

carlow

wander off the track



- 1 Carlow County Museum
- 2 VISUAL Carlow
- 3 Carlow Castle
- 4 Carlow College
- 5 Carlow Cathedral
- 6 Delta Sensory Gardens
- 7 Brownhill Dolmen
- 8 Oak Park Forest Park
- 9 Duckett's Grove Historic House and Walled Gardens
- 10 Milford Mills
- 11 St Laserian's Cathedral, Old Leighlin
- 12 Disney Graves
- 13 Arboretum Inspirational Gardens
- 14 Garden of Remembrance
- 15 Bagenalstown Railway Station
- 16 Carlow Fence
- 17 Bagenalstown Courthouse
- 18 Bagenalstown Lockhouse
- 19 The Maltings, Bagenalstown
- 20 Borris House
- 21 Borris Viaduct
- 22 Clashganny Viewing Point
- 23 River canoeing and paddle boarding
- 24 Tinnahinch Castle and Weir
- 25 Duiske Abbey
- 26 St Mullins Ecclesiastical Ruins
- 27 Adelaide Memorial Church
- 28 Huntington Castle and Gardens
- 29 Altamont Gardens
- 30 Aghade Bridge
- 31 Tullow Museum
- 32 Rathgall Hill Fort
- 33 Clonmore Castle
- 34 Haroldstown Dolmen
- 35 Chocolate Garden of Ireland
- 36 Rathwood



1 **Carlow County Museum, College Street, Carlow Town, R93 E3T2.**
Carlow County Museum documents the history of County Carlow throughout the ages featuring objects of archaeological, historical and cultural significance, across four galleries. The building also houses the Tourist Office, the County Library and Archive.

2 **VISUAL Carlow, Old Dublin Road, Carlow Town, R93 A3K1.**
VISUAL is one of Ireland's leading contemporary art spaces situated in the heart of Carlow Town, with four world class gallery spaces. A stunning building, both outside and inside, with amazing artwork by national and international artists.

3 **Carlow Castle, riverside, Carlow Town.**
Built in the 13th century the castle had towers that were 25ft thick and stood three storeys high, making it a strategic fortress which protected Carlow Town. It remained relatively unscathed until 1814 when Dr Middleton, accidentally blew it up during works to convert it into a modern lunatic asylum, with only the west wall and two towers surviving.

4 **Carlow College, St Patricks, College Street, Carlow Town, R93 T2P8.**
Ireland's oldest third-level Catholic educational college, first opened in 1793, once the penal laws were relaxed. The college educated males for the professions and for the priesthood, and during 1793-2001 over 3,300 ordinations took place. Today the college is once again a third-level educational institution.

5 **Carlow Cathedral, College Street, Carlow, R93 E681.**
Carlow Cathedral was among the first Catholic cathedrals consecrated following the act granting Catholic Emancipation in 1829. The cathedral was built by Bishop James Doyle and financed through public subscription at a cost of £9,000. The architect was Thomas Cobden and it is widely regarded as his most outstanding church building.

6 **Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow Town, R93 Y959.**
A series of interconnecting gardens of a multi-sensory nature, covering 2.5 acres. Stroll and admire the beautiful limestone sculptures throughout the gardens, bask in the tranquillity of the water features and marvel at the one-tonne of pink marble floating on a cushion of water.

7 **Brownhill Dolmen, Carlow (near Carlow Town).**
Brownhill Dolmen dates back to pre-historical times. The granite capstone weighs over 100 tonnes, making it the largest of its kind in Europe. It is thought that religious rites, possibly human sacrifices, were performed there over 4,500 years ago (2,500 BC).

8 **Oak Park Forest Park, Oak Park, Carlow, (near Carlow Town).**
Oak Park Forest Park is a mature, mixed species woodland of over 120 acres with colour-coded circular walkways of varying lengths. The lakes are home to ducks and swans, while the islands shelter wild and game birds.

9 **Duckett's Grove Historic House and Walled Gardens, Kneestown, Carlow, R93 RF80.**
Once a grand mansion, Duckett's Grove with its magnificent towers and turrets makes for an impressive silhouette. Two beautiful interconnecting walled gardens, a pleasure ground, including a playground and a stunning gothic exterior make for an enjoyable visit.

10 **Milford Mills, Milford, Co. Carlow, R93 Y231.**
It is hard to believe that this tranquil and picturesque place was once a thriving industrial hub. With an excellent power source in the River Barrow and access to the country's main cities through a network of inland waterways, Milford was at the centre of Ireland's early 19th century milling boom.

11 **St Laserian's Cathedral, Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow, R93 N598.**
St Laserian's Cathedral is a 13th century gem in Old Leighlin Village. The original settlement dates from the 7th century and the cathedral embraces a history of Viking raids, religious turbulence and murder.

12 **HERE LIETH ROBERT DISNEY ANCESTOR OF WALT DISNEY FAMED FILMMAKER**
The Disney Graves, Clonmelsh, Co. Carlow. This quiet corner graveyard is the final resting place of Walt Disney's ancestors, some of whom lived locally. Walt became one of the best-known motion picture producers in the world after his great-grandfather Arundel Disney (1801-1859) emigrated from Carlow in the 1830s.

13 **Arboretum Inspirational Gardens, c/o Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, R93 P9F4.**
Ireland's first five star GARDEN CENTRE
The Arboretum Inspirational Gardens feature a stunning array of colourful plants, shrubs, fruit trees and ornamental features. Designed to inspire visitors on planting schemes and solutions, the garden offers endless ideas that can be easily recreated in gardeners own homes.

14 **Garden of Remembrance, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow.**
This garden, founded by the community of Leighlinbridge, commemorates important occasions in the history of the village. These include the visit of the former Canadian Prime Minister, Brian Mulrooney, a World War 1 memorial and a sculpture to the eminent world scientist John Tyndall.

15 **Bagenalstown Railway Station, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 AV82.**
Bagenalstown Railway Station's design has been attributed to William Deane Butler who constructed it of limestone and granite. It is a seven bay, two-storey building in an Italianate villa style, still intact to this day and widely regarded as one of the finest countrywide.

16 **Carlow Fence, various locations throughout County Carlow**
The Carlow Fence consists of a decorative fence made up of granite pieces, laid horizontally over vertical posts and is reputedly to be found nowhere else in the world. It was erected mainly as a decorative fence between fields and around gardens.

17 **Bagenalstown Courthouse, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 V248.**
Bagenalstown, or Muine Bheag, derives its name from Walter Bagenal, who, in founding the town, had visions of mirroring the city of Versailles in France. His legacies are the stone public buildings including the Courthouse, now a public library in Bagenalstown.

18 **Bagenalstown Lockhouse, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.**
The interesting collection of buildings here highlights the importance of the River Barrow in the area's industrial activity during the 18th and 19th centuries. Standing derelict now the lock keeper's house and the canal lock were built in 1790. In 1870, the cast-iron, counter weight drawbridge was constructed.

19 **The Maltings, Quayside, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.**
This impressive building was constructed as a water-powered brewery in 1868 using locally mined granite. It was turned into a malting facility by Matthew Minch in the late 1700s and continued to produce malt through the Minch Norton Company until the mid-1980s.

20 **Borris House and Gardens, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 Y2T1.**
Borris House, the ancestral home of the McMorrough Kavanaghs, Kings of Leinster, is an Irish estate that traces its history back to the Royal Families of ancient Ireland. Each room on the house tour displays exceptional architecture, antique furniture, paintings and porcelain.

21 **Borris Viaduct and aerial walk, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 A4A4.**
The Borris Railway Viaduct with its sixteen arches supported by soaring limestone pillars is one of Ireland's best examples of pioneering 19th century railway engineering. The walk offers a leisurely stroll with stunning views to the Blackstairs Mountains and Mount Leinster.

22 **Clashganny Viewing Point, Clashganny, Co. Carlow.**
From here the visitor can enjoy a 6km looped walking route through Clashganny Forest, an old wood which has had forestry cover present since the 1800s. Magnificent views of Clashganny Lock below, the River Barrow and surrounding Carlow countryside can also be enjoyed.

23 **River canoeing and paddle boarding, near Clashganny, Co. Carlow.**
Clashganny is one of the most famed viewing spots on the Barrow Navigation and a hive of activity for river canoeing and paddle boarding with three companies offering trips from here including Go With the Flow River Adventures, Paddle Your Own Canoe and Pure Adventure.

24 **Tinnahinch Castle and Weir, Tinnahinch, Co. Carlow.**
In 1615, Tinnahinch Castle was constructed by James Butler the Duke of Ormonde. It was built to control a crossing over the River Barrow. Tinnahinch Castle was attacked circa 1700 and remains derelict since.

25 **Duiske Abbey, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, R95 YN66.**
Duiske Abbey is situated in the heart of Graiguenamanagh and remains one of Ireland's finest Cistercian monasteries. William Marshall founded Duiske Abbey in 1204 and originally it would have spread over some five acres.

26 **St Mullins Ecclesiastical Ruins, St Mullins, Co. Carlow.**
Getting its name from St Moling, the area has physical remains from many significant periods in Irish history - an early Christian monastic settlement, a Norman motte and bailey, a large graveyard with many insurgents from the 1798 Rebellion, 19th century flour and woollen mills and the river.

27 **Adelaide Memorial Church, Myshall, Co. Carlow, R21 Y478.**
This church was raised by John Duguid of Dover, England, in memory of his wife Adelaide and their daughter Constance who was killed in a riding accident while visiting friends in Myshall. Built as a miniature of Salisbury Cathedral in England, it features marble floors, mosaics, woodcarving and stained-glass windows.

28 **Huntington Castle & Gardens, Clonagal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K237.**
Huntington Castle and Gardens, built in 1625, is set in over 160 acres of gardens, farmland and woodland. The guided castle tours explain its 17th century history while the extensive gardens include the world-famous Yew walk.

29 **Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 N882.**
Altamont Gardens are an enchanting blend of formal and informal gardens with riverside walks that cover over 40 acres (16 hectares). Regardless of the season, Altamont is a great experience at any time of the year.

30 **Aghade Bridge, Tullow, Co. Carlow (near Ardattin)**
Aghade Bridge is a beautiful viewing spot over the River Slaney which is close to the village of Ardattin.

31 **Tullow Museum, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 Y744.**
Tullow Museum displays a splendid collection of artefacts reflecting local history, in particular Fr Murphy's alleged last vestments. Fr Murphy championed Ireland's cause for freedom in the 1798 battles.

32 **Rathgall Hill Fort, Rathgall, Tullow, Co. Carlow**
Rathgall is a hillside fortification with 8th century outer walls and later medieval inner walls. Evidence from excavations in 1969 highlighted Rathgall as Ireland's first Late Bronze Age workshop. Evidence of a house as well as metal workshops and glass, bronze and stone objects were discovered.

33 **Clonmore Castle, Clonmore, Co. Carlow.**
Clonmore is one of Carlow's most important early Christian sites and was home to a significant monastery founded by St Maedoc around 600. The importance of the site is attested by the presence of two large crosses, nineteen cross-inscribed stones, an ogham stone and two bullaun stones.

34 **Haroldstown Dolmen, Co. Carlow.**
Haroldstown Dolmen is a most attractive and well-preserved portal dolmen, consisting of two tilted capstones, supported by ten vertical stones, two of which acted as a door to the tomb.

35 **Chocolate Garden of Ireland & 36** **Rathwood**
The Chocolate Garden of Ireland and Rathwood lie immediately adjacent to each other near the town of Tullow. Rathwood offers lovely woodland walks, a children's playground, the Maze of Ireland and a train ride while the Chocolate Garden of Ireland offers chocolate making sessions and workshops. A play area will keep the little ones entertained.

For more information on County Carlow visit the Carlow Tours app, available as a free download from the Google App Store or log on to www.carlowtourism.com

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carlow turasóireacht cheatharlach
carlow tourism

Carlow Tourist Office, College Street, Carlow, R93 H738
t: +353 (0)59 913 0411
e: info@carlowtourism.com
www.carlowtourism.com