give you the very best experience with the highest levels of safety, top-quality equipment, friendly staff and great horses. For non-riders there are other activities on offer, such as clay pigeon shooting, archery and air rifle shooting.

Contact Details Mobile: 00353 86 8164130 Address: Abbeyfield Farm, Clane, Co. Kildare. Website: www.abbeyfieldfarm.com Email: daragh@abbeyfieldfarm.com

DUBLIN'S DOORSTEP





Bel-Air Hotel & Equestrian Centre 🖊

Bel-Air Hotel & Equestrian Centre is a family run country house hotel and equestrian centre in Ashford, Co. Wicklow, and about an hour's drive from Dublin airport. Known as the Garden of Ireland, Wicklow is one of the most scenic areas of Ireland. Bel-Air enjoys spectacular views of the sea and access to horse riding through lush green countryside and forest.

Bel-Air is best known for its cross-country ride-outs. It caters for the experienced rider and offers cross-country riding and jumping on a variety of well-schooled horses. Bel-Air can provide clinics in all disciplines, including flat-work, showjumping, cross-country jumping, and hacking through forest and fields. It also has mock hunts in the autumn and a very active riding club. Bel-Air specialises in building rider confidence on the cross-country course.

Special riding holiday packages can be tailored to suit your particular needs. On these holidays you will stay at the hotel, which is an old country house on the estate. Relax and unwind in front of a big log fire with home-cooked food and enjoy the friendly atmosphere.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 2794392 Address: Ashford, Co. Wicklow. Website: www.belairhotelequestrian.com Email: belairequestrian@eircom.net





Brennanstown Riding School 🖊

Brennanstown Riding School is one of Ireland's best-known equestrian centres and is located in Co. Wicklow (the Garden of Ireland). It is just off the N11 at the Bray/Enniskerry exit, approximately 30 minutes' drive from Dublin.

Open all year round and providing top-class facilities, this Association of Irish Riding Establishments and British Horse Society approved riding centre offers qualified instruction for all standards (adults and children), from novice to competition riders, either in the large indoor school or outdoor sand arenas.

Cross-country rides and treks, ranging from one to two hours, are available and will take riders through the beautiful Hollybrook and Killruddery Estates, providing stunning views of Dublin Bay and the Wicklow countryside. The riding centre has a wide variety of horses and ponies, ranging from quiet mounts for novice and nervous riders to those suitable for the more ambitious and experienced clients. Make sure you experience Ireland on horseback by including a trip to Brennanstown as part of your visit.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 1 2863778 Address: Hollybrook, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. Website: www.brennanstownrs.ie Email: info@brennanstownrs.ie

DUBLIN'S DOORSTEP





Broadmeadow Equestrian Centre 🎜

Broadmeadow Equestrian Centre can be found near Ashbourne in Co. Meath and is conveniently located just 15 minutes from Dublin airport and 25 minutes from Dublin city. Whatever your level of experience, the excellent facilities and first-class horses and ponies ensure that you will find an activity and a mount perfectly suited to your needs.

The equestrian centre features three arenas: one indoor with a premier cushion surface to ensure excellent footing and two outdoor floodlit arenas. Indoors you will also find the reception area, a coffee shop, washroom facilities and a viewing gallery to watch the wonderful horses in action.

Every July and August, the centre runs a young rider programme that welcomes unaccompanied children between the ages of 12 and 18, with riders of all levels being catered for. The programme includes 18 hours of riding tuition per week and the emphasis is on fun, learning and riding safety.

Accommodation is on site in the Duff family home, which can accommodate 10 children comfortably. Non-residential pony camps are also offered during school holidays. What a fantastic way to make lifelong friends!

Contact Details Phone: 00353 1 8351633 Address: Bullstown, Ashbourne, Co. Meath. Website: www.ireland-horses.com Email: brianduffshowjumping@eircom.net





Calliaghstown Equestrian Centre 🖊

Found on the border of counties Dublin and Kildare, the Calliaghstown Equestrian Centre enjoys stunning views of the Dublin Mountains and the Kildare countryside. The centre is conveniently located just 4km from Rathcoole village and 20 minutes from Dublin city centre.

Facilities at Calliaghstown include a 50m x 25m indoor arena, a 70m x 35m all-weather floodlit outdoor arena, and 25 acres of cross-country fences to suit all levels. There are also forests, country roads and lanes for hacking.

Calliaghstown Equestrian Centre caters for both beginners and experienced riders, with horses to suit all levels. Employees are always on hand to offer assistance and advice, and the instructors are trained to help you achieve your goals in a fun and safe environment. Approved by the British Horse Society, the centre caters for school tours and birthday parties, and offers international youth and pony camps during school breaks. Regular competitions and shows are held at the centre and are open to all. Visitors are sure to enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere that is unique to Calliaghstown.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 1 4588322, Mobile: 00353 85 7279803 Address: Rathcoole, Co. Dublin. Website:

www.facebook.com/calliaghstownequestriancentre Email: calliaghstownequestriancentre@gmail.com

DUBLIN'S DOORSTEP





Ravensdale Lodge, Equestrian & Trekking Centre 🖊

With its wide-open spaces and breathtaking scenery, Ravensdale Lodge in Co. Louth offers a truly magical setting for trekking and leisure pursuits. Let the team of safe and reliable horses and ponies, and the friendly staff, guide you through the stunning countryside that surrounds the centre.

Ravensdale Lodge is located close to the national awardwinning Ravensdale Forest Park and nestles in the scenic Cooley Mountains that sweep down to the medieval town of Carlingford. The centre's signature day trek to Carlingford is a great excursion that combines a gourmet picnic lunch to satisfy every appetite, with spectacular views that will take your breath away. Whether you stay for an hour or days, you will experience the same excellent service and attention to detail that is extended to all guests.

Ravensdale Lodge has featured on RTE's travel programme 'No Frontiers' on two occasions and the centre has won four National Enterprise Awards over a 10-year period for the standards it has set within the industry.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 42 9371034 Address: Ravensdale Lodge, Dundalk, Co. Louth. Website: www.ravensdalelodge.com Email: info@ravensdalelodge.com





Wolftrek 🖊

Take a journey back in time to an Ireland of rebels and redcoats, huntsmen and highwaymen, native clans and bold invaders. A riding trek with Wolftrek is a unique way to experience the dramatic history of the Irish horse in sport, transport, farming and war. Over a two-hour ride through beautiful farmland in west Wicklow, you will learn tales of Irish history told with quirky enthusiasm.

Novice riders are welcome as the trek is at a walk and a lead rein horse guide can be arranged if necessary. Non-riders (such as parents or partners) are also welcome to walk with the trek and listen to the story. Group sizes are deliberately kept small, so advance booking is essential.

The last Irish wolf was killed by a pack of hunting wolfhounds in

1785. We can now only imagine what the landscape of that time was like, but with the help of Wolftrek this part of history comes alive.

Wolftrek is open daily from June to August. In May and September it is open on weekends only. Wolftrek is located in west Wicklow near the town of Blessington, 30km from Dublin city.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 45 865011, Mobile: 00353 87 2898490 Address: Howarths Hill, Kilmalum, Plassington

Address: Howarths Hill, Kilmalum, Blessington, Co. Wicklow. Website: www.wolftrek.ie Email: wolftrekireland@gmail.com

SHANNON





Birr Equestrian Centre 🖊

Birr Equestrian Centre has been catering to riders and horse enthusiasts for more than 35 years under the direction of Noel Cosgrave and his team of dedicated instructors. The centre is nestled amidst 140 acres of picturesque farmland against the stunning backdrop of the Slieve Bloom Mountains, on the outskirts of Birr in Co. Offaly.

Birr Equestrian Centre offers horse riding lessons for all levels of rider, pony camps and mountain treks on horseback, and can arrange a day's hunting for you. Take part in a half-day or fullday trek through the breathtaking Slieve Bloom Mountains. The centre has the unique advantage of holding a permit to trek in this spectacular location.

Join the Ormond or the North Tipperary Hunts for an unforgettable day of hunting and race across the fields of Offaly and Tipperary. Afterwards, head to the local pub in the evening to enjoy the craic.

Birr Equestrian Centre offers a wide variety of well-schooled hunt horses noted for their temperament and stamina as well as pre-hunt courses for riders who have no previous hunting experience or who desire further practice.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 2445545 Address: Kingsborough House, Birr, Co. Offaly. Website: www.birrequestrian.ie Email: noel@birrequestrian.ie

SHANNON





Clonlara Equestrian Centre 🖊

The family run Clonlara Equestrian Centre is located in east Clare, 5km from Limerick city and 8km from the marina town of Killaloe. The riding school is situated amid 130 acres of farmland and is an ideal location for trekking, cross-country and hosting competitions. Clonlara Equestrian Centre boasts an international-size indoor arena, an outdoor all-weather arena and stabling for 65 horses. There is also a walker, mini cross-country course and ample parking.

The centre offers riding lessons for all ages, runs pony camps and does horse trekking. The riding treks will take you through lovely scenery around the farm and nonriders can take in the local area and farm on foot. Lessons can be arranged for groups or individuals and can focus on showjumping, dressage or cross-country. A number of lessons have a unique twist: Clonlara has become well known for its musical rides, which include cowboys, men in tuxedos and ladies in ball gowns, all on horseback. Clonlara Equestrian Centre also breeds Connemara ponies and Irish sport horses.

Clonlara is a family run business that prides itself on its excellent facilities, good service and friendly staff.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 61 354172 Address: Killaloe Road, Clonlara, Co. Clare. Website: www.clonlaraequestrian.com Email: clonlaraequest2@eircom.net



Clonshire Equestrian Centre 🖊

Clonshire Equestrian Centre is a friendly and relaxed riding centre set on a 120-acre parkland estate in Adare, Co. Limerick. The centre has two indoor arenas, an extremely large outdoor arena and a cross-country course. With experienced and highly qualified staff, and top-class well-schooled horses and ponies, there is something to suit everyone, from the gentle pleasure hack to the competition-level eventer.

Clonshire offers riding holidays all year round and is a training and examination centre for the British Horse Society qualifications. Pony camps are also available throughout the year.

Guests on a riding holiday stay beside the stables and ride for four to five hours daily. Each day begins with an arena lesson, combining flatwork and jumping, and is followed by an instructional cross-country ride. The afternoon rides change from day to day and there is evening riding from Monday to Thursday.

Sue Foley and her team of experienced staff offer excellent tuition to riders of all ages and abilities. Clonshire has full disabled access and caters for riders with special needs.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 61 396770 Address: Clonshire, Adare, Co. Limerick. Website: www.clonshire.com Email: info@clonshire.iol.ie

SHANNON





Crossogue Equestrian Centre 🖊

A unique and special holiday is to be found at Crossogue Equestrian Centre, Ballycahill, Thurles. It is a labour of love for the Molloy family who run the centre on their 370-acre farm in Co. Tipperary.

As they only invite a small number of guests to join them, there is a sense of intimacy to your stay and the limited numbers mean that you can be given the sort of attention you deserve. Accommodation is the wonderful 19th Century Georgian Crossogue House, surrounded by farm and woodland, a horse rider's dream.

Crossogue Equestrian Centre extends a welcome to riders of all levels and experience and offers everything from basic training

to a cross-country gallop with excellent horses and tuition guaranteed.

The Molloy family are passionate about horses. The animals have been an integral part of their family for generations: breeding, training and producing horses for top-level showing, showjumping, eventing and racing.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 504 54123 Address: Ballycahill, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Website: www.crossogue.com Email: enquiries@crossogue-equestrian.ie



Fitzgerald's Equestrian Centre 🖊

Set in Abbeyfeale along the border of counties Limerick and Kerry, Fitzgerald's Equestrian Centre has something special for everyone regardless of age and experience. For beginners, there is a 2km trek with stunning views of the surrounding area, and for the more experienced rider, a cross-country course with lots of ditches, banks and straight jumps. At Fitzgerald's, the staff combine formal lesson in an arena with trekking in the open countryside, so you can put into practice what you've learnt.

Fitzgerald's also prides itself on catering for families. There are pony camps every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday throughout July and August. Parents can relax or tour the

surrounding areas while knowing that their children are learning and having fun in a safe environment.

As Abbeyfeale is just a 45-minute drive from the coast, Fitzgerald's offers days at the beach as well; after an amazing trek along the beach, you can go swimming with the horses. It is a truly magical experience.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 68 31217 Address: The Hill, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick. Website: www.fitzgeraldsfarmhouse.com Email: fitzfarmhouse@eircom.net

SHANNON





An Sibin Riding Centre 🖊

An Sibin offers the Galway Clare Burren Trail Ride, this is a back-to-nature experience like no other. The guided, post-to-post trail riding holiday takes place in the west of Ireland and is the perfect way to discover the region's outstanding beauty and wildlife.

On the six-day trail ride, you will enjoy a combination of relaxing and fast rides in lush countryside with stunning scenery. The ride passes through a variety of landscapes: vast areas of heather-covered bogs, peaceful mossy forests, and the world-famous Burren National Park with its distinct limestone setting and unique flora and fauna. You will come across Celtic tombs and forts, and learn about Ireland's colourful history and mystic legends. The ride concludes overlooking the majestic Cliffs of Moher, Aran Islands and Atlantic Ocean.

During the trail ride, accommodation is provided in comfortable guesthouses. German and French speaking guides are available. The base for the ride is the An Sibin Riding Centre, near Whitegate, Co. Clare. This centre is a true country idyll and offers shorter, guided residential rides for all levels.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 61 927411 Address: An Sibin Riding Centre, Derryoran East, Whitegate, Co. Clare. Website: www.irishhorseriding.com Email: info@irishhorseriding.com

SHANNON





Tipperary Mountain Trekking Centre 🖊

Tipperary Mountain Trekking Centre is situated in beautiful mountain countryside in the heart of Ireland, at Rusheen, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary. It is a small, family friendly horse riding school with access to hundreds of acres of some of the finest off-road horse riding you will experience in Ireland.

On horse or pony treks, Tipperary Mountain Trekking will show you a Bronze Age settlement, standing stones, hill forts and ring forts, as well as spectacular panoramic views. The pastures are the habitat of rare flowers, birds and fungi as well as the occasional hare, deer and fox. Riding guides will also entertain you with tales of the local folk hero, 'Ned of the Hills'.

You can roam the mountains on horseback for an hour or two,

or ride all day to visit Kinnane's Bar in the scenic village of Upperchurch. Tipperary Mountain Trekking Centre also provides horse riding and natural horsemanship handling lessons, pony camps and tailor-made riding holidays for solo travellers or groups. Non-riders can enjoy hill walking, fishing and golf locally. The Rock of Cashel and the medieval city of Kilkenny are also only a short drive away.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 4106868 Address: Rusheen House, Borrisoleigh, Co. Tipperary. Website: www.timotrec.com Email: info@timotrec.com

SOUTH EAST





Kingsford Equestrian Centre 🖊

Kingsford Equestrian Centre sits at the heart of Forth Mountain, an area of forestry and open heathland five minutes from Wexford town in Co. Wexford. This is a fabulous area for horse riding with stunning panoramic views of the east coast and the scenic Blackstairs Mountains.

Kingsford Equestrian Centre is a family run riding centre offering riding lessons, trekking and pony camps. At the summer pony camps, the children 'own' their pony for the week that they are at camp. They are responsible for feeding it, grooming it, tacking it up, and of course riding it!

Kingsford Equestrian Centre also caters for groups, such as

children's parties or groups looking for something exciting, energetic and fun to do on a weekend away. There is a very spacious indoor arena and qualified riding instructors are available for all levels of rider. Whether you are just a beginner or an advanced rider, Kingsford can offer you a highly enjoyable and memorable experience.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 53 9134065, Mobile: 00353 86 2589920 Address: Barntown, Co. Wexford. Website: www.kingsfordequestrian.ie Email: info@kingsfordequestrian.ie

SOUTH EAST





Mount Juliet Equestrian Centre 🖊

The Mount Juliet Equestrian Centre, at Mount Juliet Estate, is one of Ireland's most impressive equestrian centres. Steeped in heritage, Mount Juliet is the leading country estate in Ireland and the most luxurious hotel in Co. Kilkenny.

Mount Juliet offers the rider the best possible experience in all types of riding including trail riding, cross-country, equestrian tuition and equestrian master-classes. Mount Juliet Estate boasts two arenas including one international-sized arena, an exhilarating cross-country course, showjumps and over 25km of professionally planned bridleways through mature, lush parkland.

Mount Juliet is only 20 minutes from Kilkenny, one hour from Dublin and 30 minutes from Waterford. Enjoy everything this estate has to offer including golf on the Jack Nicklaus-designed course, treatments in the luxury spa, river and lake fishing, woodland walks, bike rides and of course horse riding.

Mount Juliet offers short- and long-term horse livery. Guests are welcome, and encouraged, to bring their own horses on holiday. Masterclasses in cross-country, showjumping and hunting are also on offer.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 56 7773025 / 00353 56 7773000 Address: Mount Juliet, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny. Website: www.mountjuliet.ie/equestrian Email: equestrian@mountjuliet.ie

SOUTH WEST





Burke's Horse Trekking Centre 🖊

Burke's Horse Trekking Centre is found at Rossbeigh Beach in Glenbeigh, on the world-renowned Ring of Kerry. In recent years, it has established a reputation as a trekker's paradise.

The centre boasts a prime location on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean and surrounded by the Glenbeigh horseshoe circuit of hills. It offers a variety of horse riding experiences for all levels. Whether you want to feel the wind in your hair as you gallop the 11km Blue Flag Rossbeigh Beach, take in the spectacular scenery as you trek in the mountains, or take a leisurely stroll along country roads, you can enjoy all that is on offer in this spectacular corner of Ireland. A friendly, professional and family run centre, Burke's is located 20 minutes from Killarney and is easily accessible by public transport. With rides to suit everyone from toddlers (and nervous parents!) to the more experienced, why not include some horse riding in your holiday plans while in Glenbeigh?

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 2379110 Address: Rossbeigh Beach, Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry. Website: www.beachtrek.ie Email: gburkestreks@eircom.net



Dingle Horse Riding 🖊

The home of Dingle Horse Riding is the beautiful Dingle Peninsula on the most westerly coastline of Europe. This dramatic Co. Kerry location has been an inspiration to visitors for thousands of years. It is the perfect location for one of the most memorable, challenging and enjoyable horse riding holidays you will experience anywhere in the world.

Dingle Horse Riding accommodates everyone from beginners in search of a fun and memorable introduction to horse riding, to advanced riders seeking exciting and challenging rides in open country. One-hour mountain treks are open to all abilities and two-hour mountain and beach treks are for riders of an intermediate level upwards. Experienced riders can also enjoy one-day to week-long trail riding holidays. Everything is organised for you: horses, facilities, accommodation and, of course, adventurous rides through the magnificent Irish countryside.

There is a wide range of well-cared for horses, and the purposebuilt stables overlook the hills and ocean. Dingle Horse Riding's guides are friendly and knowledgeable and look forward to introducing guests to the horses and the Dingle Peninsula.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 66 915 2199 Address: Ballinaboula, Dingle, Co. Kerry. Website: www.dinglehorseriding.com Email: info@dinglehorseriding.com

SOUTH WEST





Killarney Riding Stables 🚨

Originally established by Donie O'Sullivan in the late 1960s, today Killarney Riding Stables remains a family affair and is run by Donie, his wife Noreen and family. Located just 2km from the heart of Killarney in Co. Kerry and close to the world-renowned Killarney National Park, this is an area of great natural beauty and a joy to explore on horseback.

Killarney Riding Stables offers hacking, trekking and trail riding in the national park for one-, two- and three-hour excursions. You ride at walk, trot and canter pace depending on your ability over woodland and parkland terrain. For longer visits, try the Killarney Reeks Ring of Kerry Trail Ride and two- or five-day post-to-post trail rides, which take in mountains, beaches, bogs, forestry, lakes and country lanes. Overnights are at various locations along the way.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 64 66 31686 Address: Ballydowney, Killarney, Co. Kerry Website: www.kerrytrailride.com Email: krs@eircom.net

SOUTH WEST



and sizes.



Long's Horse Riding and Trekking Centre is a family run riding

centre located in the heart of the Dingle Peninsula (or 'Corca

Dhuibhne' in Gaelic, which means 'seed or tribe of Duibhne'),

in Ventry (Ceann Trá), Co. Kerry. It is surrounded by rugged

mountainous countryside and kilometres of sandy beaches. Whether you are a first time rider or have years of experience, Long's Horse Riding and Trekking Centre has treks and horses to suit you. There is a large selection of Irish cobs to suit all shapes

The centre offers a wide range of treks covering a variety of areas,

so you can choose to do as little or as much as you like. It is the

dream of many horse-lovers to gallop through the surf along a



Long's Horse Riding and Trekking Centre



sandy shore and Long's Horse Riding and Trekking Centre can make that dream a reality on a beach ride.

The friendly and qualified staff are always on hand to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 87 2250286 Address: Ventry, Co. Kerry. Website: www.longsriding.com Email: info@longsriding.com





Annaharvey Farm 🖊

Home to the Deverell family for five generations Annaharvey Farm, just outside Tullamore in Co. Offaly, is a vibrant and fun place to visit. A family run tillage farm with an equestrian centre and on-site accommodation, Annaharvey Farm can cater for up to 16 guests at one time. This is a truly wonderful place to spend a family or individual holiday.

The riding available is in three disciplines: showjumping training, flat work and cross-country. With very experienced instructors, great horses and excellent facilities, there is no doubt your riding abilities will improve beyond all expectations.

Accommodation is in the guesthouse, and bedrooms are cosy and all are en suite. There is a lounge and sitting areas which are very relaxed and comfortable, and all food is home cooked in the farmhouse kitchen. For the non-riders there are many interesting places to visit nearby, such as wonderful gardens and castles, as well as lots of activities such as cycling, walking and golf.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 57 9343544 Address: Tullamore, Co. Offaly. Website: www.annaharveyfarm.ie Email: info@annaharveyfarm.ie

LAKELANDS





Athlone Equestrian Centre 🖊

The Athlone Equestrian Centre in Westmeath provides riding lessons for children and adults, and offers trekking and trail riding packages around the local countryside. Visitors can enjoy a trek by Moydrum Castle, which featured on the cover of U2's 'Unforgettable Fire' album as well as a ride through local bogs and forest. The centre caters for large groups and families, as well as hen and birthday parties. Those not wishing to ride can enjoy a walk along the same route.

Over the years, the centre has added many new activities and attractions. Essentially Equestrian is now the largest equestrian store in the midlands and in August 2011, the centre opened a state-of-the-art, all-weather cross-country course. There are many packages available for the crosscountry enthusiast.

Pony camps and adventure camps are held regularly at the centre. These are a great week of fun for both beginners and seasoned campaigners. Day and weekly rates are available. The centre has something for every horse enthusiast in a relaxed atmosphere with friendly, qualified staff.

Contact Details

Phone: 353 90 6465850, Mobile: 353 86 2433609 Address: Moydrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. Website: www.athloneequestrian.ie Email: info@athloneequestian.ie





Castle Leslie Estate 🦊

Castle Leslie Estate in Co. Monaghan is nestled on 1,000 acres of undulating Irish countryside dotted with ancient woodland and glittering lakes. One of the last great Irish castle estates still in the hands of its founding family, it is the perfect place to discover the thrill of exploring the beautiful Irish countryside on horseback.

Castle Leslie Estate welcomes riders of all abilities and offers expert tuition, gentle hacks and exhilarating cross-country rides. The equestrian centre combines the authentic charm of a country estate with all the amenities you'd expect from one of Ireland's best horse riding locations.

There are more than 300 cross-country jumps on Castle Leslie Estate, including a water complex built by Willis Bros. of Badminton Horse Trials fame. There are also 34km of meandering bridleways to explore, a mile-long all-weather gallop to test out, virtual horse for beginners, 56 stables, and a 50m x 30m indoor arena with cross-country fences and tiered seating for more than 200.

Accommodation options at Castle Leslie include the Castle, Lodge, Old Stable Mews and Village Houses. Castle Leslie Estate is only 80 minutes from Dublin and 60 minutes from Belfast.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 47 88100 / 00353 47 88535 Address: Glaslough, Co. Monaghan. Website: www.castleleslie.com Email: info@castleleslie.com



Drumcoura Equestrian Centre 🖊

Calling anyone who ever dreamt of imitating John Wayne. There are Irish cowboys in Leitrim, yes there are! Drumcoura Lake Resort and Equestrian Centre specialises in Western horse riding on American quarter horses (the breed you would have seen in Western films).

The head Western riding instructor, Ron Weisz, will teach you the ropes of riding in a Western style within a few lessons. The horses are well trained and suitable for beginners.

Drumcoura also has a fully licensed bar and family restaurant with swinging doors and pictures of cowboys and Indians. Continuing the Western theme, Drumcoura has authentic log houses for rent as well as more recently built timber-frame houses. Drumcoura Lake Resort and Equestrian Centre boasts the largest covered arena in Leitrim, two outdoor arenas, horse-riding trails, an archery range and an outdoor tennis court. Guests can also go fishing on Drumcoura Lake, making use of the jetty and rowing boats.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 71 9645781, Mobile: 00353 87 6485830 Address: Drumcoura Lake Resort, Derrygoan, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim. Website: www.drumcoura.ie Email: enquiries@drumcoura.ie





Moorlands Equestrian Centre 🖊

Moorlands Equestrian Centre is a family run riding school based on the shores of Lough Allen in the heart of Co. Leitrim. Established in 1993 by the McManus family, Moorlands offers a wide range of activities for all ages and abilities. Its scenic, off-road setting, between Sliabh an Iarainn and the Arigna Mountains, provides a perfect base for lessons, treks, crosscountry ride-outs, hunting and pony camps.

Moorlands provides a friendly, safe environment to ride and endeavours to ensure that all visitors leave having had an equestrian experience to remember. Moorlands provides excellent professional tuition by qualified instructors. The scenic treks are suitable for all standard of rider and the all-weather track allows you to explore Curraghill and stop off for a break at the water's edge on the shores of Lough Allen.

Moorlands Equestrian Centre is open all year round and is easy to find. It is only a 15-minute drive from Carrick-on-Shannon.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 71 9641500 Address: Curraghill, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim. Website: www.moorlands.ie Email: info@moorlands.ie







Mullingar Equestrian Centre 🖊

Mullingar Equestrian Centre, located just one hour from Dublin in Co. Westmeath, is one of Ireland's premier equestrian centres. The family run centre caters for families, adult groups and holidays for unaccompanied young riders (such as horse riding holidays combined with English language courses). The excellent facilities, quality horses, experienced staff and on-site accommodation results in a unique package which attracts guests annually from across the globe.

The centre welcomes riders of all levels and can tailor holiday packages to suit the beginner as well as the more advanced rider. The weekly activities include riding lessons, training shows and cross-country ride outs. Among the facilities is an indoor arena which ensures year-round shows and lessons.

There are many attractions in the area to keep non-riders entertained as well. Belvedere House and Gardens and Lockes Distillery Museum in Kilbeggan are but two of the wonderful visitor sites nearby. If you feel more energetic, Mullingar Equestrian Centre can organise golf at one of six local courses or bicycle hire.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 44 9348331 Address: Athlone Road, Mullingar, Co Westmeath. Website: www.mullingarequestrian.com Email: info@mullingarequestrian.com





Roscommon Equestrian Centre 🖊

Roscommon Equestrian Centre is beautifully positioned near scenic Lough Ree on the River Shannon and at the foot of the impressive Slieve Bawn Mountain. Since 2003, the Kelly family have run the centre, which is about 10km from Roscommon town. It is a popular destination with everything one needs for a truly enjoyable riding experience.

Among the many features of the centre are two outdoor arenas and one indoor arena, pony camps for all ages during Easter and summer holidays, lessons for those with special needs, seasonal showjumping events, and snacks and beverages to keep your energy levels up. Most areas in the centre are wheelchair accessible. There are also some beautiful trekking and hacking routes in the area. Roscommon Equestrian Centre's professional and friendly staff offer lessons for all levels of rider, ranging from beginners to advanced, and children as young as four years old to adults. Large groups and schools are also welcome, and the centre is a popular venue for staff days out. Roscommon Equestrian Centre's ponies and horses come in all shapes and sizes, so there is sure to be one to suit each visitor.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 86 3270984 Address: Mount Cashel, Kilrooskey, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon Website: www.roscommonequestrian.ie Email: www.info@roscommonequestrian.ie

NORTH WEST





Deane's Equestrian Centre 🖊

Deane's Equestrian Centre is ideally situated between the Donegal hills and the wild Atlantic Ocean, a place of unrivalled natural beauty in south-west Co. Donegal in the village of Bruckless. Whether you're an experienced rider or this is your first time in the saddle, all the facilities are here to ensure that your holiday is enjoyable, memorable and safe. The qualified and experienced staff are friendly and patient. A livery and schooling service is also available.

There is a large indoor arena for those inclement days, showjumping grounds, a cross-country course and a myriad of forest tracks to ensure that a variety of riding is available. If you'd like to take things at a gentler pace there are also lead rein pony rides. The lessons on offer cater for all levels of riders.

The equestrian centre is open all year, six days a week, with competition usually on Sunday. The centre is closed on Monday.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 74 9737160 Address: Darney, Bruckless, Co. Donegal. Website: www.deanesequestrian.ie Email: deanesequestrian@eircom.net

NORTH WEST





Donegal Equestrian Centre 🖊

Donegal Equestrian Centre is situated less than 2km from the centre of Bundoran on the beautiful north-west coast of Ireland. It offers instruction in riding, pony camps, and beach and trail rides suitable for riders of all levels. There is a wide range of horses and ponies available, and packages can be tailored to your requirements.

There are numerous beautiful beaches on the doorstep of Donegal Equestrian Centre and magnificent mountain views within a short distance. The trail rider can discover Donegal and its neighbouring counties of Sligo and Leitrim, three of the most beautiful and untouched counties of what is known as the wild north-west. The centre's indoor and outdoor facilities provide comfortable year-round facilities. So whether it's a relaxing break away from it all, a chance to improve your riding, a gallop on the beach or the pony camp experience of a lifetime, Donegal Equestrian Centre can offer you an unforgettable experience in a fun and safe environment.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 71 9841977 Address: Finner Road, Bundoran, Co. Donegal. Website: www.donegalequestriancentre.com Email: info@donegalequestriancentre.com

NORTH WEST



Dunfanaghy Stables 🖊

Enjoy an exhilarating horse riding holiday amidst the spectacular scenery of Sheephaven Bay in Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal. Experience panoramic views of the Atlantic coast and the rugged heather-clad mountains from the seat of your own mannerly horse.

You will stay at the renowned Arnolds Hotel and Riding Stables in the village of Dunfanaghy. Run by the Arnold family for more than 30 years, Dunfanaghy Stables are conveniently located in the grounds of the hotel. A variety of horse-riding packages is available from two-hour rides to multi-day trail rides, and the stables provide horses for all riding abilities. stretches of beautiful coastline, along secluded sandy beaches and high into the mountains. As you climb higher, you will enjoy breathtaking views of Mount Errigal, the Ards Peninsula and the islands of Tory and Arranmore. Each day you will take a different trail where you will discover contrasting landscapes. Dunfanaghy Stables can also tailor packages to suit your requirements.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 74 9100980 / 00353 74 9136208 Address: c/o Arnold's Hotel, Dunfanaghy, Co. Donegal. Website: www.dunfanaghystables.com Email: dunfanaghystables@hotmail.com

The seven-day trail-riding holiday will take you along

NORTH WEST





Island View Riding Stables 📩

Canter along white sand with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the iconic Benbulben Mountain on the other. Island View Riding Stables allows you to discover Co. Sligo on horseback. The riding is suitable for all the family – beginners or experienced riders, young or old.

Trekking options include a 30-minute lead-rein trek, one-hour beach ride, two-hour hack and full-day trail ride complete with picnic or pub lunch. Island View Riding Stables can also arrange unique tailor-made riding holidays, with a variety of accommodation options.

The special Island Ride option, for experienced riders, takes you to uninhabited islands. Here you can spot seals and seabirds in their natural habitat and then let loose along the strand with a hearty gallop. For beginners and those looking to improve their skills, Island View Riding Stables provides riding lessons for groups and individuals. Those interested in more gentle leisure activities can rent a horse-drawn carriage and coachman to explore the rural charm and sea views of Yeats country beneath Benbulben.

Contact Details

Phone: 00353 71 9166156, Mobile: 00353 86 1956615 Address: Mount Temple, Moneygold, Grange, Co. Sligo. Website: www.islandviewridingstables.com, www.reiteninirland.de Email: islandviewridingstables@gmail.com



Lenamore Stables Equestrian Leisure Complex 💑

Lenamore Stables Equestrian Leisure Complex is situated high in the hills of Co. Donegal overlooking the beautiful city of Derry. A well-established, multi-disciplinary yard consisting of a riding school, livery and breeding yard, the facility is halfway between the villages of Muff and Bridgend, and approximately 32km from Letterkenny and Carndonagh.

There is a wide selection of quiet country lanes for the horse trekking enthusiast. From your own saddle you can enjoy views of mountains, lakes, sea and green fields. Facilities at Lenamore include 35 stables, 18 stalls, an indoor and outdoor all-weather arena, showjumping course, cross-country course and accommodation for up to 16 people. Lenamore Stables specialises in birthday parties with four to six ponies that excel at party games and entertaining children. Afterwards, the clubroom can be used for the goodies. The main emphasis of Lenamore Stables is to keep a high standard of horses, coaching and facilities.

Contact Details Phone: 00353 74 9384022 Address: Muff, Co. Donegal. Website: www.lenamorestables.com Email: lenamorestable@eircom.net

Did you know

There are three breeds of horses indigenous to Ireland. These are the Connemara pony, the Irish draught and the Irish hunter. Each one of these breeds is noted for its surefootedness, intelligence and grace under pressure.

According to legend, the Connemara pony, one of our most famous breeds, got its flashy looks thanks to the Spanish Armada that ran aground in 1588. Apparently some of the Andalusian horses on board were set loose and bred with the native stock.

In Celtic times, horses were seen as symbols of fertility. Several drawings and carvings of horses have been found in early settlements.



The horse today is far a cry from his ancestors. The first horses to walk this earth looked more like dogs and had five toes instead of hard hooves. The 'chestnut' on the inside part of a horse's leg is a remnant of one of these toes.

Irish racehorse Shergar won the 1981 Epsom Derby by 10 lengths, the longest winning margin in the race's 226-year history. Sadly his most famous legacy was his kidnapping by masked gunmen. The horse was never seen again. Kildare is known as the thoroughbred county due to its love affair with this horse breed. It is home to many racing yards, three top-class racecourses and the Irish National Stud where you can get up close to the country's finest thoroughbreds.

There have been several internationally renowned horses from Ireland. One of the most plucky was Marion Hughes's Flo Jo. Standing at a mere 14.2 hands, this show jumper competed against horses that were often two or three feet taller than him.

Horses and their riders have always played a massive part of Irish mythology, like Niamh's white horse that took Oisín to and from Tír na nÓg.

Try your luck at the races!



Adrenalin-pumping action, heart-stopping finishes and breath-taking fashion – if you love horses then don't miss out on a day at the races in Ireland. This is a unique Irish social occasion where owners, trainers, jockeys, bookies and racegoers all rub shoulders. The punters looking to place a winning bet jostle through the crowds to get a peek at the sleek thoroughbred horses.

Stylishly dressed women are also likely to be turning heads as they compete for fantastic Ladies' Day prizes.

There are 26 race courses all over Ireland to choose from and each year they welcome more than 1.4 million racegoers through their gates. The highlights of the season are the racing festivals, where a racecourse will buzz with action for several days. The most famous festivals include Leopardstown at Christmas; Punchestown at the end of April, and The Galway Races, which start at the end of July, but there are many other fantastic racing meets throughout the year all around



the country. Why not try your luck and place a bet on a horse that catches your eye? Or find a knowledgeable punter who regularly attends the races and ask them for a tip? Betting is an age-old tradition in Ireland and you can place as little as €1 at the Tote on your chosen horse; it definitely makes watching the race a lot more exciting! There is also an array of other activities ranging from children's entertainment to food and drink stands.

For details on race courses and a full list of racing events, visit Horse Racing Ireland's official website *www.goracing.ie*



Overseas Contacts

TOURISM IRELAND OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS:

Republic of Ireland Phone: 00353 1 4763400 Address: Tourism Ireland, 5th Floor, Bishop's Square, Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2, Ireland. Email: corporate.dublin@tourismireland.com

Northern Ireland

Phone: 0044 2870 359200 Address: Tourism Ireland, Beresford House, 2 Beresford Road, Coleraine BT52 1GE, Northern Ireland. Email: corporate.coleraine@tourismireland.com

Great Britain (London) Phone: 0044 207 5180800 Address: Tourism Ireland, Nations House, 103 Wigmore Street, London W1U 1QS. Email: corporate.london@tourismireland.com

Great Britain (Glasgow)

Phone: 0044 141 5724030 Address: Tourism Ireland, James Miller House, 7th Floor, 98 West George Street, Glasgow G2 1PJ. Email: corporate.glasgow@tourismireland.com

Germany

Phone: 0049 69 9231850 Address: Ireland Information, Gutleutstrasse 32, 60329 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Email: corporate.germany@tourismireland.com

France

Phone: 0033 1 53431218 Address: Tourisme Irlandais, 33 rue de Miromesnil, 75008 Paris. Email: corporate.france@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 0039 02 581773 Address: Turismo Irlandese, Piazzale Cantore 4, 20123 Milano. Email: corporate.italy@tourismireland.com

Spain

Phone: 0034 91 5775458 Address: Tourism Ireland, Paseo de la Castellana 46, 2ª Planta, 28046 Madrid. Email: corporate.spain@tourismireland.com Nordic Region (Copenhagen) Phone: 0045 33 15 8045 Address: Tourism Ireland, Store Kongensgade 3, 1 1264 Copenhagen K, Denmark. Email: info.nordic@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 0031 20 53 06 050 Address: Ierland Toerisme, Spuistraat 104 1012 VA, Amsterdam Email: corporate.netherlands@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 0032 2 643 21 21 Address: Tourism Ireland, Louizalaan 66, Avenue Louise 1050 Brussels Email: corporate.belgium@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 001 212 418 0800 Address: Tourism Ireland, 17th Floor, 345 Park Avenue New York, NY 10154 Email: corporate.usa@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 001 416 925 6368 Address: Tourism Ireland 2 Bloor Street West, Suite 3403 Toronto M4W 3E2 Email: corporate.canada@tourismireland.com

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Phone: 0061 2 9964 6900 Address: Tourism Ireland, 5th Level, 36 Carrington Street, Sydney NSW 2000 Email: corporate.australia@tourismireland.com

New Zealand

Phone: 0064 9 9772255 Address: Tourism Ireland, Level 6, 52 Swanson St Auckland, New Zealand 20123 Email: corporate.newzealand@tourismireland.com

Asia Hub

Phone: 00971 4813 78 19 Address: Tourism Ireland, JAFZA 18, 1st Floor, PO Box 262746 Jebel Ali Free Zone, UAE Email: info.asia@tourismireland.com



In Ireland Contacts

Useful Sources of Information

FÁILTE IRELAND OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS:

Cork Tourist Office Phone: 00353 21 4255100 Address: Grand Parade, Cork City.

Dublin Discover Ireland Centre Phone: 00353 1 6057700 Address: Suffolk Street, Dublin 2.

Galway Discover Ireland Centre Phone: 00353 91 537700 Address: Áras Fáilte, Forster Street, Galway.

Killarney Discover Ireland Centre Phone: 00353 64 6631633 Address: Beech Road, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

Mullingar Tourist Office Phone: 00353 44 9348650 Address: Dublin Road, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

Sligo Tourist Office Phone: 00353 71 9161201 Address: Aras Reddan, Temple Street, Sligo.

Waterford Tourist Office Phone: 00353 51 875823 Address: The Granary, The Quay, Waterford City.

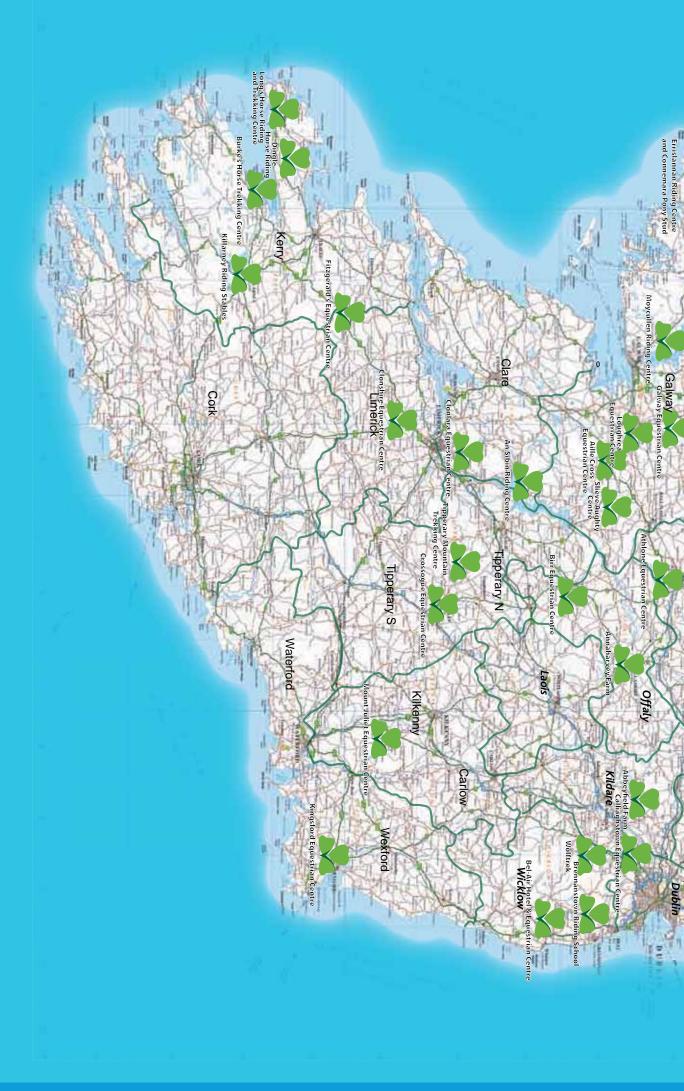


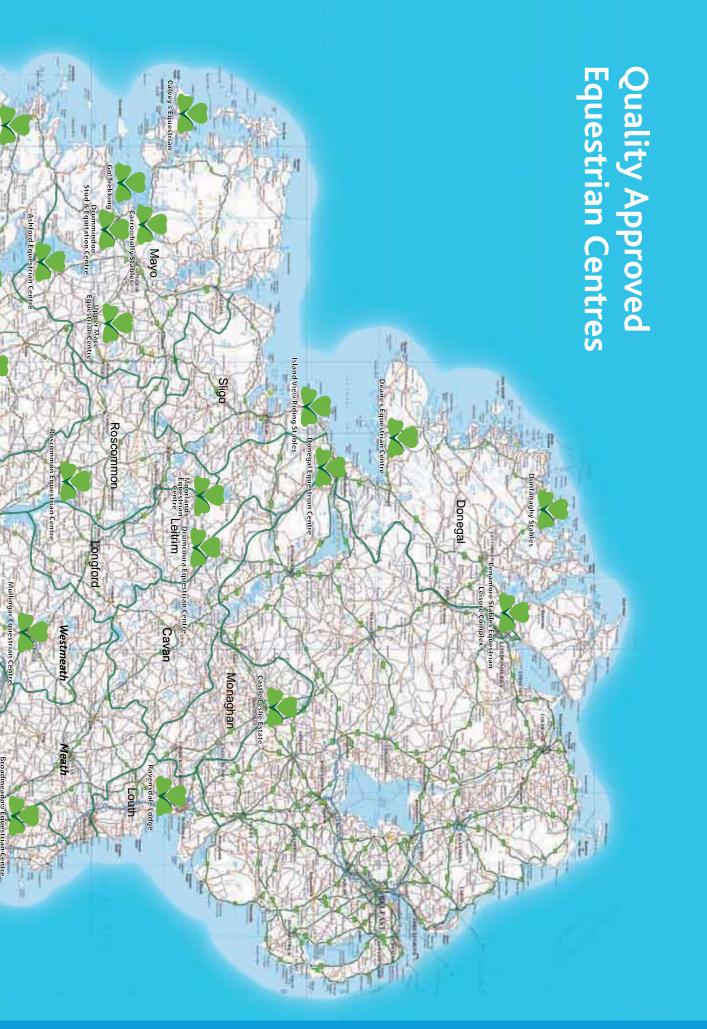
Discover Ireland Equestrian – for Irish holidaymakers. If you live in Ireland and would like more information on equestrian holidays and activities at home, look no further than www.discoverireland.ie/equestrian. This site features comprehensive information and listings for approved riding centres, which provide everything from leisurely treks and lessons to multi-day rides and pony camps. www.discoverireland.ie also features information on accommodation, activities, events and tourist attractions for your entire holiday experience.



Discover Ireland Equestrian – for overseas visitors. If you are visiting Ireland from overseas and would like information on horse riding holidays in Ireland, www.discoverireland.com/equestrian has you covered. Find out everything you need to know about trekking on sandy beaches, cross-country courses, multi-day rides and a whole lot more. www.discoverireland.com will also help you find accommodation and provides information on travel to and within Ireland, as well as details of other activities, events and tourist attractions that you might enjoy on your vacation.

Association of Irish Riding Establishments – www.aire.ie Equestrian Holidays Ireland – www.ehi.ie The British Horse Society – www.bhsireland.com Dressage Ireland – www.dressageireland.ie Horse Sport Ireland – www.horsesportireland.ie Horse Racing Ireland – www.goracing.ie







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Fáilte Ireland, Amiens Street, Dublin 1 Tel: 1890 525 525 +353 (0)1 884 7700 Fax: +353 (0)1 855 6821 www.failteireland.ie www.discoverireland.ie www.discoverireland.com Disclaimer: Every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy in the compilation of this brochure. Fáilte Ireland cannot, however accept responsibility for errors or omissions. Some sporting activities may by their nature be hazardous and involve risk. It is recommended in such cases to take out personal accident insurance. While most outdoor activity operators would have public liability insurance it is desirable to check with the establishment or with the operator concerned as to the level of cover carried. All of the Equestrian Centres in this brochure are approved by Fáilte Ireland however not all of the accommodation noted throughout is approved by Fáilte Ireland.







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