

A Guide to County Carlow

Carlow County Museum
T: 059 913 1554 www.carlowmuseum.ie



Reddy's of Carlow
T: 059 914 2224 www.reddyscarlow.ie



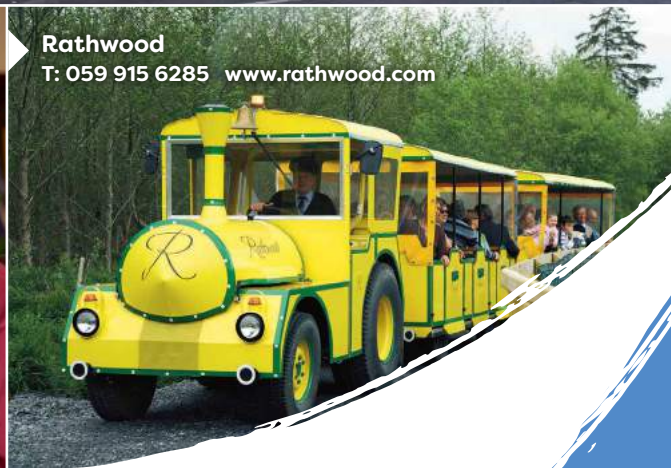
Teach Dolmain
T: 059 913 0911 www.teachdolmain.ie



The Chocolate Garden of Ireland
T: 059 6481999 www.chocolategarden.ie



Rathwood
T: 059 915 6285 www.rathwood.com





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An Roinn Coimíre Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

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Carlow County
Development Partnership



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development
Europe investing in rural areas

carlow
wander off the track

College Street, Carlow, R93 H738

T: +353 (0) 59 9130411

E: info@carlowtourism.com

www.carlowtourism.com

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County Carlow visit the
Carlow Tours app, available
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Dückett's Grove Historic House and
Walled Gardens, near Carlow Town

Uncover a world of hidden gems in Carlow when you wander off the track.

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CarlowTourism.com

Discovering
BEGINS HERE

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ANCIENT EAST

 COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Carlow has a range of exciting trails to help you delve in and really discover the county. From Ireland's first garden trail to our strong religious and spiritual heritage, there is so much to enjoy here. All trails are available as printed publications from Carlow Tourist Office, on the Carlow Tours app or to download from www.carlowtourism.com

South Carlow Adventure Trail

Carlow's wide open spaces, mountains and valleys are ideal for the outdoors, whether for leisurely activity or a real adventure. Walk a towpath or a mountain trail, hire a river barge or canoe and kayak along the rapids of the River Barrow. If you need a relaxing break, fresh air and stimulation, Carlow is the natural choice.

The South Carlow Adventure Trail presents the rich variety of activities in the southern stretches of the county, detailing outdoor tourism providers as well as providing maps of the Barrow Way and South Leinster Way long distance walking routes. Come and enjoy the stunning, unspoilt and often remote views of the landscape, the flora and fauna and the sense of well-being.



Carlow Garden Trail

Carlow is a treasure trove of wonderful gardens to visit with some of the best in Ireland to be found here. The Carlow Garden Trail presents 19 garden attractions ranging from small to very large gardens, garden centres and forest parks and from old to new. Both novices and experienced gardeners are guaranteed to find something to stimulate and delight their senses.

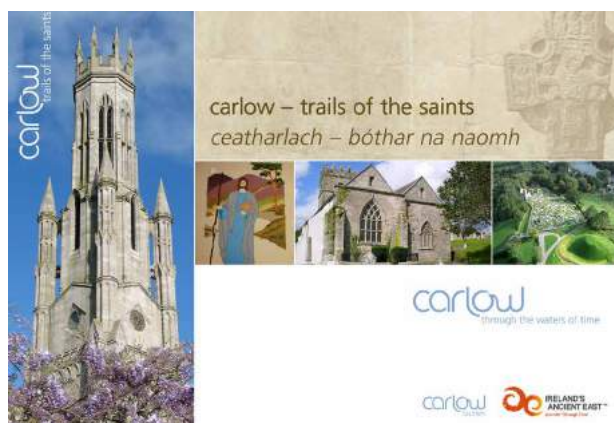
The trail also offers visitors the opportunity to discover and enjoy some of the spectacular manor houses and castles that once dominated the cultural and agricultural life of the county. Beyond the impressive facades of these ancestral homes, visitors can walk in the footsteps of fascinating historical figures and take in the sumptuous splendour of some of the most significant homes in Irish history.

Plan your trip now and visit www.carlowgardentrail.com

Carlow – Trails of the Saints

This trail brings the visitor on a journey through Carlow's rich spiritual and ecclesiastical heritage in a series of three routes – St Patrick's, St Lasarian's and St Moling's Trails. Many sites here are deemed to be of national significance including the monastic site at St Mullins, the medieval Cathedral of Old Leighlin, the eighteenth-century Carlow College and nineteenth-century Catholic Cathedral in Carlow Town and the exquisite Adelaide Memorial Church in Myshall. There are at least 22 early saints associated with Carlow, some were born and spent their lives here, others came to be educated or to found monasteries. Columbanus, traditionally believed to have been born near Myshall, is regarded as the first great missionary in Europe where he founded many settlements including Luxeuil in France and Bobbio in Italy. Another saint associated with the area is St Willibrord who studied at Killogan and who later became Patron Saint of Luxembourg.

www.trails.carlowtourism.com



Taste in Carlow Food Trail

Unearth your taste in Carlow – discover some of Carlow's many wonderful food, drink and hospitality gems in this dedicated food trail. This trail details the many restaurants that have built their reputations on using the best ingredients. It lists the farmers' markets and farm shops where you can buy delicious award-winning cheeses, wholesome free range and organic meat and poultry, farm fresh eggs along with locally grown seasonal fruit and vegetables.

And not forgetting the booming drinks sector with Carlow brands – Walsh Whiskey and the Carlow Brewing Company – now exporting around the world.

www.tasteincarlow.ie



County Carlow is convenient to the major entry points into Ireland, with Dublin, Dun Laoghaire and Rosslare ferryports, and Dublin Airport all within easy reach. Dublin City is 92km, Dublin Airport is 107km and Rosslare Europort is 92km from Carlow Town centre.



BUS

Expressway



T: 1850 836 611 or E: customer@buseireann.ie

Bus Éireann's premium coach service, provides direct and regular services on over 22 routes throughout Ireland. **Expressway operates Route 4 from Carlow to Dublin City/Dublin Airport and Waterford.** Full timetable available on www.expressway.ie. A modern fleet of comfortable coaches offer a cost effective alternative to the stress of accessing increasingly restricted car parking and busy town centres. A majority of routes provide hourly services. Their routes let you travel to major airports around the country in luxury with extra comfort leather seats, while you stay connected with on-board FREE Wi-Fi. Expressway offers the ease and savings of purchasing tickets online. You can also purchase tickets when boarding coaches between the main service centres. *Expressway. Way Better.*

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Main Street, Urlingford, Kilkenny

T: 0818 333 222 E: info@jjkavanagh.ie www.jjkavanagh.ie

Established in 1919, J.J. Kavanagh & Sons is 100% Irish-owned and is the largest privately owned coach company in Ireland today. The company provides 26 services daily to/from Carlow and Dublin City/Dublin Airport. Pick-up/drop-off points include Carlow Coach Park (Barrack Street), Dublin Airport (Coach Park, Zone 16) and Dublin City (Ulster Bank, Georges Quay).

Inter-county services (Mon-Fri) between Carlow, Tullow, Rathvilly, Baltinglass and Hacketstown as well as a Carlow – Portlaoise service via Athy, and Carlow – Kilkenny twice daily. All coaches offer FREE Wi-Fi, extra comfort seats, free charging points and even better value when booking your ticket online by availing of 10% off.

All coaches are Fáilte Ireland approved and available for all types of private hire including day trips, festivals and sporting events. You can get your free quote by calling 0818 333 222.

TAXI & COACH HIRE

Erin Cabs

Carlow. Freephone 1800 744 744 M: 086 045 7248 www.erintaxi.ie
Premier taxi service in Carlow Town. 24-hour fast and reliable. Four, seven, eight-seater and wheelchair taxis available. Airport and early morning bookings.

Glynn's of Carlow Coach Hire

Ballykealy, Ballon, Co. Carlow. T: 059 9159393 M: 087 920 0850
E: chris@glynnsofcarlow.ie

Family-run business with over 50 years of experience in transport. All round passenger transport service, to include all kinds of outings, weddings, sport days, private parties, school and college days out. Vehicle sizes range from 14 seats to 55 seater coaches with a nationwide service. Road Safety Authority (RSA) fully compliant, with all drivers fully qualified and vetted.

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T: 059 972 1637 M: 087 256 5144 E: mcevoybushire@gmail.com

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Wexford Bus



Rosslare Road, Drinagh, Wexford, Co. Wexford, Y35 ARR3

T: 053 914 2742 E: info@wexfordbus.com

Wexford Bus is a growing commercial bus company operating regular scheduled bus services that connect Carlow to Ballon, Bunclody, Enniscorthy and Wexford on Route 376. Wexford Bus also operates services between Wexford and Waterford and Wexford and Dublin offering greater connectivity to passengers.

Wexford Bus has a fleet of over 45 air-conditioned coaches. Contactless payments, Leap Cards and free Travel Cards are accepted on board. For bookings, timetables and tickets go to www.wexfordbus.com

TRAINS

Irish Rail

T: 059 913 1633 www.irishrail.ie

From **Dublin Heuston** there are eight services in operation to Carlow Town (and nine return) on a daily basis (Monday – Friday). There are eight services on Saturday and four services on Sunday. For further information check their website at www.irishrail.ie.



Larry Earle Coach Hire

Roscat, Tullow, Co. Carlow. T: 059 914 8618 M: 087 260 3426

Luxury coach hire. Available for all social functions, outings and corporate occasions. Strong emphasis on providing a fast, reliable and customer-focused service.

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BED & BREAKFASTS	Address	Phone & Social Media	Email & Website
CARLOW TOWN AREA			
Avlon House B&B ★★★★	Green Lane, Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 NT26	059 917 4222    	info@avlonhouse.com www.carlowbedandbreakfast.com
HISTORIC HOUSES			
BAGENALSTOWN AREA			
Lorum Old Rectory	Kilgraney, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 RD45	059 977 5282   	info@lorum.com www.lorum.com
WELCOME STANDARD B&B			
BALLON AREA			
Sandbrook House	Castlegrace, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 YK09	087 430 9976   	info@sandbrook.ie www.sandbrook.ie
CLONEGAL AREA			
Huntington Castle and Gardens	Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K237	053 937 7160   	info@huntingtoncastle.com www.huntingtoncastle.com
HOTELS			
BALLON AREA			
Ballykealey House ★★★★	Ballykealey, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 A9K1	059 915 9288  	info@ballykealeyhouse.com www.ballykealeyhouse.com
BORRIS AREA			
Step House Hotel ★★★★	Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 V2CR	059 977 3209   	info@stephousehotel.ie www.stephousehotel.ie
CARLOW TOWN AREA			
Dinn Rí Hotel ★★★★	Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 C8X5	059 913 3111    	info@dinnri.com www.dinnri.com
Woodford Dolmen Hotel ★★★★	Kilkenny Road, Carlow, R93 N207	059 914 2002    	info@woodforddolmenhotel.ie www.woodforddolmenhotel.ie
Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club ★★★★	Athy Road, Carlow, R93 V4K5	059 913 1308    	info@sevenoakshotel.com www.sevenoakshotel.com
Talbot Hotel Carlow ★★★★	Portlaoise Road, Carlow, R93 Y504	059 915 3000    	reservations@talbothotelcarlow.ie www.talbotcarlow.ie
LEIGHLINBRIDGE AREA			
The Lord Bagenal Inn ★★★★	Main Street, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, R93 E189	059 977 4000    	info@lordbagenal.com www.lordbagenal.com
TULLOW AREA			
Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort ★★★★	Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 C9H0	059 918 0100    	info@mountwolseley.ie www.mountwolseley.ie
SELF CATERING			
BALLON AREA			
Ballykealey House ★★★★	Ballykealey, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 A9K1	059 915 9288  	info@ballykealeyhouse.com www.ballykealeyhouse.com
HACKETSTOWN AREA			
Bolands Self Catering ★★★★	Main Street, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow, R93 KX80	085 721 8714 	bolandsaccommodation@gmail.com
GRAIGUENAMANAGH/TINNAHINCH AREA			
Mount Brandon Holiday Cottages & Pottery School ★★★★	Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, R95 P046	059 9724789 / 085 7317501   	info@mountbrandoncottages.com www.mountbrandoncottages.com

LEIGHLINBRIDGE AREA


The Mews ★★★★★ Burgage, Leighlinbridge, 087 261 8418  info@themews.ie
www.themews.ie

TULLOW AREA




Mount Wolesey Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort ★★★★★ Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 C9H0 059 918 0100     info@mountwolesey.ie
www.mountwolesey.ie

WELCOME STANDARD – SELF CATERING




BAGENALSTOWN AREA

Matty's Pub & Accommodation Royal Oak Village, Bagenalstown, 087 253 6029  bunter@runbox.com
www.mattyspub.ie




BALLON AREA

Sandbrook House Castlegrace, Ballon, Co. Carlow, 087 430 9976    info@sandbrook.ie
www.sandbrook.ie




BORRIS AREA

Blackstairs Eco Trails Shepherds Huts Killedmond, Borris, Co. Carlow, 059 977 3184
R95 N1K7 087 270 7189    info@blackstairsecotrails.ie
www.blackstairsecotrails.ie

Joyce's Bar & Accommodation Main Street, Borris, Co Carlow, 059 977 3468
R95 DV76 info@joycesbar.ie
w: www.joycesbar.ie

Osborne's Bar & Storehouse Rathanna, Borris, Co. Carlow, 085 862 7891    info@osborne-storehouse.com
www.osborne-storehouse.com

CLONEGAL AREA

Huntington Castle Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K237 053 937 7160    info@huntingtoncastle.com
www.huntingtoncastle.com




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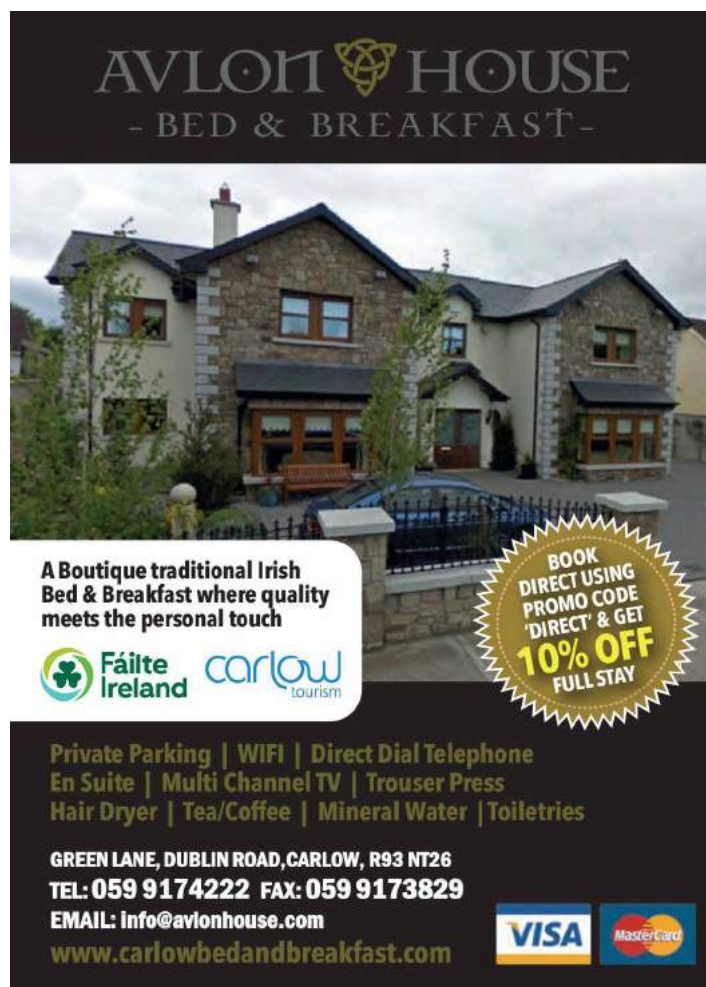
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www.fishingtackledirect.ie

Unit 2 Cathedral Close, Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 P7X0.
E: murphs10@hotmail.com Tel: 059 9132839 





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TEL: 059 9174222 FAX: 059 9173829
EMAIL: info@avlonhouse.com
www.carlowbedandbreakfast.com  

Carlow Golf Club



Deerpark, Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 HX46

T: 059 913 1695

E: info@carlowgolfclub.ie

www.carlowgolfclub.ie



DEERPARK COURSE: Carlow Golf Club is an inland links, laid out in a former wild deer park over undulating terrain with numerous elevated tees, several excellent dog-legs and small slick putting surfaces. Extensive, mature woods are a strong feature in a pleasant countryside setting where the unusually sandy soil has the bonus of allowing year round play. The course is rated amongst the top 20 championship courses in Ireland. There are many long par 4s and the 16th, a very demanding two shotter played through a tunnel-like valley, has been chosen by Christy O'Connor Snr. as the foremost 16th hole in Ireland. The par 5, 18th offers the chance of a closing birdie and a grandstand finish as it tumbles downhill all the way back to the clubhouse. A good ending to a memorable round.

OAKPARK COURSE: The 9 hole par 35, Oakpark course, owned by Carlow Golf Club, was designed by renowned architect Jeff Howes and is a truly terrific layout. Situated on rolling terrain, it provides a superb challenge to golfers of all standards. Similar to the championship Deerpark course, the emphasis is on accurate iron play and a delicate short game!

TYPE OF COURSE: Deerpark course: 18 hole parkland – 6,621 yards (6,055 metres) – par 70. Oak Park course: 9 hole parkland – 3,197 yards (2,923 metres) – par 35.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours. The Clubhouse Bar is open every day from 10am-10.30pm. A fully serviced restaurant offers a choice of breakfast, lunch and dinner menus and is open from 10am-10pm daily.

GREEN FEES: Monday-Thursday from €40; Friday from €45; Saturday from €60. Group rates available.

Book online at www.carlowgolfclub.ie where there are reduced rates available or contact the Club Office to make a booking T: 059 913 1695 or info@carlowgolfclub.ie

HIRE SERVICES: Clubs, caddy car and buggy hire.

LESSONS: By private arrangement with PGA professional Damian McGrane.

Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort



Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 C9H0

T: 059 918 0161

E: golf@mountwolseley.ie

www.mountwolseley.ie



Situated 12km east of Carlow Town, Mount Wolseley is set in opulent surroundings and boasts an 18-hole championship golf course. This par 72 course provides a challenge to every ability as each hole presents demanding approach shots, with wide landing areas being the only concession. With its broad fairways, unforgiving rough and picturesque water hazards, Mount Wolseley has justifiably played host to a number of national and international golf competitions and was selected as the host venue for the prestigious European Challenge Tour for three consecutive years between 2015 and 2017.

The Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort is located on the grounds of the 18th century ancestral home of Frederick York Wolseley, whose family became synonymous with the automotive industry.

This charming resort offers an eclectic blend of contemporary design and lavish detail surrounded by 200 acres of peaceful landscape. Featuring 143 bedrooms including four suites and eight executive rooms, each with individually controlled air conditioning and interactive IT facilities with broadband access.

FACILITIES: Frederick's award-winning fine-dining restaurant – voted 'Best Hotel Restaurant in Carlow' and recipient of a 1AA Rosette. The Aaron Lounge and The Snug provide the ideal spot for relaxation and informal dining. Leisure and relaxation facilities are also provided at the Sanctuary Spa, Carlow's only resort spa which features fourteen treatment rooms using Elemis and Thalgo products, relaxation pool, dry floatation, experience showers and balneotherapy.

TYPE OF COURSE: 18 hole championship Christy O'Connor Jnr parkland – 7,172 yards (6,558 metres) – par 72.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours.

GREEN FEES: From €55 (Mon-Fri & Sun) – €65 (Saturdays)

Group rates also available. Contact sales for further details

T: 059 9180161 or

E: golf@mountwolseley.ie

HIRE SERVICES: Buggy hire available.

LESSONS: By prior appointment with PGA professional Sean O'Donoghue.

OPEN COMPETITIONS: Full schedule of open days on the website at www.mountwolseley.ie/open-days.html

According to Christy O'Connor Junior, course designer, "Rarely after a first look around a potential site for a golf course had I been so impressed as at Mount Wolseley. What we have here is a fair but testing 18 holes of championship golf, none of which will disappoint even the most discerning player".

Bagenalstown Pitch and Putt



McGrath Park Sports Complex, Dunleckney, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 FX60

M: 086 153 0420 / 086 7812 711



This club was established in 1963 and is set over five picturesque acres allowing plenty of room for the odd stray shot! The course comprises 18 holes with various lengths and elevations from 32m to 70m which provide a challenge to even the most experienced players.

New members are always welcome. Located approximately 15 minutes from Carlow Town.

TYPE OF COURSE: Championship Standard 18 Hole Par 3 Pitch and Putt.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours all year round.

MEMBERSHIP: Adult single €80, family €100, student €50

GREEN FEES: €5 per person

HIRE SERVICES: Clubs available by prior arrangement only.

Borris Golf Club



Deerpark, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 ET21

T: 059 977 3310

E: info@borrisgolfclub.ie

www.borrisgolfclub.ie



Established in 1907, Borris Golf Club is one of the oldest clubs in Ireland and this is reflected in its mature parkland course. The breathtaking scenery of the surrounding countryside combined with the strategic design of the course, ensure that all who visit, always return! Spectacular views of Borris House, Mount Leinster and the famous Borris Viaduct. A big Borris welcome awaits you. Ideal for a holiday break with excellent hotels, guesthouses and fine restaurants nearby.

TYPE OF COURSE: 9 hole parkland – 6,221 yards (5,689 metres) – Par 70. SSS 69.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours, year round. The clubhouse bar is open from 12pm – 9.30pm each day (restricted hours during winter months). Light meals served. Full catering service available to groups by arrangement.

GREEN FEES: €25 Monday to Sunday (€15 with a member). Group rates available. Book online at www.borrisgolfclub.ie or phone the clubhouse.

HIRE SERVICES: Caddy car and buggy hire.

Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club



Carrigduff, Bunclody, Co. Wexford, Y21 N922

T: 053 937 4444

E: proshop@bunclodygfc.ie

www.bunclodygfc.ie



Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club is situated in 300 acres of breathtaking parklands on the Carlow/Wexford border. Opened in March 2009, it is already ranked in the top 30 parkland courses in Ireland. The Jeff Howes designed championship course runs over 7,000 yards on the banks of the River Slaney and has a diversity of golf holes, rarely seen on one golf course.

Ranked 25th in Golf Digest's top parkland courses. Europe's ONLY golf course with an elevator taking you from the 17th hole up five floors to the 18th tee box giving a bird's eye view over the River Slaney. The bar and restaurant offer a warm welcome and tempting menu with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside and of Mount Leinster. The club is open to visitors and societies every day.

OPEN COMPETITIONS: A full fixture list is available on the upcoming events tab on www.bunclodygfc.ie.

TYPE OF COURSE: 18 hole championship parkland – 7,164 yards (6,617 metres) – par 72.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours. Luxury five-star thatched clubhouse open daily.

GREEN FEES: From €30 midweek; Friday €50; Saturday €60 and Sunday €50. Corporate packages available.

HIRE SERVICES: Trolleys, electric caddy cars and buggies.

PRO SHOP: Full range of golf equipment, manufactured by leading companies – Titleist, Taylormade, Ping, Galvin Green and many more. Pro Shop Manager Caroline Dunne.

GOLF ACADEMY WITH FLOODLIT DRIVING RANGE: Fully floodlit golf range, 10 indoor bays, outdoor grass tees, putting green and chipping greens. Golf tuition seven days per week with PGA professional Gary McLean.

FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE: For weddings/confirmations/communions. Bar and restaurant with panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

Quinagh House Par 3



Quinagh House, Carlow, R93 V741

T: 059 914 2088

M: 089 497 3555 (booking line)

Quinagh House Par 3 is set in 42 acres on the outskirts of Carlow Town, surrounded by mature trees with extensive views of the Killeshin Hills.

A very well maintained golf course, it is a perfect place to relax or enjoy a friendly competition with 18 exceptional holes ranging from 130-220 yards in length.

Well positioned trees throughout the course and water hazards serve as challenging obstacles, while also enhancing the quality of this spacious course. A water feature adds to the delight of a round of golf here.

A perfect course for both beginners and experienced players. Refreshments and light snacks only available in the clubhouse.

TYPE OF COURSE: 18 hole par 3.

OPENING TIMES: 9.00am – 7.30pm

GREEN FEES: Adults €12, Senior Citizens €8, Students and Juveniles €10.

HIRE SERVICES: Trolleys €2. Club hire €5 per set.

GATEWAY TO THE SOUTH EAST

Seven Oaks Hotel,
Athy Road,
Carlow.

E: info@sevenoakshotel.com
www.sevenoakshotel.com
T: 059 9131308



BIKE RENTAL AND BIKE TOURS

Barrow Way Bike Hire

Barrowline Cruisers,
Vicarstown, Co. Laois,
R32 DE63

T: 057 862 6060

E: info@barrowline.ie

www.barrowwaybikes.ie



Explore the beautiful hidden gems of the Midlands at a leisurely pace on quality hybrid, mountain and electric bikes. Follow the ancient towpath along the stunning Grand Canal and River Barrow. Bikes come equipped with helmet, lock, pump and puncture repair kit. Collection and delivery (at your accommodation or hire directly from the base at Vicarstown).

HOW TO FIND US:

In the village of Vicarstown.

OPENING TIMES:

Year round.

RATES:

Adults €20 per day, children €10 per day, electric bikes – four hours €25, one day €45. Longer hire also available.



Graiguenamanagh Bike Hire

Waterside Guesthouse,
Graiguenamanagh,
Co. Kilkenny, R95 XH3K

T: 059 972 4246

M: 086 408 4008

E: [bike&hike@](mailto:bike&hike@watersideguesthouse.com)

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

www.watersideguesthouse.com



Graiguenamanagh Bike Hire offers bike rental and bike tours from Graiguenamanagh and Tinnahinch in the beautiful Barrow River Valley. The longest established operator in the Barrow Valley, Graiguenamanagh Bike Hire knows the Barrow towpath better than anyone else. Perfect for groups, families or couples to explore the river towpath and discover wildlife, scenery and peace, hidden away along a traffic-free greenway. Graiguenamanagh Bike Hire basecamp is located at the famous Waterside Guesthouse which provides a cosy room with a river view as well as a superb dining experience in the ground floor restaurant. The towpath stretches for miles in either direction, drop-off and pick-up service available.

HOW TO FIND US:

In the town of Graiguenamanagh.

OPENING TIMES:

March to October

RATES:

Adults €20 per day, €15 per half day, children €15 per day, €10 per half day. 20% discount rate for guests of Waterside Guesthouse



CANOEING

Go-with-the-Flow River Adventures

Clashganny on River Barrow

M: 087 252 9700

E: info@gowiththeflow.ie

www.gowiththeflow.ie

GPS: 52.559831, -6.91537

Please email for details of the popular three day canoeing camping trails.



Explore the most beautiful and enchanting waterway in Ireland by canoe. Families need look no further if it's adventure and fun you want for your great day out. Go-With-The-Flow are a favourite with those seeking spills and thrills in an action packed event. Qualified guides see you through all the whitewater, over all the weirs and waterfalls and down the rapids of the River Barrow. No experience necessary, all you need is a bunch of friends and time to chill. Tailored family learning days, corporate and social club days and individual canoe hire also available. You can spend two or three days just idling along the river, stopping off in every little village along the way.



Paddle Your Own Canoe

Milltown, Borris, Co. Carlow

M: 087 414 0461

E: info@paddleyourowncanoe.ie

www.paddleyourowncanoe.ie

GPS: 52.596667, -6.946639

OPEN: Year round.



Paddle Your Own Canoe offers you the opportunity to rent a canoe and gear and organise your multi-day trip down the River Barrow. With trails between Monasterevin in County Kildare and New Ross in County Wexford it is possible to paddle for up to six days passing through beautiful countryside, villages, towns and historical sites.

FACILITIES: Transport to/from the start/finish of each tour, canoes and all safety gear, dry bags and barrels.



Pure Adventure

The Quay, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny

M: 087 226 5550

E: info@pureadventure.ie

www.pureadventure.ie

GPS: 52.539363, -6.953981



Pure Adventure is based in the heart of the Barrow Valley in the picturesque town of Graiguenamanagh. Located on the banks of the River Barrow, Pure Adventure offers a range of activities that include exhilarating white water kayaking trips, scenic canoe tours and chilled out Stand Up Paddle Board adventures along with a range of team building activities and guided walks. A complete range of Canoeing Ireland skills courses from beginners to advanced available. Activities can be tailored to your group's needs and desires. Equipment is supplied, all you need to do is book in. Come join us for an unforgettable adventure.



SWIMMING POOL

Bagenalstown Swimming Pool

Leighlinbridge Road, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 RR72

OPENING TIMES:

Early June – Late August
11am – 12.30pm, 2.30pm – 5pm
and 7pm – 9pm

Please check the Facebook page for any seasonal changes



Bagenalstown Swimming Club is a long established voluntary club located in idyllic surroundings adjacent to the River Barrow.

An ideal destination for all age groups to enjoy swimming activities in geo-thermally heated pools. A paddling pool offers younger swimmers the chance to get confident with water, the 25m pool allows all swimmers to progress and enjoy swimming in a relaxed, outdoor environment.

The club also offers swimming lessons, summer camps, water safety classes, river races and swimming galas. Seasonal membership and casual rates available. All are welcome.



Graigucullen Swimming Pool

Leighlin Road, Graigucullen, Carlow, R93 DE22

T: 059 914 0330

E: cgswwimmingpool@gmail.com

www.graigucullenkilleshin.com/st-fiaccs-swimming-pool



Located in Graigucullen, facilities include a 25 metre deck level heated pool, a spacious heated toddler pool, sauna and steam room, family changing cubicles, coffee shop and free car parking. Disability facilities include showers, toilet, changing area, and pool hoist. Check the Facebook page for the latest timetable. Water Aerobics Mondays at 8.15pm, no need to pre-book, only €7 per class. Children's Lessons – beginning Sept, Jan and Apr on Mon-Wed, 5pm and 6pm and Sat 9am, 10am and 1pm. Easter and Summer Camps also available. Complete a booking form at the pool office with deposit per child to secure a place. Children must be at least four years of age. Adult Lessons – Tues and Thurs at 9.30pm. Contact Liam on 086 8629521 to book.



MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES

Mountain Adventures 74

Killcross, Tullow, Co. Carlow

M: 087 969 1193

E: aeacom@gmail.com

info@mountainadventures74.com

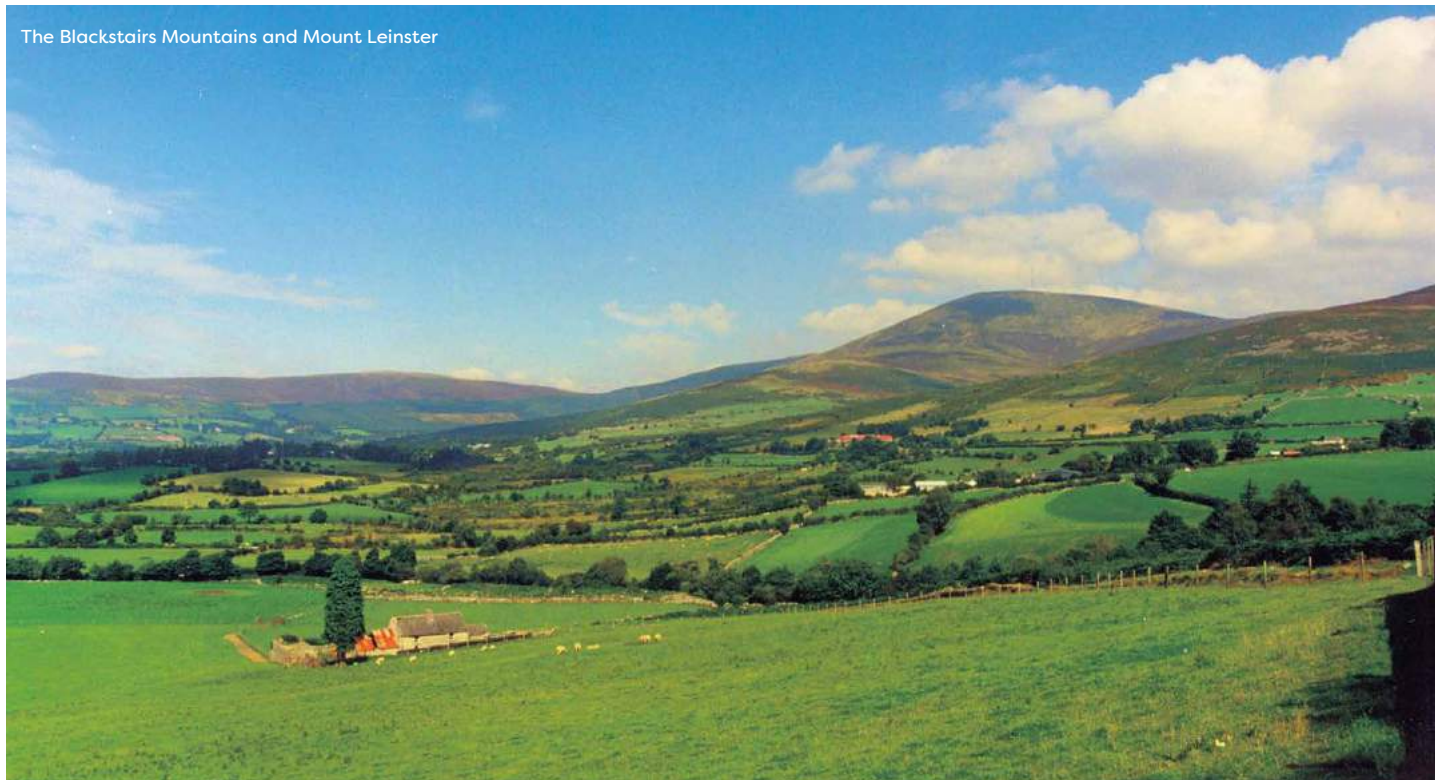
www.mountainadventures74.com



Mountain Adventures 74 is a multilingual outdoor company located just outside Tullow offering guided day hikes and climbing sessions in the Wicklow Mountains, Mount Leinster, the Blackstairs, Comeragh, Galtymore and weekend guided hikes to Kerry, Connemara, Donegal, the Mourne Mountains and all over Ireland. As a course provider for Mountaineering Ireland and the Mountain Training Board, they run mountain skills level 1 and 2. The aim of this course is to help attendees learn the skills to become a competent navigator in the mountains of Ireland, the UK and beyond. The courses take place in the Myshall and Blackstairs Mountains area. Fully insured and qualified as mountain leaders for Ireland and the UK with REC 3 first aid qualifications.



The Blackstairs Mountains and Mount Leinster



Walking in Carlow – Valleys, Vales and Views

If you are in need of a relaxing break, wide open spaces, fresh air and stimulation, then Carlow is the natural choice for a walking trip – the opportunities are endless! Catering for everyone from the casual walker to the veteran hiker, Carlow is a treasure trove of walking routes.

Looped walks are located throughout the county at Oak Park Forest Park and Clogrennane Wood, both close to Carlow Town, Kilbrannish North and South Forests and Deerpark on the Blackstairs Mountains, Clashganny Forest, south of Borris, and Bahana and Gowlin Forests, both near the village of St Mullins.

Flat walking is available along the beautiful Barrow Way and hiking for the more adventurous along the scenic South Leinster and Wicklow Ways. The 113km-long Barrow Way starts in County

Kildare and follows the towpath alongside Ireland's second longest river to the monastic village of St Mullins in south Carlow. Enjoy the surrounding landscape, scenic mountains, and a rich expanse of woodlands. The South Leinster Way runs from Kildavin in east Carlow as far as Carrick-on-Suir in County Tipperary. It features the majestic Mount Leinster, the highest hill in the Blackstairs Mountains (795m), and stunning views of Brandon Hill and the Barrow Valley. From Kildavin to Borris and onwards to Graiguenamanagh, the route is rich in flora and fauna.

The Wicklow Way ends in the Carlow village of Clonegal some 127km from its start point in Marley Park, Dublin. En route, it passes mountain lakes, rolling countryside and the beautiful Glendalough Valley. From Clonegal, the South Leinster Way is a short distance of 3km from its start in nearby Kildavin.

Clogrennane Wood near Carlow Town



THE COLUMBAN WAY

Tracing its way from Mount Leinster in Carlow to Bangor in County Down, across Ireland and eight countries of Europe to Bobbio in Northern Italy, the Columban Way is inspired by St Columbanus, a 6th century monk and pilgrim who was born in the shadow of Mount Leinster, near the village of Myshall. The Carlow and Wexford

sections are now fully complete with interpretation panels and signage to guide the visitor on their journey of discovery. In Carlow the route travels from St Mullins along the Barrow Way and in County Wexford from the town of Bunclody to the official start of the walk at Mount Leinster. From there it descends into the village of Myshall before travelling along quiet country roads to reach the town of Bagenalstown. Here it rejoins the Barrow Way to Leighlinbridge and Carlow to reach County Kildare. Once fully developed, the Columban Way in Ireland will stretch for some 530km through Wexford, Carlow, Kildare, Laois, Meath, Cavan, Monaghan, Fermanagh and Down.

For more information visit www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway or www.viacolumbani.com

Carlow has a selection of great looped walks at Oak Park Forest Park and Clogrennane Wood, both close to Carlow Town, Kilbrannish North and South Forests and Deerpark on the Blackstairs Mountains, Clashganny Forest, south of Borris, and Bahana and Gowlin Forests, both near the village of St Mullins.

OAK PARK FOREST PARK - OUTSKIRTS OF CARLOW TOWN



Situated on the outskirts of Carlow Town, **Oak Park Forest Park** is an oasis of tranquillity and a popular destination for walkers and joggers. 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. Extending almost 4km, the walks include Butlers Wood Loop (700m), the Lake Path, Fox Covert Trail (1,100m) and Lost Forest Trail (1,100m). All the walks are wheelchair accessible while a range of visitor facilities include ample car parking, picnic tables, public toilets, outdoor exercise equipment and a universally accessible playground.

CLASHGANNY FOREST - NEAR BORRIS



Clashganny Forest Trails offer the user gentle walks on forest roads and along the Barrow Way with magnificent views of Clashganny Lock and the River Barrow. Much of the walk is through an old wood which has had forestry cover present since the 1800s.

The Clashganny Lock Loop is 3.5km long and takes approximately 1.5 hours to complete over flat terrain. The Clashganny Forest Looped Walk covers a distance of 6km, taking 2 hours to complete.

GPS: 52.559831, -6.91537

KILBRANNISH FORESTS - NORTH & SOUTH & DEERPARK - NEAR MYSHALL AND BORRIS



Kilbrannish Forest Recreation Area (North) on the Blackstairs Mountains features two signposted trails – the Windfarm Loop is 3km in length and is suitable for families with young children. The Kilbrannish Forest Loop is 5km in length, taking approx. 2 hours to complete. Three walking trails in nearby **Kilbrannish Forest (South)** cater for the moderate walker including families to the more serious hiker – the Short Loop (6.5km), the Medium Loop (9.5km) and the Long Loop (10.5km). A large car park and picnic facilities are available to visitors at Kilbrannish Forest Recreation Area (North). Dedicated car parking facilities along with walking routes can also be enjoyed at Deerpark. **The Kilbrannish Trail links both the Kilbrannish North set of trails and the Kilbrannish South set of trails to make one complete circuit of 14km.**

CLOGRENNANE WOOD - NEAR CARLOW TOWN



Clogrennane Wood near Carlow Town offers the user a gentle sloping 4km walk on forest roads with magnificent views of Carlow Town and the River Barrow on a clear day. The area is an old wood and has had forestry cover present since the 1800s. The predominant tree species in Clogrennane are beech, spruce, larch and oak with vegetation consistent with that of an old woodland – bluebells, ferns, wild garlic and herb rocket. This is a really popular spot for visitors seeking a relaxing walk close to Carlow Town.

GPS: 52.795113, -6.991109

BAHANA FOREST—NEAR ST MULLINS



Bahana Forest takes its name from the Irish word 'Beitheanna', meaning a place of birch trees. This route covers a distance of 4.5km along forest tracks and the River Barrow towpath, one of the great ancient highways of Ireland's Ancient East, offering a route inland from the Irish Sea at Waterford Harbour. From its starting point on the quayside in St Mullins, take the towpath for approximately 15 minutes, before following a canal away from the river to reach St Mullins Sea Lock – the river is tidal up to this point.

Continue by the canal to reach a track junction. Turn right uphill to reach a crossroads where you turn left on the main track. Reach a three-way junction and keep left to follow the forest road back down towards the river. Reach a lower track and turn sharp left to arrive back down at the towpath on the River Barrow, noting a lime kiln on your left side. Lime kilns were commonly used in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to burn lime stone rock in order to derive lime, which in turn was spread on the land to increase productivity.

Turn left and follow the towpath back downstream with the river on your right. Soon the canal leaves the river and you follow the towpath to reach your outward route. As you walk, think of the horses that once plied this towpath pulling barges up and down the Barrow Navigation.

GOWLIN FOREST—NEAR ST MULLINS



The name of this wood, walk and nearby settlement is Gowlin, pronounced Goolin locally. The name is derived from the Irish word 'guala' or 'gualainn', meaning a shoulder. There are two walks covering distances of 2km and 4km to be enjoyed here along with large plantations of Sitka Spruce and Lodgepole Pine. And as you climb up the hill and onto level ground on the 4km route, you have ascended up onto a great shoulder or spur jutting out from the main ridge of the Blackstairs Mountains. It's this afforested spur that gives it's name to the area.

Fabulous views of the South Blackstairs and Barrow Valley are on offer here. The upper car parking area is located at a forest road junction with great views north to Mount Leinster from where the 2km walk can be joined. You will pass a colourful old cottage up on your right. This is Ryan's Cottage and the Ryan family lived and farmed up here until about the 1950s, before the land was forested. There were at least seven children reared in the house but like many a remoter house in Ireland, the family gradually moved down to houses on lower ground and/or emigrated. Keep your eyes peeled for the sight of deers flitting away, squirrels climbing trees or the kestrel or increasingly common buzzard circling the skies, and feral goats living wild on the mountain slopes.

BLACKSTAIRS ECO TRAILS wild things to do in carlow

Killedmond, Borris, Co. Carlow R95 N1K7

T: 059 977 3184/087 270 7189

E: info@blackstairsecotrails.ie

www.blackstairsecotrails.ie for workshop details



Want to know more about the birds, flora, fungi, mammals and butterflies of the Blackstairs Mountains and the River Barrow? Blackstairs Eco Trails can lead you on a relaxing eco walk – low hills to no hills – and also offer guided



hikes, wild mushroom events, stargazing and The Foraging Hen, an elegant hen party for elegant brides. A bespoke Celtic Tree Trail with accompanying 16 minute film, introduces guests to the wonders of Ireland's native trees. Other experiences include school visits and company days out. Recipients of a Gold Standard by Eco Tourism Ireland. The converted barn features the highest eco credentials and is perfect for think-ins, workshops, demonstrations, private Board meetings, school visits, painting courses, meetings and private family events. Features Wi-Fi and parking for 30 cars. Electric car charger for guests use. Alternatively Blackstairs Eco Trails can travel to give a talk, seminar, field trip or workshop in your area on climate change, GMO's, foraging, fungi, sustainability or biodiversity. See the event calendar on www.blackstairsecotrails.ie

CARLOW WALKING FESTIVAL



The magnificent Blackstairs Mountains and the picturesque River Barrow form the perfect backdrop for a range of superb walks to suit all levels during two walking festivals organised each year by Carlow Tourism. The festivals provide a great opportunity for the beginner, experienced or advanced walker to enjoy the challenges of Carlow's mountain treks or the peace of its woodland walks. For more details visit www.carlowtourism.com/walkingfestival

WALKING CLUBS



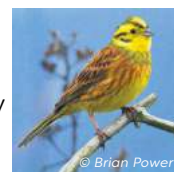
[Tullow Mountaineering Club](http://www.tullowmountaineeringclub.ie) offer walks every Wednesday and Friday evening and every Sunday.

[The Blackstairs Ramblers](http://www.blackstairsramblers.com) are a group of hill walkers who as their name suggests, enjoy rambling on the Blackstairs Mountains. See www.blackstairsramblers.com for further details.

BIRDWATCH IRELAND CARLOW



Birdwatch Ireland's Carlow Branch was set up to encourage local wildlife enthusiasts to get together. If you are visiting the area and are interested in learning more about birds and other wildlife, and their conservation, the branch organises evening talks and weekend walks each month. These are suitable for all age groups, from beginners to experts. For more information or to be added to the branch mailing list, please e-mail the secretary at birdwatchcarlow@gmail.com. Branch events are advertised on the "Wild Carlow" facebook page. Visitors to the county are most welcome.



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Altamont Gardens



Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 N882

T: 046 942 386

E: altamontgardens@opw.ie

www.heritageireland.ie

www.carlowgardentrail.com

Altamont Gardens are an enchanting blend of formal and informal gardens with riverside walks covering over 40 acres (16 hectares). Lawns bisected by sculpted yews slope down to a lake surrounded by rare trees and rhododendrons and lead in turn to a very different garden featuring exotic shrubs and trees. A fascinating walk through the Arboretum, Bog Garden and Ice Age Glen with its canopy of ancient oaks and huge stone outcrops leads the visitor to the River Slaney.

FACILITIES: Toilets, outdoor picnic tables, car and coach park, restricted wheelchair access. No dogs allowed except guide dogs.

"Every visitor says it has a special atmosphere, that's why so many people come back. Every element you want from a great garden is here, from lovely lawns, floral beds and beautiful woodland going down to the river, to a walled garden and really superb collections, such as the snowdrops, rhododendrons and the fabulous oaks in the Arboretum."

Pauline Dowling, site manager at Altamont Gardens

HOW TO FIND US: See next entry

OPENING TIMES:

Jan 1st-31st, 9am-4pm, 7 days/week
Feb 1st-28th, 9am-4.30pm, 7 days/week
March 1st-31st, 9am-5pm, 7 days/week
Apr 1st-Sept 30th, 9am-6.30pm, 7 days/week
Oct 1st-31st, 9am-5pm, 7 days/week
Nov 1st-30th, 9am-4.30pm, 7 days/week
Dec 1st-31st, 9am-4pm, 7 days/week
Closed Christmas Day and in adverse weather conditions.

ADMISSION: Car park fee of €2 per vehicle applies. Guided tours available Monday to Friday. Check website for times.

Altamont Plant Sales



The Walled Garden at Altamont, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 N882

M: 087 982 2135

E: sales@altamontplants.com

www.altamontplants.com

An unmissable highlight of a visit to Altamont Gardens is the Walled Garden situated within the grounds of the estate and run privately by gardener and nursery man, Robert Miller. The area consists primarily of the Corona North Commemorative Border planted to honour the late Corona, and Altamont Plant Sales and Nursery.

Always renowned for its extensive range of herbaceous perennials, Altamont Plant Sales can also boast of having one of the largest collections of old shrub roses available for sale to the gardening public year round. Robert Miller of Altamont Plant Sales and in-house garden designer Ingrid Smyth are available for consultancy work for

new and mature gardens. Sugar and Spice Café at Altamont Plant Sales open February – October daily 11am – 4.30pm.

HOW TO FIND US: In the grounds of Altamont Gardens. From Dublin/Waterford exit the M9 at junction 5 for N80 Rosslare. Continue along the N80 through the village of Ballon and the N80/N81 junction. Turn left at the next cross road junction signed Altamont Gardens. From Carlow Town follow the N80 through Ballon and continue as above.

OPENING TIMES: Jan. 1st – Nov. 30th: 10am-5.30pm (weekdays) 11am-6pm (weekends) Rest of year: 10am-4.30pm daily

Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven



Old Kilkenny Road (R448), Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, R93 P9F4

T: 059 9721 558

E: info@arboretum.ie

www.arboretum.ie



Welcome to Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven. On a ten-acre site, this family-run business is a complete shopping experience – in addition to the five-star garden centre visitors will find quirky gift ideas, Weber barbecues and accessories, ladies' fashion, Regatta outdoor wear, kitchenware, homewares and a new health and wellness department, not forgetting the award-winning Rachel's Garden Café. Edinburgh Woollen Mills complements the offering.

It's possible to devote an entire day to visiting Arboretum because, in addition to the retail area and the café, there are the Inspirational Gardens to be explored, and an excellent children's playground and maze adjacent to the restaurant's outdoor seating area. In Rachel's Garden Café, take time out to relax and plan the next stage of your trip over some delicious food. Everything is made with the very best ingredients, local where possible.

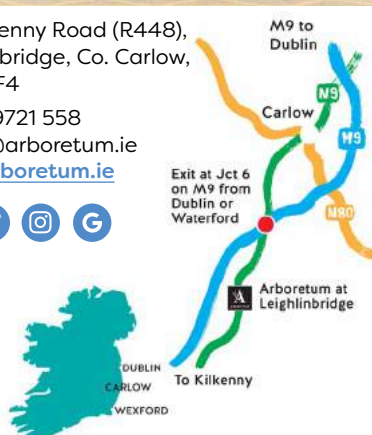
The desserts are all made on the premises and special dietary needs are catered for with gluten-, sugar- or dairy-free options. There is a children's menu to keep the little ones happy. Arboretum reflects the changing

seasons of the gardener's world. At Christmas, Arboretum becomes a wonderland with a multitude of decorations and gift ideas while in spring and summer, brilliant colours burst from every area of the store. A commitment to excellent customer service, quality products, unbeatable choice and value for money has earned Arboretum the coveted title of Retail Excellence Garden Centre of the Year many times, most recently in 2019.

FACILITIES: Large on-site car and coach park, wheelchair accessible, café with wine licence, indoor and outdoor children's play area, maze, inspirational gardens, toilets (wheelchair accessible) and free Wi-Fi.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 6 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Leighlinbridge. Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven is 3km from Exit 6 located immediately off the R448 at Leighlinbridge. Visitors travelling from Carlow Town should follow the R448.

OPENING TIMES: Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm; Sunday, 11am-6pm and Bank Holidays, 9am-6pm



Arboretum Inspirational Gardens



Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven,
Old Kilkenny Road (R448),
Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, R93 P9F4

T: 059 9721 558

E: info@arboretum.ie

www.arboretum.ie



A visit to Arboretum Inspirational Gardens at Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge is a treat for the amateur and the enthusiast alike. These gardens were created to inspire visitors to realise their own dream gardens.

The gardens showcase a variety of planting schemes and garden designs, all of which deliver a wow factor and yet are low maintenance.

One of the great joys of gardens is colour and these gardens were designed to make the most of the positive effects of colour on our wellbeing – red for vitality, yellow for contentment, purple for knowledge, and so on.

Families will enjoy exploring the African mud hut and spotting the friendly koi who reside in the Arboretum pond. Group tours of the Arboretum Inspirational Gardens may be booked on 059 972 1558.

There is an excellent children's playground and a maze adjacent to the Inspirational Gardens. Rachel's Garden Café has a terrace area located beside the playground so that while the children play, their parents can enjoy delicious home-cooked food.

FACILITIES: Large on-site car and coach park, wheelchair accessible, café with wine licence, indoor and outdoor children's play area, maze, inspirational gardens, toilets (wheelchair accessible) and free Wi-Fi.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 6 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Leighlinbridge. Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven is 3km from Exit 6 located immediately off the R448 at Leighlinbridge. Visitors travelling from Carlow Town should follow the R448.

OPENING TIMES: Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm; Sunday, 11am-6pm and Bank Holidays, 9am-6pm

BEAM – The Barrow Experience Garden



Barrow Lane, Regent Street, Bagenalstown,
Co. Carlow, R21 8873

T: 087 122 3453 (John Murphy)

E: info@beamservices.ie

www.beamservices.ie

The Barrow Experience is a unique series of ten interconnecting gardens which bring to life the history, folklore and heritage of the beautiful Barrow Valley. It is situated in the grounds of BEAM Services, a training centre for people with intellectual disabilities, on a picturesque site that bounds the canal off the River Barrow.

There are ten individual gardens within the Barrow Experience – Dinn Righ, Druids' Wood, Potager Garden, Monastic Courtyard, Convent Garden, Reflective Garden, Water Garden, Co-operation Garden, Mindfulness Garden and the French Garden. The gardens represent both an active, healthy environment for our members to work in, and a therapeutic environment to relax in – along with the general public, who are always welcome.

FACILITIES: Car and coach park, wheelchair accessible.

HOW TO FIND US: In the centre of Bagenalstown.

OPENING TIMES: Open on weekends only, by appointment.

ADMISSION: €5 per person, group discount applies.

Borris House, Gardens and Woodlands



Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 Y2T1

T: 059 977 1884

E: info@borrishouse.com

www.borrishouse.com



Borris House became the Kavanagh's primary residence in 1570, and over that time, the present-day demesne landscape slowly evolved from a formal Baroque landscape of axial approach avenues and formal gardens to a 'Capability Brown' inspired demesne parkland landscape. A circular road around the perimeter leads to serpentine avenues which meander around lawns and native and spectacular tree plantations and are designed to capture the stunning view and prospects.

During your visit explore the grounds of the estate. Stroll along the woodland paths, through the grass meadows, around the original Stew Pond and visit the original 19th century ice house. Enjoy some of the beautiful specimen trees such as the magnificent Tulip Tree, the Fern Leaf Beeches and the queen of trees, the Cedar of Lebanon which was planted by Lady Harriet Kavanagh in 1870 from seed from the Botanic Gardens in Dublin.

The Lace Garden, set within the walls of the original laundry green illustrates the fascinating story of Borris Lace. Using the lace patterns for inspiration, the garden has a strong formal layout, predominantly made up of a white colour palette and is stuffed full of lace inspired flowers and plants, some of which are very unusual and different.

The old Major's Garden is currently being revamped with new yew hedging and some new herbaceous beds. This garden is a work in progress, so please visit again and see how the story develops.

FACILITIES: Car park, toilets, guided tours of house, chapel and gardens, original Victorian laundry, short film of house and family, seasonal nature trails, restricted wheelchair access.

HOW TO FIND US: In the centre of Borris Village. Opposite the Step House Hotel

OPENING TIMES AND ADMISSION: For opening times and admission visit www.borrishouse.com

Burtown House and Gardens



Athy, Co. Kildare R14 KF63

T: 059 862 3865

E: info@burtownhouse.ie

www.burtownhouse.ie



Burtown House is an early Georgian villa dating from 1710 that is still lived in by the original family. It is an original Quaker house now surrounded by 12 acres of flower, woodland and kitchen gardens with old grass meadows and a sculpture park.

With the award-winning farm-to-fork restaurant The Green Barn and on-site artisan food shop and gallery, it offers guests an opportunity to experience history, gardens, art and the very best of seasonal Irish cuisine in one of Ireland's most unique settings.

FACILITIES: Car park, toilets, artisan food. Burtown features the award-winning Green Barn Restaurant, Jo's Pantry and Gallery and Shop located just inside the front gates. Set in the parkland overlooking their organic kitchen garden it is the ideal spot for a quick stop off or for a more relaxed luncheon style affair. Booking is recommended.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 3 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Athy. Take the second left turn and Burtown House is on the left, well signposted.

OPENING TIMES: All year, see website for up-to-date times. 9am-5.30pm. Wednesday-Sunday and Bank Holidays. Friday and Saturday night dinner from 6.30pm. Snowdrop Month - February.

ADMISSION: Gardens: Adults €8, children €4, under 8 free. House tours: see website for details. Adults €10

Delta Sensory Gardens and Garden Centre



Strawhall Estate, Carlow, R93 Y959

T: 059 914 3527

E: info@deltacentre.org

www.deltasensorygardens.ie



Delta Sensory Gardens are an oasis of peace and tranquillity, with sixteen interconnecting gardens set on 2.5 acres close to Carlow Town. The gardens have seen a huge growth in popularity with increasing visitor numbers from the general public, various groups and national and international visitors.

The Sensory Gardens are highly acclaimed and have received many awards over the years. Suitable for visitors of all abilities and age groups with amazing water features that will take your breath away. Café Thyme attached to the gardens offers delicious lunches, tea/coffee and snacks - outdoor dining options available in the gardens.

The garden centre stocks a range of shrubs, perennials and seasonal plants. Qualified horticulturalists are on hand to give friendly advice or tips on gardening needs. The centre also specialises in filling pots, containers and baskets with

colourful seasonal bedding. Local arts and crafts now available. Delta Centre hosts many well established very popular events throughout the year at Easter, Halloween and Christmas. More details on www.deltasensorygardens.ie and on the facebook page.

FACILITIES: Car park, toilets, wheelchair accessible, restaurant.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 4 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Carlow Town. Strawhall Estate is located off Cannery Road, the road which serves Netwatch Cullen Park GAA grounds on the outskirts of Carlow Town close to the Athy Road roundabout. Follow brown tourist signs.

OPENING TIMES: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, weekends and public holidays 11am-5pm. Closed from Christmas to early New Year only.

ADMISSION: Adults €6, concessions €5, no charge for children (except for special events)

Duckett's Grove Historic House, Walled Gardens and Pleasure Grounds



Kneestown, Co. Carlow, (near Carlow Town) R93 RF80

T: Carlow Tourist Office 059 913 0411

E: info@carlowtourism.com

www.carlowgardentrail.com



Duckett's Grove, the 18th, 19th and early 20th century home of the Duckett family, was formerly at the centre of a 20,000 acre (8,093 hectares) estate that has dominated the Carlow landscape for over 300 years.

Even in ruin, the surviving towers and turrets of Duckett's Grove form a romantic profile making it one of the most photogenic historic buildings in the country. This part Cobden designed building is structurally intact and accessible to the public. Two Georgian kitchen gardens form part of the complex where the old paths have been revealed and the beds and borders reinstated.

The courtyard area features a craft studio occupied by an artisan craft maker Elaine Kelly of NicAngels Candles, who specialises in individual, hand-marbled, fragrance-free Irish made candles. NicAngels Candles are open on selected days during the week. This project forms part of the Ireland's Ancient East tourism trail.

FACILITIES: Large car and coach park, toilets, wheelchair access.

new 2022 **Woodland play area** - universally accessible and finished in wood, this rustic and aesthetically pleasing playground has been completed taking its natural surroundings into consideration. The playground features slides, poles, an obstacle course and lots more to enjoy. Tea/coffee and light snacks on selected days.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 4 off the M9 motorway. Follow signs for Castledermot, then take the R418 Castledermot - Tullow Road for 6km and turn right at the signed junction. From Carlow Town take the R726 Hacketstown Road for 10km to Killerig Cross. Turn left at this junction onto the R418 for 2.5km, turn left again at the signed junction.

OPENING TIMES: Gardens and ruined mansion daily, daylight hours. Tea/coffee available - check in advance for opening times with Carlow Tourism T: 059 913 0411

ADMISSION: Free





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E: info@woodforddolmenhotel.ie    

Hardymount Gardens



Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 XN24

T: 059 915 1769

www.carlowgardentrail.com



One of the largest Spanish chestnuts in the country greets you on arrival to 2.5 acres of lawns and shrubs surrounded by magnificent beech and oak trees. A wonderful walled garden behind the house contains many unusual plants and flowers in the herbaceous border – lilac coloured Erysimum, yellow helianthus, beds of old roses, downy variegated mint, mimosa, blue agapanthus, California tree poppies, Chinese foxgloves and much, much more. The grass paths take you past the pond with lilies and fish to espaliered apple trees, Lobelia tupa, a pergola clothed with wisteria and underplanted with hollyhocks and foxgloves and on to a vegetable garden. A Summer House at the end of the garden in a sheltered corner provides a

quiet area for rest and relaxation. Created by Sheila Reeves-Smyth who gardened here for 35 years until her death in 2018. Now in the care of her daughter and son-in-law, Mark and Justina McKeever.

FACILITIES: Wheelchair accessible.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin – through the town of Tullow onto the Bunclody Road N81. Turn right after the Topaz petrol station, on the outskirts of the town. Turn right at the next cross roads – the gardens are 550m on the right hand side.

Opening Times: Daily 11am–5pm, May – August inclusive. Open at other times by arrangement. Groups very welcome.

ADMISSION: Adults €5

Herb Gardens at Kilgraney House



Borris Road, Kilgraney, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 W527

T: 059 977 5283

E: info@kilgraneyhouse.com

www.kilgraneyhouse.com



Kilgraney takes its name from the Irish 'cill gréine' which means 'sunny hill' or 'sunny wood'. These wooded and secluded grounds consist of a series of interconnecting herbal gardens that are revealed gradually as you walk through the property. The enclosed kitchen garden supplies the house with fruit, vegetables and herbs. The medicinal garden, set in a granite courtyard, consists of nine raised beds and each is planted with herbs suitable for treating a particular part of the body. In lower courtyards you will find a fragrant sanctuary, a medieval monastic cloister garden and a circular cosmic garden to facilitate our understanding of the ancient belief that there is a connection between people, plants and the cosmos. A series of enclosed gardens accommodate

a dyer's garden and orchards featuring soft fruits, heritage Irish apple, medlar, quince and pear trees along with a woodland walk featuring native trees.

FACILITIES: Car park, toilets, art/craft gallery, restricted access for wheelchairs.

HOW TO FIND US: Situated just off the R705 Bagenalstown – Borris Road, the herb gardens are 6km from Bagenalstown.

OPENING TIMES: Check website and social media for details.

ADMISSION: €5. Unsuitable for children. No dogs allowed.

**new
2022**

Botanical print, jewellery and ceramic workshops, for dates and details see website and social media.

Huntington Castle and Gardens



Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K237

T: 053 937 7160

www.huntingtoncastle.com



These gardens were mainly laid out in the 17th century and include the French limes on the avenue as well as the formal lawns. Larger plantings have resulted in Huntington possessing a number of great Irish trees, including four varieties of hickory, a cut leaved oak, Siberian crab and buckeye chestnut. Explore the kitchen gardens, with the Greenhouse and the recently restored Rose Gardens. Stroll through the enchanting Italian Gardens and the ruins of the old Abbey before walking through to the 'Wilderness' woodland. The bottom of the wilderness is marked by the River Derry which flows as the boundary between County Carlow and Wexford.

HOW TO FIND US: Entrance gates in the village of Clonegal.

OPENING TIMES: From May to September 11am-6pm daily. For special events outside these times see website – e.g: Easter, Halloween and Christmas at the Castle. Open at other times by prior arrangement.

ADMISSION: Gardens: Adults €6, Children €3. House Tours: Adults €12.95; Children €6. Family and group discounts available. Usual concessions apply.

For up-to-date details of house tours visit www.huntingtoncastle.com

Leighlinbridge – The Garden Village



Mary Meaney, Secretary, Leighlinbridge Improvement Group

M: 086 602 7751

www.leighlinbridgetidytowns.ie



Leighlinbridge, winner of Ireland's Best Kept Town in 2015, enjoys a range of gardens, built and designed by the local community to commemorate various aspects of village life over the years. These include the Millennium Garden, seven small individual gardens, each with its own theme represented by trees, shrubs and stones. The Vivaldi Garden is based on Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* while the Garden of Remembrance commemorates important occasions in the history of the village. This garden is accessible year round and is suitable for wheelchair users. The Sculpture Garden is dedicated to three of Leighlinbridge's most famous sons – Cardinal Patrick Francis Moran, John Tyndall and Captain Myles Keogh. A heritage trail takes

visitors on an interesting tour around the village, highlighting key aspects of its history and heritage.

FACILITIES: Restaurants, award-winning Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven, hotel, public houses, castle, historic buildings, angling, walking routes, picnic site.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 6 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Leighlinbridge which is clearly signposted off the R448, 3km from here. Alternatively visitors travelling from Carlow Town should follow the R448.

OPENING TIMES: Daylight hours.

ADMISSION: Free

The Meadows



7 The Meadows, Myshall, Co. Carlow, R21 CF43

T: 059 915 7530

www.philippabayliss.com

The Meadows is positioned in a small estate in Myshall Village with views extending to the Wicklow Mountains, the Carlow Ridge and Mount Leinster. The plot at No. 7 is about a third of an acre and slopes steeply into the hillside with the back shaded by sycamores. In front of the house there are plantings of pampas grass, miscanthus, dwarf and prostate conifers, orange fennel, watsonia, kniphofia, fox gloves, heathers and catmint. The back is planted with an informal hedge of shrub roses and trees

interspersed with mostly herbaceous plants, set into gravel. Designed with low maintenance in mind with only intermittent hard work to keep it in order.

FACILITIES: Car park, toilet, art gallery, garden studio. Artists welcome.

HOW TO FIND US: Opposite Myshall Garda Station on the Kildavin Road R724.

OPENING TIMES: March to September, 12pm-5pm daily except Thursdays.

ADMISSION: €3

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Oak Park Forest Park



Oak Park – outskirts of Carlow Town.

T: Carlow Tourist Office 059 913 1554

E: info@carlowtourism.com

www.carlowgardentrail.com

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. Boasting a rich diversity of wildlife, the lakes and their surrounds provide a habitat for swans and ducks, while the islands shelter many wild and game birds. Extending almost 4km the walks include Butlers Wood Loop (700m), the Lake Path, Fox Covert Trail (1,100m) and Lost Forest Trail (1,100m).

FACILITIES: Accessible playground, outdoor exercise equipment, picnic tables, wheelchair accessible walkways and toilets, car park, bat sanctuary and bird-watching area.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 4 on M9 motorway. Follow signs for Carlow taking the first right after Toughers Restaurant. Take a left at the next junction. Access also possible off Cannery Road close to the Athy Road junction in Carlow Town.

OPENING TIMES: All year, daily (daylight hours).

ADMISSION: Free



Shankill Castle and Gardens

Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny

T: 086 397 1748

E: hello@shankillcastle.com

www.shankillcastle.com



Explore acres of gardens and woodlands including a Victorian walled kitchen garden, sweeping topiary lawns and woodland walks. A recent addition is the secret Fairy Woods for all the family. See page 31 for more details.

Rathwood



Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow R93 X3F9

T: 059 915 6285

E: reception@rathwood.com

www.rathwood.com



Rathwood Home and Garden World has a beauty salon, ladies boutiques, furniture showrooms, a garden centre, a restaurant and much more. There are lovely woodland walks, a children's playground, the Maze of Ireland and a train ride. Combine lunch or an afternoon tea stop at Rathwood with your visit to Altamont Gardens.

FACILITIES: A beauty salon, furniture and interiors shops, gift shops, restaurant, garden centre, ladies fashions and shoes, potteries, children's clothing, stone landscaping, garden sheds, children's outdoor play garden and state-of-the-art

children's indoor playcentre, train rides, forest walks, large coach and car park, toilets, wheelchair access. Located close by, the Chocolate Garden of Ireland and Rathgall Hillfort.

HOW TO FIND US: 10km from Altamont Gardens. From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 4 on M9 motorway. Follow signs for Castledermot and then take the R418 to Tullow. Rathwood is located on the R725 Tullow to Shillelagh Road, 5km from Tullow Town.

OPEN: Monday – Saturday, 10am-5pm including Bank Holidays and Sunday 11am-5pm.

Rath Wood Forest Walks



Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow R93 X3F9

T: 059 915 6285



Rath Wood offers gentle walks for all ages from a short leisurely wheelchair accessible path to the longer looped Molloy walk. Rath Wood offers a sanctuary for many mammals, birds and insect species within its 185 acre boundaries. The forest contains a great variety of tree species including beech, oak, Sitka spruce, Norway spruce, birch, Douglas fir and alder. The historical feature of Rathgall Hillfort which dates back to 800BC is also located nearby.

FACILITIES: Coillte forest walks – wheelchair/child buggy with seating at regular intervals. Woodland map guide, toilets and restaurant available at Rathwood. Information and bridge entrance to woods via car park.

HOW TO FIND US and **OPENING TIMES** as per Rathwood entry above.

ADMISSION: Free.

The Carlow Garden Trail attaches great importance to community-led green spaces and the vital roles they play in supporting biodiversity. These community-created green spaces are an important expression of a wider interest in environmentalism.

Ballon Tree Trail

Ballon, Co. Carlow

M: 087 242 4934

www.ballonvillage.com

This short tree trail through Ballon Village passes by twelve Irish trees, each denoted with a plaque.

FACILITIES: In Ballon Village-parking, shops and a café.

HOW TO FIND US: Starts outside the Old National School in Ballon. Follow the Ballon Tree Trail through the village by following the information plaques and map boards. Groups facilitated with prior notice.

OPENING TIMES: Daily.

ADMISSION: Free.

An Gairdín Beo

Old Dublin Road, Carlow

www.angairdinbeo.org

An Gairdín Beo is a two-acre community garden in the centre of Carlow Town where people work together and then reap the rewards together.

FACILITIES: Car park.

HOW TO FIND US: In Carlow Town on the Old Dublin Road.

OPENING TIMES: Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm; Saturday and Sunday by arrangement.

OPENING TIMES: Daily.

ADMISSION: Free.

Myshall Tree Trail

Myshall, Co. Carlow

www.mysshalldrumphea.com

Myshall Tree Trail starts adjacent to Myshall Community Centre from where one can see two monkey puzzle trees and a high cross.

FACILITIES: Myshall Village has a range of facilities-parks, parking, playground and picnic facilities.

HOW TO FIND US: From the N80 Carlow–Rosslare Road pass the Fighting Cocks Pub, then follow signs for Fenagh. Myshall is 6km from Fenagh Village.

OPENING TIMES: Daily.

ADMISSION: Free.



- 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 Legerian'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



GOLF

- 1 Borris Golf Club
- 2 Bunclody Golf & Fishing Club
- 3 Carlow Golf Club
- 4 Mount Walseley Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort
- 5 Quinagh House Par 3
- 6 Bagenalstown Pitch & Putt

CARLOW GARDEN TRAIL

- 1 Altamont Plant Sales
- 2 Altamont Gardens
- 3 Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven
- 4 BEAM - The Barrow Experiences
- 5 The Delta Sensory Gardens
- 6 Hardymount Gardens
- 7 Leighlinbridge - the Garden Village
- 8 The Meadows
- 9 Rathwood and Rath Wood Forest Walks
- 10 Ballon Tree Trail
- 11 An Gairdin Beo
- 12 Myshall Tree Trail
- 13 Herb Gardens at Kilgraney House
- 14 Oak Park Forest Park
- 15 Duckett's Grove Walled Gardens
- 16 Huntington Castle and Gardens
- 17 Shankill Castle and Gardens
- 18 Borris House and Gardens
- 19 Burtown House
- 20 Pathana Gardens

LOOPED WALKS

- 1 Oak Park Forest Park
- 2 Baha Forest
- 3 Clogrennane Wood
- 4 Clashganny Forest
- 5 Kilbrannish Forest Recreation Area North
- 6 Kilbrannish Forest Recreation Area South
- 7 Gowlin Forest

LONG DISTANCE WALKS

- The Wicklow Way
- The Barrow Way
- South Leinster Way
- The Columban Way



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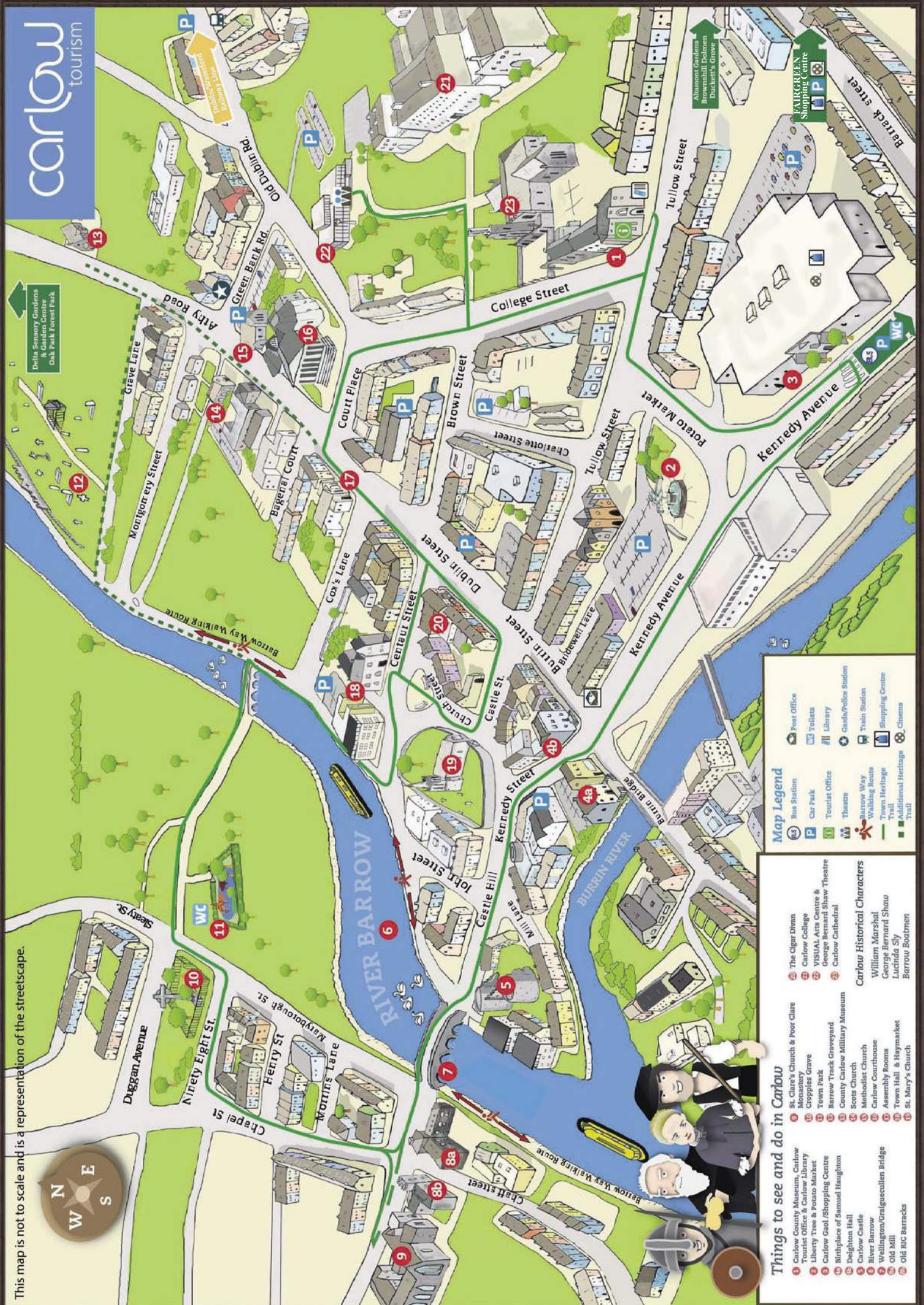
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This map is not to scale and is a representation of the streetscape.



Things to see and do in Carlow

- 1 Carlow County Museum, Carlow
- 2 Tourist Office & Carlow Library
- 3 Liberty Tree & Potato Market
- 4 Carlow Gaol Shopping Centre
- 5 Birthplace of Samuel Haughton
- 6 Deighton Hall
- 7 Carlow Castle
- 8 River Barrow
- 9 Wellington/Gnaiguecullen Bridge
- 10 Old Mill
- 11 Old RVC Barracks
- 12 St. Clare's Church & Poor Clare Monastery
- 13 Croppies Grave
- 14 Town Park
- 15 Barrow Track Graveyard
- 16 County Carlow Military Museum
- 17 Scots Church
- 18 Methodist Church
- 19 Carlow Courthouse
- 20 Assembly Rooms
- 21 Town Hall & Haymarket
- 22 St. Mary's Church
- 23 The Cigar Dism
- 24 Carlow College
- 25 VISUAL Arts Centre & George Bernard Shaw Theatre
- 26 Carlow Cathedral

Carlow Historical Characters

- William Marshal
- George Bernard Shaw
- Lucinda Sly
- Barrow Boatmen

Map Legend

- Bus Station
- Car Park
- Tourist Office
- Thames
- Barrow Way Walking Route
- Town Heritage
- Trail
- Additional Heritage
- Post Office
- Toilets
- Library
- Garda/Police Station
- Train Station
- Shopping Centre
- Classroom

1 Tourist Office and Carlow Library:

The museum brings to life the story of Carlow's development through the ages. Items on display include the original gallows trapdoor from Carlow Gaol used to execute Lucinda Sly for murdering her husband in 1835; the smoking pipe of Captain Myles Keogh of the 7th US Cavalry who died at the Battle of Little Big Horn; read about John Lyndall a 19th century scientist who discovered the greenhouse effect. The building also houses the Tourist Office, the County Library and Archive.
www.carlowmuseum.ie

2 The Potato Market and

Liberty Tree: Carlow was a market town around which areas developed reflecting the goods traded there, like the Potato Market, Coal Market, Butter Market and Haymarket. The Potato Market was the scene of a massacre of over 600 rebels and civilians following an unsuccessful attack on the town by the United Irishmen, known as the Battle of Carlow during the 1798 Rebellion. The Liberty Tree sculpture designed by John Behan, commemorates the 1798 Rebellion and was unveiled in 1998 to commemorate the bi-centenary.

3 Carlow Gaol:

This was the town Gaol for much of the 19th century. It was home for most of the 20th century to Thompson's Engineering Works and is now Carlow Shopping Centre. The main gate of the Gaol used local granite to give an impression of great strength and solidity. Immediately inside the main entrance is the substantial Governor's House, a three-bay, three-storey building. The last woman to be publicly hanged in the Gaol was Lucinda Sly who along with her servant had murdered her husband in 1835.

4a Birthplace of Samuel Haughton:

Born in Carlow December 1821, Rev. Samuel Haughton, Trinity College, was an Irish scientist who invented 'Haughton's Drop'. In 1866 Samuel developed a more humane method for execution by hanging, whereby the neck was broken at the time of the drop, so that the condemned person did not slowly strangle to death. His birthplace is marked by a plaque. The building is now in private ownership.

4b Deighton Hall:

This building was the County Courthouse and seat of the Grand Jury, until the early 1830s. In 1909 local businessman Joseph C. Deighton presented this building to St. Mary's Parish for use as a Parochial Hall. The prisoner holding cells were located in the basement with direct access to the courtroom and Lucinda Sly was tried here for the murder of her husband. Leading from Deighton Hall is the remaining section of Bridewell Lane which ran to the Carlow Gaol.

5 Carlow Castle:

Located at the meeting of the Rivers Barrow and Burren, the castle had four 25 feet thick towers and stood three storeys high, making it a strategic fortress which protected the river crossing and Carlow Town. It was built in the 13th century by William Marshal Earl of Pembroke and Lord of Leinster, who had succeeded Strongbow, leader of the Norman invasion of Ireland. From 1391 to 1395 the Exchequer and Court of Common Pleas were located in and around the Castle, thus making Carlow the capital of Ireland for this period. 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.

6 The River Barrow:

The River Barrow is Ireland's second longest river flowing for 192km from the Slieve Bloom Mountains to the sea. For centuries the river was used by the large mills along its banks, some owned by the Barrow Milling Company and others by the Shackleton family. The Barrow was a significant commercial waterway until the 1960s, with river ports at Athy, Carlow, Graigueanagh and New Ross. Barges carried beet to Ireland's first sugar factory at Carlow and making barley to the Guinness Brewery, Dublin. Since the demise of river transport, the Barrow Towpath, which stretches some 114km is popular for cycling, walking and nature spotting.

7 Wellington/Graiguecullen Bridge:

Built in 1815, the five arched bridge, was named after The Duke of Wellington, who had defeated Napoleon that same year. Wellington Bridge is the lowest bridge on the River Barrow and is unusual in that it crosses the end of a small island in the river, and one of the arches, through which the canal traffic passes, is slightly separated from the others. Looking upstream the original canal stores, are now home to Carlow Rowing Club, one of Ireland's oldest sporting clubs.

8a The Old Mill:

Mills, such as this one, were dotted alongside the canal lock and weir on the River Barrow in Carlow representing the thriving milling and distillery industry of former times. This mill

was formerly one of Shackleton's Mills and is now in private ownership.

8b Old RIC Barracks:

The Old Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks housed Ireland's major police force prior to Irish Independence. It is decorated with grotesque heads and a plaque of Hercules.

9 St. Clare's Church & Poor Clare

Monastery: Originally built as St. Anne's Church in 1852 and located on the Athy Road. It fell into disuse and was sold by the Church of Ireland in 1927 to the Catholic Parish of Graiguecullen. They moved it stone by stone across the River Barrow and rebuilt it on today's site. Unfortunately funds ran out before completion so the church lacks a spire. 'The Poor Clare Sisters' are an enclosed order of nuns who are devoted to a life of prayer and have lived in the monastery since 1893.
www.poorclarescarlow.ie

10 The Croppies Grave:

Following the bloody battle in the Potato Market in May 1798, the bodies of the dead were buried here in a mass grave. The croppies was the name given to the United Irishmen after the habit of cropping their hair to mark their allegiance. This site is commemorated with a replica high cross which stands as testimony to those who died to further the cause of Irish freedom from a harsh regime.

11 Town Park:

This 12-acre park on the banks of the River Barrow features a safe and secure children's playground and many pieces of public art sculpture. Carlow's ancient past is reflected in the shape of the motte in the parkland area, with the river frontage and Millennium Bridge giving a contemporary, urban feel.

12 Barrow Track Graveyard:

The Old Graveyard dates from 1607 and was the main burial ground for the town until St. Mary's Cemetery, Old Dublin Road opened in 1893. There are a variety of headstones, slabs, metal crosses, memorials and some War Commission headstones. Among those buried here is Dr. James Keefe, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin and founder of Carlow College.

13 County Carlow Military Museum:

The 'Old Church' in the grounds of St. Dymphna's Hospital, houses the Military Museum. The museum displays artefacts from the late 18th century and details the history of the Irish Army, Local Reserve Defence Forces, UN Peacekeeping, Carlow Militia, War of Independence and much more.

14 Scots Church:

Scots Churches are rare, with only four known to be in existence in Ireland. A. Cobden, who designed by architect Thomas A. Cobden, was also responsible for Carlow Cathedral, Ballykeale House and Duckett's Grove, outside Carlow Town. It is a curiously proportioned building with a tall pediment and no windows on the façade.

15 Methodist Church:

In 1892, this site was secured as the home of the Methodist chapel. The new site had been used as a quarry, so it had to be filled, before building could begin. The site was filled by using rubble from buildings being demolished in the town, for each load dumped at the site the carters were paid one penny, so it cost £5 to fill the site. In 1897, building work began and the church opened Friday, April 15th 1898.

16 Carlow Courthouse:

Designed in the 1820s by architect William Vitruvius Morrison, this building is one of Ireland's finest examples of ancient Greek revivalist architecture. The ancient Roman world is symbolised by the iron railings, which are in the form of the Roman axe, the fascies symbolise judicial power. The Court House has two large court rooms contained within the impressive granite decagonal shaped building. The cannon is a Russian gun, captured during the Crimean War and commemorates all the Carlow people who fought in the conflict. The Courthouse is operated by the Court Services under the Department of Justice.

17 The Assembly Rooms:

The Assembly Rooms were built in 1794 and it is thought they were used by nobility and gentry of the county to host dinners, balls and musical performances. In 1899 the famous playwright George Bernard Shaw inherited the Assembly Rooms from his uncle, Walter Foley. He later donated the building to Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin to use as a school and in 1923 it opened as Carlow's Technical School. Nowadays the Assembly Rooms house offices for Carlow County Council.

18 Town Hall & Haymarket:

Carlow Town Hall is situated on the north side of the Haymarket which was a main trading centre in Carlow. The Town Hall was designed by the church architect William Hague in 1884 and opened March 1886. Over the front door is the iron work of the old gas lamp which in 1891 was converted for electrical use. Carlow, after Dublin and London was the third town of the British Empire to have electricity.

19 St. Mary's Church:

St. Mary's Church is located in an area of long standing religious settlement, dating all

the way back to the 6th century. The main body of the church dates to 1727, but the tower and spire reaching 195 feet was designed by Thomas Cobden, and added in 1834. The interior retains its original galleries and contains several interesting monuments, including ones by neo-classical architect Sir Richard Morrison. His only other known monument is in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. This is the third St. Mary's Church to have been built on this site.

20 The Cigar Divan:

The Cigar Divan is the older of only two cigar divans in Ireland, with a Victorian shop-front featuring elaborate iron panels below the windows. The name dates from the time when Turkish cigarettes were the height of fashion.

21 Carlow College:

Ireland's oldest third level catholic educational institution, first opened in 1793, once the penal laws which restricted Catholic education were relaxed. The college educated males for the professions and for priesthood, and during 1793 - 2001 over 3,300 ordinations took place. The chapel of the Sacred Heart was erected to mark the centenary of the college but now functions as the College Library. Famous alumni include James Finian Lalor, the agrarian agitator and social activist, the Fenian John O'Leary and Frank O'Meara, the impressionist painter. The 1990s saw the College return to its original role of educating the lay population. Carlow College is home to the Carlow Art Collection, a permanent public collection of art.
www.carlowcollege.ie

22 VISUAL:

Situated in the grounds of Carlow College, VISUAL presents the best of local, national and international work in the visual and performing arts. A dynamic, multi-disciplinary arts facility, with four principal exhibition spaces with the main gallery recognised as Ireland's largest and most contemporary art space. The theatre is named after the famed playwright George Bernard Shaw who had strong connections with the area, his mother being a Gurly from the town.
www.visualcarlow.ie

23 Carlow Cathedral:

This is the cathedral for the Catholic Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. In March 1828 the foundation stone was laid by the Diocese's most famous Bishop, James Doyle, known as J.K.L., James of Kildare and Leighlin. The architect was Thomas Cobden and it is regarded as his most outstanding church building. It was among the first Catholic cathedrals consecrated following the act granting Catholic Emancipation in 1829 and it's construction cost £9,000 at the time. The neo-Gothic granite exterior features a magnificent entrance tower which rises 46 metres and may be modelled on the Cloth Hall in Bruges, Belgium and medieval towers in England.

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www.chocolategarden.ie

Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow (Next door to Rathwood)

Tel. 059-648 1999 Email info@chocolategarden.ie

WINTER CLOSURE 24 DEC – 31 JAN INCL.

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THE STEP HOUSE BORRIS



Step House Hotel Borris, Co. Carlow
T: 059 9773209 | E: info@stephousehotel.ie
www.stephousehotel.ie

REDDY'S Est. 1768

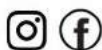


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e. info@reddyscarlow.ie www.reddyscarlow.ie



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Email: info@teachdolmain.ie

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BOAT HIRE

Barrowline Cruisers & Bike Hire

Vicarstown, Co. Laois,
R32 DE63

T: 057 862 6060

M: 087 988 7241

E: info@barrowline.ie

www.barrowline.ie



Barrowline Cruisers is an award-winning family-run narrowboat and barge hire business. Situated on the Barrow Line of the Grand Canal, Vicarstown is the perfect starting point to begin your navigation along these stunning ancient waterways. Travelling by canal boat allows you to reach parts of the countryside not accessible in any other way.

Slow down from the fast pace of modern life in an unspoilt landscape, cruising gently under stone bridges hundreds of years old. Experience the thrill of rushing water at the locks as they open and close, enabling you to pass through on your journey in this special place. Simple to operate, the barges were designed to combine traditional charm with modern day convenience. Cosy wood-burning stoves and central heating on board add to the ambience.



An Bád Keppel

Bagenalstown Trip Boat,
Bagenalstown Quay,
Dunleckny, Co. Carlow

M: 089 974 8127

E: bookings@bagenalstowntripboat.com

bagenalstowntripboat.com

new
2022

If you want to relax and enjoy the fantastic scenery along the River Barrow surrounded by the history that makes Bagenalstown so beautiful, there is no better way to do it than with a trip onboard An Bád Keppel. The journey of a lifetime along the man-made canal in Bagenalstown awaits visitors who will experience the story of how it all happened, and enjoy the beauty of the wildlife. It is a journey you don't want to miss and will never forget. An Bád Keppel is operated as a community boat trip by a group of enthusiastic volunteers who are keen to share their knowledge of the beautiful River Barrow. The reviews speak for themselves:

"We had the best time on the Barrow river with James and his team from the Bagenalstown Trip Boat. I would recommend this experience to everyone." - Mary



Boattrips.ie

Jetty, Carlow Town Park,
Graigucullen, Carlow

M: 087 206 1999

E: info@boattrips.ie

E: boattrips.ie@gmail.com

www.boattrips.ie



For an outdoor adventure for all the family, enjoy an open-boat trip on the beautiful River Barrow. Take time to immerse yourself in nature and heritage, experiencing life as it was for the river folk of a bygone era. There is something for all to explore. Kids will enjoy spotting all manner of wildlife such as kingfishers, otters, dragonflies and shoals of fish as they glide past the boat. For those with a busy lifestyle, it's the perfect occasion to switch off the mobile phone and relax inches above the waterline, unwinding to a more soothing pace of life. Hear the tales and legends of the river's boatmen and gently touch the cool waters they plied while flowing through the ancient arteries of a once glacial Ireland. Trips are suitable for all, from the very young to the young at heart. For previous customer reviews, check out google maps or see www.boattrips.ie



Jennifer's Travels Barge Hire

Bell Harbour, Monasterevin,
Co. Kildare

M: 086 342 5546

E: jenniferstravels@gmail.com

www.jenniferstravels.com

Escape it all by taking the tiller of a Jennifer's Travel's barge. Cruise the River Barrow and Grand Canal in a boat of character. A friendly, family-run, well-established operation. Located in Bell Harbour in the centre of Monasterevin Town, halfway between the River Barrow and the Grand Canal, making it an ideal choice to explore either or both waterways. Built in a traditional stern style, specifically for holiday cruising, there is a large deck to the stern and a second deck to the bow. It offers all the comforts of home and sleeps up to four adults comfortably.



ANGLING

Murph's Fishing Tackle

Cathedral Close, Tullow Street,
Carlow, R93 P7XO

T: 059 913 2839

E: murphs10@hotmail.com

www.fishingtackledirect.ie



WhatsApp:

085 121 0262

Murph's Fishing Tackle is the ideal outlet for supplies of all types of fishing equipment – for the serious and not so serious angler. Supplying fresh maggots, casters, worms, groundbait Sensas, Van Den Eynde and trapper. Stockists of a large selection of reels, rods, lures and fishing accessories. Information on fishing in the local area is provided for all your fishing needs. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need advice. You can call, email or message on WhatsApp. Of course, you can also come and browse around in the shop.



The River Barrow is renowned as a coarse and game angling river. For further information, scan the QR code opposite and you will have access to all you need to know about the area.



Carlow County Museum

College Street, Carlow Town, R93 E3T2

T: 059 913 1554 E: museum@carlowcoco.ie

www.carlowmuseum.ie



OPENING TIMES

1st Feb to 31st May

Monday – Friday
10am-4.30pm

Saturday
10am-1pm & 1.30-4.30pm

1st June to 31st August

Monday – Friday
10am-5pm

Saturday
10am-1pm & 1.30-5pm
Sundays and Bank Holidays
2pm-4.30pm

1st Sept to 31st Oct

Monday – Friday
10am-4.30pm

Saturday 10am-1pm
& 1.30-4.30pm

1st Nov to 31st Jan

Monday – Friday
10am-4.30pm

Check website for
Christmas and
New Year closing
times.
Last admission 30
minutes beforehand.

The museum is self-guided, but tours for groups (10+) must be pre-booked.



Visiting the multi award-winning Carlow County Museum is a must. Be wowed by the 340 million year old fossil, the 20ft church pulpit and an exquisite 2mm Iron Age glass bead! Among the displays are exhibitions featuring: the magnificently hand-carved 19th century wooden pulpit from Carlow Cathedral, one of the top 100 objects to view in an Irish museum; the gallows trap door from Carlow Gaol used in 19th century public executions; an exhibition on the Carlow Sugar Factory, Ireland's largest sugar factory, which was opened in 1926; the wonderful stained glass panel by Peadar Lamb commemorating the 1916 Rising and its Carlow links; archaeological finds from the Carlow M9 bypass including the country's first ring brooch found in the county, courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

See the latest exhibit, the grave effigy of Robert Hartpole, Constable of Carlow Castle and High Sheriff of Carlow, dating from 1594.

Find out about some of Carlow's personalities; see the remains of Kevin Barry's last cigarette and his death mask, with both items dating from the time of his execution in Mountjoy Gaol, Dublin at the age of just 18 for his role in the Irish War of Independence; the wooden smoking pipe of Captain Myles Keogh of the 7th US Cavalry who was killed in the infamous battle of Little Big Horn along with General Custer in 1876; John Tyndall, Carlow's prolific 19th century scientist whose discoveries, including the greenhouse effect still have an impact to this day. Carlow County Council in partnership with Carlow Historical and Archaeological Society has developed the museum, which is an "excellent use of an old building".

Carlow County Museum is part of Carlow Town's Cultural Quarter and **admission is free.**



Carlow Tourist Office

College Street,
Carlow, R93 H738

T: 059 913 1554

E: info@carlowtourism.com
www.carlowtourism.com

The tourist office is located at the junction of Tullow Street and College Street (within the Carlow County Museum and Library buildings) in the centre of Carlow Town. Many publications on the local area are available free of charge including the Carlow Garden Trail, South Carlow Adventure Trail, Mount Leinster Heritage Drive and A Guide to County Carlow as well as other national publications. The Tourist Office also provides advice on accommodation options, as well as itineraries and public transport. Further information on visitor attractions and accommodation options is available on www.carlowtourism.com

OPENING TIMES: weekly Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. All other opening times as per Carlow Museum above.

VISUAL AND THE GEORGE BERNARD SHAW THEATRE

VISUAL and the George Bernard Shaw Theatre
Old Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 A3K1
T: 059 917 2400
E: boxoffice@visualcarlow.ie
www.visualcarlow.ie/events



Explore, Engage and Inspire

Bring your family to explore this stunning building in the heart of Carlow Town. Engage with artwork by national and international artists and be inspired by Ireland's largest and most spectacular space for art. There are lots of activities to enjoy including family art workshops, youth theatre, talks, workshops, tours, plus a 320-seat theatre with a packed programme of drama, film, dance and comedy.

OPENING HOURS:

Tuesday-Saturday 11am-5.30pm
Sunday 2pm-5pm

Box Office is also open one hour before all events.



HERITAGE ATTRACTIONS

Borris House



Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 Y2T1

T: 059 977 1884

E: info@borrishouse.com

www.borrishouse.com



Borris House, the ancestral home of the McMorrough Kavanaghs, Kings of Leinster, is one of the few Irish estates that can trace its history back to the Royal families of ancient Ireland. Surrounded by 650 acres of lush woodland and gardens, it has a secluded, otherworldly feel that transports visitors back in time and is the perfect venue for discovery and exploration.

In the recently restored Granary, visitors can watch a film on the history of the McMorrough Kavanaghs and Borris House, walk around the Lace Garden and visit the restored Victorian laundry.

This demesne parkland landscape with serpentine avenues captures the amazing views of the surrounding countryside of Mount Leinster, the Blackstairs Mountains and Mount Brandon.

Stroll along the woodland paths, enjoy some of the beautiful specimen trees, view the original Stew Pond and 18th century Ice House.

The Store at Borris House sells local crafts, jewellery, ceramics, leather goods and textiles and is located at the front gate entrance. Check the website for precise opening times. Tea, coffee and light snacks available.

Borris House is the venue for the Borris House Festival of Writing and Ideas. For up-to-date details of house tours visit www.borrishouse.com

HOW TO FIND US: In the centre of Borris Town, in south Carlow.

OPENING TIMES: Check website for details.

ADMISSION: Fee applies, check website for further details www.borrishouse.com

County Carlow Military Museum



Old Church, Athy Road, Carlow, R93 PK46

M: 087 690 4242

E: militarymuseum@live.ie



This museum is dedicated to the collection, preservation and display of military memorabilia heritage. All artefacts are donated by families of former service men and women and show their careers involving local, national and international events in which they participated.

A range of over 4,500 items cover all periods from Carlow Castle, 1798 Rebellion, 1916 Rising and World War One and Two. Extensive reference material can be used by school groups, tourists, authors and researchers.

Come and see us and support us in preserving our community's past for visitors and Carlovians of the future.

HOW TO FIND US: Immediately off the Athy Road in Carlow Town on the grounds of St Dymphna's Hospital.

OPENING TIMES:

St Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17th 2pm-5pm; Friday, March 18th 2-5pm; Sunday, March 20th 2pm-5pm.

Each following Sunday until Sunday, November 11th 2pm-5pm. Also, each following Monday, Wednesday and Friday beginning Monday March 21st until Friday, November 11th from 11am-4pm.

ADMISSION: Adults: €3.50; 13 to 17 years: €2.50; OAP's: €2; under 13: FREE

Huntington Castle and Gardens



Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K237

T: 053 937 7160

E: info@huntingtoncastle.com

www.huntingtoncastle.com



Huntington Castle, voted one of Ireland's top '20 Hidden Gems' by *The Guardian* is set in over 160 acres of gardens, woodland and farmland. The castle was originally built as a garrison in the 17th century and was later turned into a family estate by Lord Esmonde. A direct descendant of the castle's founders, current custodian Alexander Durdin Robertson and his family is keeping tradition alive in a decidedly hands-on fashion. A guided tour of the castle provides a window into both its fascinating past, and the lives of the family who call the castle home today.

Hear stories of the castle's historical occupants, while meandering through passages to the living quarters, formal rooms and even the dungeon... Beautiful Aubusson French tapestries, ornate carpets and fabulous portraits of ancestors from years gone by can all be enjoyed on the tour. The conservatory features a magnificent grape vine forming the ceiling, a gift to Anne Boleyn, taken from Hampton Court Palace while the Temple of Goddess can be exclusively accessed in the dungeon.

A charming tearoom and gift shop provides a relaxing setting to the end of your visit. To get the full Huntington experience, consider staying the night in one of their beautiful castle rooms. Facilities include a children's adventure playground, car park, refurbished tea room, gift shop, toilets, woodland walks and rose gardens. Wheelchair access is limited to certain areas of the gardens only.

HOW TO FIND US: Entrance gates in the village of Clonegal.

OPENING TIMES: From May to September 11am-6pm daily. For special events outside these times see website - e.g: Easter, Halloween and Christmas at the Castle. Open at other times by prior arrangement.

ADMISSION: Gardens: Adults €6, Children €3. House Tours: Adults €12.95; Children €6. Family and group discounts available. Usual concessions apply.

For up-to-date details of house tours visit www.huntingtoncastle.com

HERITAGE ATTRACTIONS

Lisnavagh House and Gardens



Lisnavagh, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow, R93 PX61

T: 059 9161473

E: events@lisnavagh.com

www.lisnavagh.com



An exquisite, private countryside retreat. Lisnavagh House offers the ultimate mix of homeliness and grandeur, making it a most appealing destination for those seeking somewhere unique. The purpose-built garden wing adjoined to Lisnavagh House seats up to 160 guests, where a variety of events can be hosted. Outdoor event spaces, miles of walkways and 600 acres of farmland and woodland allows Lisnavagh to provide great facilities in a stunning location.

Situated on the Carlow/Wicklow border about an hour or so from Dublin, there are striking panoramic views of the Wicklow Hills, Blackstairs Mountains and Mount Leinster. At Lisnavagh, business can be combined with pleasure in a location that is private, unique and easy-to-reach from all major routes. From private and corporate

entertaining, to high-level business meetings, Lisnavagh offers the perfect retreat. Other facilities include outdoor theatre, a Lisnavagh on-line shop featuring fresh produce from the estate, organic where possible, and Bunbury Boards made from Irish hardwood timber, mostly grown on-site at Lisnavagh.

HOW TO FIND US: From Carlow Town follow signs for Hacketstown. At Killerig Cross Roads (R418) turn right and immediately left. Turn right at the T-junction on the N81 Tullow/Rathvilly Road and immediately left. Turn left at Tobinstown (small hamlet just before a marked bend in the road). The entrance to Lisnavagh House is on the left, 3km from Tobinstown Crossroads.

Shankill Castle and Gardens



Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny, R95 T8X7

M: 086 397 1748

E: hello@shankillcastle.com

www.shankillcastle.com



Discover history, nature, art and farm-to-fork dining on a day out to Shankill Castle. Shankill Castle was first built as a Butler tower house beside the ruins of an old church. In 1708 it was rebuilt as a residence and set in a formal landscape. Today it is home to Irish artist Elizabeth Cope and her family. Explore the acres of gardens and woodlands, including a Victorian walled kitchen garden, sweeping topiary lawns and a secret fairy woods for the whole family. Take a tour of the 300-year-old castle, filled with an eclectic mix of antiques and contemporary art. Relax and refuel at the Coach House Café, which offers indoor and outdoor seating in the heritage stable yard, and enjoy seasonal, homemade lunches and treats with produce from the walled garden and surrounding organic farm.

Open from April to October. Check the website for booking details of the events programme.

HOW TO FIND US: In the village of Paulstown, on the Carlow-Kilkenny border. From Carlow Town, head 20km south towards Waterford/Kilkenny, taking Exit 7 off the M9 motorway.

OPENING TIMES: April to May & Sept to Oct: Sat-Sun, 11am-5pm. June to Aug: Thurs-Sun, 11am-5pm. Castle tour at 3pm on days open. Group visits available by advanced booking.

ADMISSION: House and Gardens: €10, Gardens only, €5. Concessions apply.

Please purchase tickets online at www.shankillcastle.com or at the Coach House Café.

St Laserian's Cathedral



Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow, R93 N598

T: 059 972 1570

A 13th century gem which nestles in the village of Old Leighlin (Leath gleann – half-glen). The original monastic settlement dates from the 7th century and, at its peak had a community of 1,500 monks. A synod held here in 630AD was decisive in reconciling the date of Easter for the Irish church.

The cathedral embraces a fascinating and often violent history of Viking raids, murder and religious turbulence. Its 13th century nave and chancel and its 15th century tower and Lady Chapel remain largely unchanged. Also to be seen is the unique four-bay sedilia, the 12th and 13th century fonts and the splendid Catherine O'Brien East Window.

Today, St Laserian's remains an unspoilt and magical place. Nearby is St Laserian's Well with its celtic cross believed to date from the time of the saint.

HOW TO FIND US: From Dublin/Waterford take Exit 6 on M9 motorway and follow signs for Leighlinbridge. St Laserian's Cathedral is signposted off the R448, 2km beyond the village of Leighlinbridge.

OPENING TIMES: See carlowtourism.com/attraction/stlaserianscathedral

ADMISSION: Free, however a donation of €2 is greatly appreciated towards the cathedral's upkeep.

new 2022 There is a new series of heritage interpretation panels, now on display around the cathedral.

HERITAGE ATTRACTIONS

Tullow Museum



Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 Y744

T: 087 238 3515

www.tullowmuseum.com

Housed in an attractive, stone built, former Methodist church at the River Slaney Bridge, Tullow Museum features an eclectic collection of artefacts reflecting local history, in particular Fr Murphy's connection with the town, including what are alleged to be his last vestments.

Fr Murphy championed Ireland's cause for freedom in the battles of 1798. He was eventually captured near Tullow and executed in the town square where a monument now stands in his memory. The museum also features a collection of local photographs and information on burial grave stones.

The museum welcomes any information or artefacts for display purposes, especially photographs (on loan or for gift).

HOW TO FIND US: Beside the River Slaney Bridge in Tullow Town.

OPENING TIMES: Tuesday to Friday, 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm. Closed Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Bank Holiday Monday – open by appointment only: 087 238 3515. As the museum has voluntary hours, times may vary. Please telephone 087 238 3515 if the museum is closed and someone will accommodate your visit if available.

ADMISSION: Free, voluntary contributions welcome.

The Lace Gallery



Carrigslaney, Kilbride, Co. Carlow, R93 Y803

T: 059 915 5676 M: 087 288 6719

E: mary@thelacegallery.com

www.thelacegallery.com



Mary O' Neill makes small, delicate pieces of the famous Irish Carrickmacross Lace from her studio in Carrigslaney, close to Altamont Gardens.

All pieces are designed by Mary, featuring Irish symbols including the Shamrock and Claddagh.

Each piece of her work is signed, dated and numbered and is presented as a framed wall piece that makes an attractive gift for any home.

HOW TO FIND US: 4km from the N80 at Kilbride Cross. Pass Altamont Gardens, the Lace Gallery is 2.5km from this point on the right hand side of the road.

OPENING TIMES: April to September, Monday-Friday, 11am-5pm. Saturday and Sunday 2pm-6pm. Other times by arrangement.

ADMISSION: Free.

The Weavers Cottages



Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 K2X8

T: 053 9376749 M: 087 948 9342

E: weaverscottage1@gmail.com



The Durdin or Weavers Cottages were built by Alexander Durdin in the late 17th century. They were lived in by weavers when the trade was at its height and now feature many items, artefacts, furniture and pictures from bygone times. The development comprises a pair of semi-detached, two-bay, single-storey dormer cottages with attic conversion. Beautiful heritage garden to the rear featuring a variety of vegetables, and plants grown for the dyeing of wool used in weaving.

Collect your certificate for completion of the Wicklow Way walking route here.

HOW TO FIND US: In the village of Clonegal which is situated 10km from the village of Ballon, off the N80 and 17km from Tullow.

OPENING TIMES: Open all year round Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Saturday and Sunday, 12pm-4pm.

ADMISSION: Free, voluntary contributions welcome

FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

The DOME Family Entertainment Centre



Carlow Business Park, Portlaoise Road, Graiguecullen, Carlow, R93 R886

T: 059 916 4311

E: sales@dome.ie

www.dome.ie



The Dome Family Entertainment Centre is Carlow's only bowling venue, laser tag, children's play centre, games arcade and kids' party venue rolled into one. Featuring pins on strings interactive bowling – the only pins on strings in the South East and a 10-pin bowling alley with touch screen monitors that can be enjoyed by all ages. All lanes are fully accessible to wheelchair users and are fitted with side bumpers so bowlers of all levels can strike out. The games arcade is full of interactive machines and pool tables. Congo Quest is an 8,000 square feet, 3-D jungle life like experience. Facilities include ball pools, crawl tubes and slides, soccer court and a soft play area. Toddler mornings take place each Tuesday and Thursday with different activities each day for the little

ones. Brand new state-of-the-art laser zone – test your skills and abilities in the spaced themed arena – fun for ages 7 to 9! Each player, whether individually or on teams, uses their phaser to tag their opponent and score as many points as possible. No need for heavy vests and equipment, your opponent's phaser is your target! Hours of entertainment guaranteed. Visit www.dome.ie for further details.

OPENING TIMES: Congo Quest 10am-6pm daily and the Bowling Laser Zone and Arcade 11am-9pm daily.

ADMISSION: Bowling €32 per hour. Congo Quest 5 years and under, €6, over 5 €7.50. Laser Zone 16 years and up €7, under 16s €6.

FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES

The Chocolate Garden of Ireland



Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 PY82

T: 059 648 1999

E: info@chocolategarden.ie

www.chocolategarden.ie



Absolute heaven for lovers of chocolate and ice cream everywhere –The Chocolate Garden of Ireland is a working chocolate and ice cream factory offering chocolate-making sessions/workshops with online booking/group (15+) bookings by phone. A free play area will keep the younger ones happy. Set in beautiful northeast Carlow, it's a must if you are in the area, whatever your age – you'll delight in its award-winning handmade chocolate treats and revel in the lovely aromas and tastes. Its café offers its own artisan ice cream, delicious sundaes and wide array of chocolates and treats.

Afternoon tea available with advance booking. All chocolates are gluten free.

HOW TO FIND US: On the R725 between Tullow and Shillelagh, 5km from Tullow, next to Rathwood.

OPENING TIMES: Seasonal opening may apply, check website/social media to ensure open before travelling. No admission charge to café/shop. Please pre-book chocolate-making sessions.

ADMISSION: Chocolate mould making from €12.50 per person

Mount Brandon Pottery School



Tinnahinch, Graigueanamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, R95 X583

M: 085 110 8257

E: mountbrandonpottery@gmail.com



Mount Brandon Pottery School is located in Tinnahinch on the grounds of Mount Brandon Self-Catering Cottages, in walking distance from the River Barrow town of Graigueanamanagh.

The pottery school is run by potter Carmen Wenner. Choose from a range of weekly adult and childrens' classes as well as Saturday pottery workshops.

Learn how to make pinch and coil pots or try your hand on the potter's wheel. The classes and workshops are suitable for all age groups and skill levels.

Advance booking is essential. Carmen also creates her own range of ceramics which can be purchased directly from her studio.

HOW TO FIND US: 0.5km from Tinnahinch/Graigueanamanagh on the Carlow-Kilkenny border.

ARTISAN FOOD & DRINK ATTRACTIONS

Carlow Brewing Company



Muine Bheag Business Park, Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 H960

T: 059 972 0509

E: info@carlowbrewing.com

www.carlowbrewing.com



Take a look behind the scenes at one of Ireland's craft brewing pioneers at Carlow Brewing Company. Celebrating 25 years in 2021, the Carlow Brewing Company owned by the O'Hara family, brew the critically acclaimed O'Hara's Irish craft beer range, Falling Apple Cider and Craigies Cider.

Inspired by their brewing heritage and embracing modern Ireland, the O'Hara's brewing team continue to revive the old and discover new craft beer styles, keeping it real and brewing in the flavour.

O'Hara's craft beers are available nationwide in Ireland and in over 35 countries around the world in pubs, restaurants and off-licences.

HOW TO FIND US: Carlow Brewing Company is situated off the R448 Carlow-Kilkenny Road at the Royal Oak turn off. 1km from here in the direction of Bagenalstown, on the right hand side.

OPENING TIMES: 9am – 5pm. Brewery tours available on Friday afternoons, by prior appointment.

ADMISSION: Adults: €10, Groups (10+): €7.50.

Carlow Farmers Market



The Exchange, Potato Market, Carlow Town

T: secretarycarlowfm@gmail.com

www.carlowfarmersmarket.com

GPS: 52.835270, -6.929374



Celebrating its 18th year in business in 2022, Carlow Farmers' Market is widely recognised as one of the best run producer markets in the country. It has proven hugely popular as customers embrace its unique and relaxed ambience and the wide variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, meats, juices and home baking on offer.

Also available are organic meats, cheeses, juices, jams, chutneys, free-range and farm fresh eggs. The wide selection of home baking includes gluten-free and spelt products, other options include raw food, wheat grass and a selection of food to go.

Fresh flowers and bedding plants are also on sale in season. There is a shared craft stall which rotates between pottery and other craft items. With a casual yet intimate atmosphere, the market is a great place to spend a Saturday morning while purchasing excellent local produce.

HOW TO FIND US: Every Saturday, Potato Market and Liberty Tree, Carlow Town

OPENING TIMES: Saturdays, 9am – 2pm

ADMISSION: Free

ARTISAN FOOD & DRINK ATTRACTIONS

Malone's Fruit Farm and Farm Shop, Artisan Food and Gifts



Closh, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 KX30

T: 059 915 9477 M: 086 847 2765

E: info@malonefruitfarm.com

www.malonefruitfarm.com



Malone's Fruit Farm is a family-run business growing a variety of soft fruit. The farm shop sells a large selection of artisan food and gifts with particular attention to local and Irish products.

Fresh fruit is available in the farm shop from mid-May to early October while frozen fruit and a full range of homemade products are available all year round.

The Malone family is proud of their traditional homemade recipes and quality soft fruit which have proven very successful in the market.

The farm grows strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, loganberries, tayberries, redcurrants, blackcurrants, whitecurrants and rhubarb.

HOW TO FIND US: Located outside the village of Ballon on the N80 near the N81 junction, 1.5km from Altamont Gardens, 19km from Carlow, 1km from Ballon and 8km from Tullow and Bunclody.

OPENING TIMES:

June 1st – Oct 31st: Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm;

Sunday 11am-6pm;

Nov – May: Thurs – Sat, 10am-5pm;

Sunday 1-5pm.

ADMISSION: Free

FOOD PRODUCERS

A & K Real Foods



Weekly every Saturday morning at Carlow Farmers' Market

T: 045 406 794 M: 087 412 9488 E: anlardunlavin@gmail.com



A & K Real Food is home made and healthy – Agnieszka and Krystian's talent lies in creating products that let the flavour of the ingredients speak for themselves. Their healthy snack alternatives are based on local, naturally grown, organically and sustainably raised ingredients, bursting with flavour and full of nutrition.

The extensive range includes kombucha, raw vegan breddies, energy bars, wheatgrass, sauerkraut and a range of traditional sourdough breads and are suitable for vegans, coeliacs and diabetics or for those seeking a healthier way of life.

Available from Carlow Farmers' Market every Saturday and selected health food shops nationwide.

Carlow Farmhouse Cheese



Ballybrommell, Fenagh, Co. Carlow, R21 XA43

T: 087 612 4452 E: carlowfarmhousecheese@gmail.com

www.carlowfarmhousecheese.com



Carlow Farmhouse Cheese is situated on a farm in the centre of the county, milking dairy sheep who provide the milk for a hard cheddar type cheese, which may be matured for up to two years. Cow's milk is bought from a neighbouring farmer and a small amount of washed curd cow cheese is made to complement the sheep milk. All available in the weekly Carlow Farmers' Market along with a range of other cheeses – every Saturday at Potato Market. Also available at Portlaoise Farmers' Market every Friday, the Gourmet Pantry, Dún Laoghaire, Honest to Goodness in Glasnevin, and other markets throughout the country. A new addition to the range of cheeses for 2022 is Pecorino's Sheep Cheese – a pecorino using both lamb and kid rennet in the Italian tradition – made by Carlow Farmhouse Cheese.

Coolattin Cheddar



Knockeen House, Knockeen, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 W2V8

T: 086 389 4482 E: coolattincheddar16@gmail.com www.coolattincheddar.ie



Made on Tom Burgess' family farm in the Wicklow Hills, Coolattin Mature Raw Milk Cheddar is one of only a handful of authentic cheddar-style Irish farm cheeses. It is a seasonal cheese, made in the summer when the cows are grazing clover-rich pasture, the ideal diet for cheese-processing milk. Visitors will find Tom's cheese countrywide at farmers' markets, at specialist shops including Malone's Fruit Farm and Farm Shop, Ballon; Ward's, Tullow; Avoca; Tinahely Farm; Fallon & Byrne and good food outlets nationwide. Coolattin Cheddar is one of Ireland's longest established and most popular farmhouse cheeses – one of the most enduring success stories of the renaissance of artisan cheese making in Ireland.

Gaelic Escargot

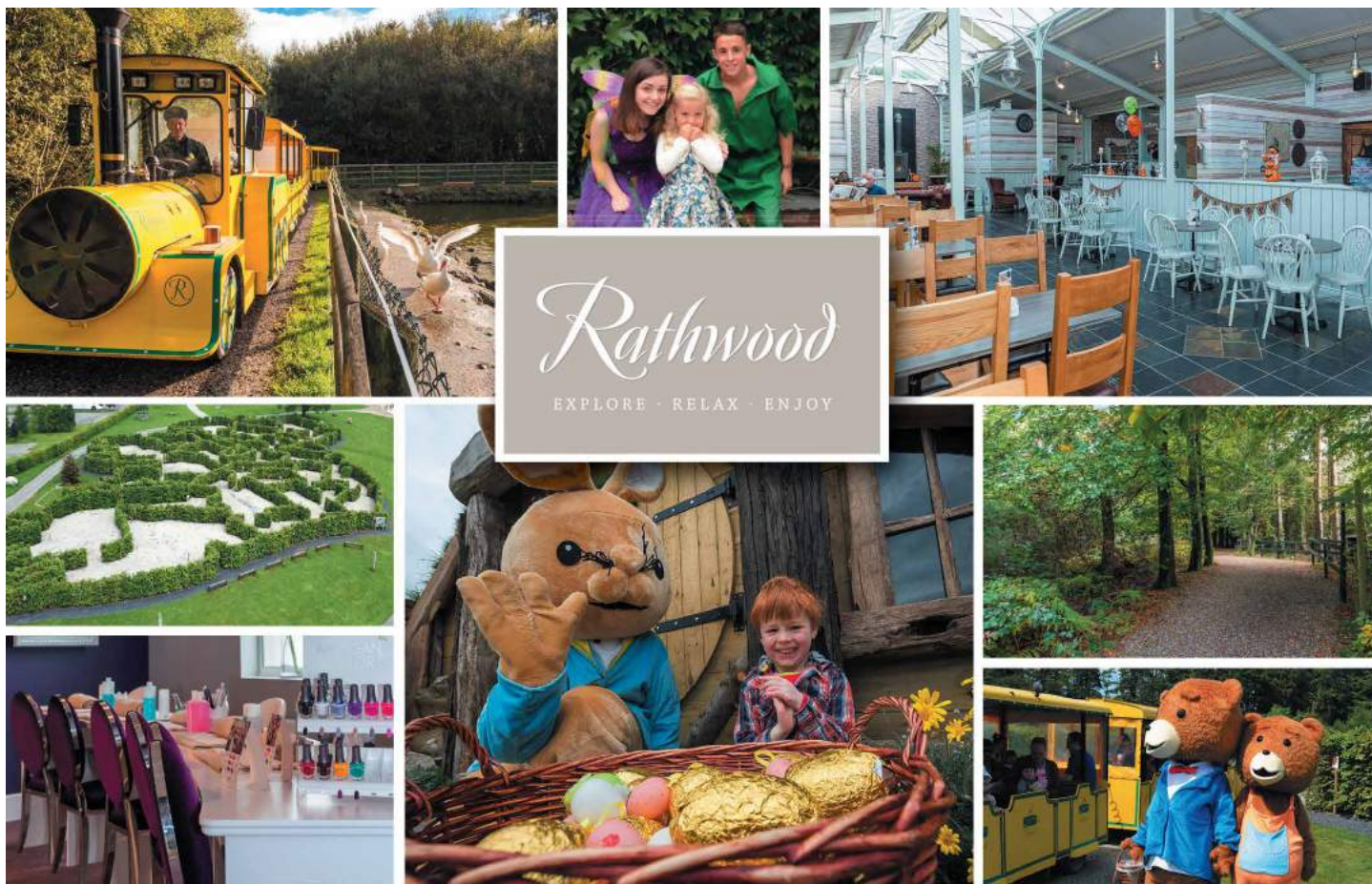


Garryhill, Co. Carlow, R21 C714

T: 085 100 0919 E: gaelicescargot@gmail.com www.gaelicescargot.com



Gaelic Escargot is the first snail farm in Ireland and the only research and development centre for the production of free-range escargots. Located in Garryhill, Co. Carlow, they have been researching and farming snails since 2013, with a particular emphasis on free-range and sustainable methods. Today they distribute Irish escargots to the food service sector on an international scale. They also provide full mentoring for existing snail farmers as well as to those aspiring, offering farming courses, breeding stock and ongoing support. To date they have helped create more than 20 new snail farms across the country.



Rathwood

EXPLORE · RELAX · ENJOY

Tullow, Co. Carlow

Tel. 059 9156285

www.rathwood.com

FOOD PRODUCERS

The Village Dairy



Clonmore Business Park, Clonmore, Killeslin, Co. Carlow, R93 V2P2

T: 059 914 3437 E: noel@villagedairy.ie www.villagedairy.ie



The Village Dairy is a small, local, family-run dairy based in Killeslin on the Carlow – Laois border. The Village Dairy produces a variety of craft milk and cream products, including fresh milk and cream, organic milk and cream and Jersey milk.

The Village Dairy is a multi award-winning dairy delivering to speciality coffee shops, hotels and restaurants. They take pride in supplying a high-quality product to their customers both locally and nationally, getting milk from the farm to the customer in just 24 hours.

The milk is pasteurised and homogenised but is tampered with as little as possible to maintain its great natural flavour. Gold, silver and bronze medal winner Irish Food Awards. Available from most local retail shops in Carlow.

CRAFT PRODUCERS

Ansbro Mouldings



Barrack Street, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 FV56

T: 059 914 5729 E: ansbrojames@yahoo.ie www.ansbromouldings.com



Ansbro Mouldings is a family-run business with their showroom based beside the pedestrian lights in The Market Square in Tullow Town. This little outlet displays samples of ornamental plasterworks which have been sourced from many of the period houses around Ireland and feels more like an art gallery than a shop.

There is a selection of small crafted products for sale and someone is always on hand to answer any queries regarding moulding works to your home such as cornicing, panel moulding, restoration and paint removal to name but a few.

OPENING TIMES: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am – 3pm.
Saturday 10am – 4pm. Closed Wednesday and Sunday.

CRAFT PRODUCERS

Cushendale Woollen Mills



Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, R95 PP83

T: 059 972 4118 E: info@cushendale.ie www.cushendale.ie



Cushendale is one of only two remaining vertical Irish woollen mills continuing to create quality authentic textiles from the fleece of Irish sheep at their historic mill. The first mill was established on this site in 1204 by Cistercian monks, and the Cushen family trace their weaving heritage as far back as 1778. Visit their historic mill and shop to see where they design and create quality bespoke textiles and yarns from Irish wool, lambs' wool and mohair.

**new
2022**

NEW RETAIL EXPERIENCE where the textiles are showcased against the backdrop of the historic working mill with an opportunity to learn all about this ancient craft through film and interpretation panels.

HOW TO FIND US: In the town of Graiguenamanagh, adjoining the village of Tinnahinch.

OPENING TIMES: Mon – Fri, 9am-12.30pm and 1.30-5.30pm; Sat 10.30am-5.30pm (Closed 12.30pm – 1.30pm)

Duiske Glass Gift Shop



High Street, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny, R95 AH98

T: 059 972 4174 E: info@duiskeglasskilkenny.ie www.duiskeglasskilkenny.ie



Duiske Glass, a family-run business, was founded in 1974 by Maureen and the late Harry O'Shea. Duiske Glass Gift Shop is regarded as one of Ireland's best loved treasures with a wide selection of traditional and modern gifts. Renowned for its grapevine cut wine glasses, crystal and giftware which are now exclusively available at Duiske Glass. Choose from an array of top Irish brands including Tipperary Crystal, Newbridge Silverware, Absolute Jewellery, Paul Maloney and Shannonbridge Pottery. Duiske Glass offers a bespoke service whereby almost any piece of glassware or crystal can be enhanced with personalised engraving to suit every occasion from personalised and corporate gifts to sports and achievement awards.

HOW TO FIND US: Order online on www.duiskeglasskilkenny.ie or visit us in the town of Graiguenamanagh, adjoining the south Carlow village of Tinnahinch.

OPENING TIMES: Mon – Sat 11am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm. Sunday for groups-appointment only.

Glen Lucas Woodturning Centre



Flander's Cross, Knockclonegad, Bagenalstown, Co Carlow R21 PC79

T: 059 972 7070 E: info@glenlucas.com www.glenlucaswoodturning.com



Glen has been turning wood since 1990 producing both classic-functional and one-off artistic pieces for homes and collections. Over the years Glenn has been fortunate to learn from some of the most respected masters of his craft and he feels privileged to be able to pass that knowledge on. At Glen's Woodturning Study Centre, he teaches all levels of ability in group classes and one-to-one tuition. Glenn has travelled the world for demonstrations and classes in woodturning. You can also watch Glenn turn in your own workshop with his 'Mastering Woodturning' series of DVDs and downloadable videos. Glenn's website can be used to book classes, buy woodturning tools and DVDs, or purchase any of his bespoke bowls or platters. Glenn has a news ezine which you can opt into by emailing Glenn at info@glenlucas.com.

Lazer Now



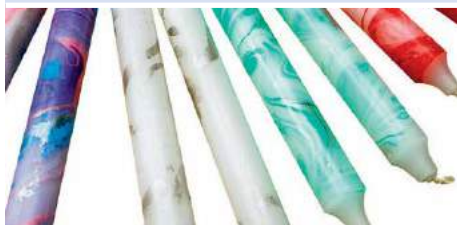
Old Chapel Lane, Tullow, Co. Carlow

M: 087 779 7719 E: johnduffyart@gmail.com www.lazernowcustomgifts.com



A multi-disciplinary award-winning laser engraving studio specialising in corporate gifts, marketing giveaways, distinct image plaques, retirement gifts, wall plates, presentation pieces and everything in between! You imagine it, we'll design and craft it. A family-run business, they also provide personalised slate engraved pieces for such occasions as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays and presentation pieces. Contract lasering for craft and design companies also available. For all requirements, contact Ann Duffy on T: 087 779 7719.

NicAngels Candles



The Courtyard at Duckett's Grove, Kneestown, Co. Carlow, R93 RF80

T: 085 1471465 E: nicangelsinfo@gmail.com www.nicangelscandles.com



NicAngels Candles individually hand-marble, fragrance-free, Irish-made dinner candles creating unique patterns on each. They also hand paint glass candle holders to accompany their candles. This is done on-site in Duckett's Grove Historic House and Walled Gardens. Their attractive craft unit at Duckett's Grove also features a selection of gift ideas from other crafters. Bespoke service also available.

OPENING TIMES: Feb-Apr & Sept-Nov, Sat & Sun 11am – 4pm. July and Aug, Fri-Sun 11am – 5pm. May & June opening times, see Facebook. NicAngels Candles & Gift Shop Duckett's Grove.

The Soap Workshop



Kilcoltrim, Borris, Co. Carlow

T: 087 793 1101 E: thesoapworkshopireland@gmail.com www.thesoapworkshop.ie

Providing soap-making workshops. There is something very pleasurable in producing a quality product that meets our basic needs. Cold process soap-making is a therapeutic and fun craft. You will get to make your very own batch of soap learning all the tips and secrets along the way. This workshop is suitable for beginners or the "just getting started" soap maker. For bookings visit: www.thesoapworkshop.ie.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Carlow International English Language School (CIELS)



Askea, Carlow, R93 K5P2

T: 059 914 2066 E: danny@ciels.ie www.ciels.ie

CIELS is the longest established language school in the south-east region. CIELS has enjoyed QQI/ACELS (Quality and Qualifications Ireland/Accreditation and Coordination of English Language Schools) accreditation for English language teaching for over 27 years.

Originally founded as a family-run English language and cultural course provider for juniors, CIELS has developed to include provision of professional and academic English language services for higher education, both face-to-face and online via its e-learning platform 'CIELS Online Learning' (www.ciels.ie). CIELS also delivers Erasmus+ programmes with partners in the Netherlands, Denmark, Finland and Germany.

Testimony to the quality of its programmes is the amount of repeat business it enjoys from long standing partners. CIELS is a proud member and supporter of Carlow Tourism. It continues to promote language tourism for the benefit of its students and the Carlow community in conjunction with Carlow Tourism, IT Carlow and its many European Erasmus Plus partners.

Danny Barron BBS, Cambridge DELTA

M: 086 406 0804

Equinox Education Services



Carlow Gateway Business Centre, Athy Road, Carlow, R93 C7P6

T: 059 917 9340 E: info@equinox4study.com
www.equinoxlearnabroad.com

Equinox Education Service (EES) is a multi award-winning Carlow-based company with over 20 years' experience of providing immersive, tailor-made educational and cultural experiences in Carlow and nationwide for individuals and groups, that are designed to enrich each participant's journey towards learning a new culture or improving their language ability within safe and secure environments.

In Ireland, EES has facilitated diverse groups such as choirs, marching bands and art and craft groups, as well as the traditional language and cultural groups. All of the students benefit from an immersive host family experience and classes that provide for a structured approach to cultural learning, organised activities and excursions. EES's award-winning junior summer camps in Carlow offer international visitors specialised programmes such as Teen Entrepreneur, Soft Skill Development, English and Irish Culture etc. Since 2020 Cambridge First and Advanced Certificate Prep courses are also offered as well as a range of global on-line interactive programmes.

Noel Doyle Msc, Bsc, B.A, TESOL, TEFL

Founder and Managing Director M: 087 997 5625

High School Programme Ireland



49 Brotherton, Sleaty Road, Carlow, R93 D2N8

T: 087 9492590

E: info@highschoolprogramme.ie

E: stanmailmike@gmail.com

www.highschoolprogramme.ie



High School Programme Ireland gives international students the opportunity to study in a mainstream secondary school setting in Ireland. Living and going to school in Ireland, these students experience countless opportunities for confidence building, personal growth and development, and for raising their own cultural awareness.

All the schools in which the students are placed are recognised by the Department of Education and Skills and follow the Junior and Senior Cycle Irish Education Curriculum for Secondary Schools.

High School Programme Ireland aims to provide international students not only with the highest quality of academic learning, but also a lifetime of experience and memories of uniquely Irish hospitality as well as new friendships formed.

Our Courses



Strawhall Industrial Estate, Carlow, R93 C6X2

T: 086 2216316 E: karen@ourcourses.com

www.ourcourses.com

Our Courses is a dynamic English language school based in Carlow Town who pride themselves in delivering quality English language courses in a comfortable, modern and state-of-the-art building.

All Our Courses teachers are university educated and native English speakers. Classes are taught in a fresh, versatile and engaging way making learning here easy and fun.

Our Courses offer both online and traditional hosted programmes such as Highschool programmes, both public and private schools, English Summer Camp, mini stays, Immersion and all Erasmus+ programmes.

Our Courses believe in keeping business in Carlow and as such all their suppliers are based in and around Carlow Town and environs. They have numerous host families who work with them but are always looking for more. Please see website for more details.

GUIDED TOURS

Candy Tours

Contact John Candy

T: 087 263 2324

E: info@candytours.ie

www.candytours.ie



Custom designed tours throughout Carlow and Ireland. Tours on offer include rambling house tours, private and family tours, garden, religious or day trip tours. Experienced guide John Candy will accompany you throughout your trip offering a mix of interesting and historic facts. Entertainment each evening of tour. Full itinerary provided based on client requirements



RESTAURANTS

1808 Brasserie & Cellar Restaurant

Step House Hotel, Main Street,
Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 V2CR

T: 059 977 3209

E: info@stephousehotel.ie

www.stephousehotel.ie

Open Thurs to Sun serving lunch,
afternoon menu and à la carte.
For opening hours visit the website.



The Step House Hotel, a family-run boutique hotel, is located in the centre of the pretty heritage village of Borris colloquially known as 'Granite Town'. The Coady family are at hand to play host to some of the great stories of Ireland's Ancient East with the hotel nestled in the valley of the Blackstairs Mountains.

1808 Brasserie & Cellar Restaurant consistently serves a combination of local produce and French flair with celebrated head chef Alan Foley. Enjoy the best of Carlow's produce from locally sourced beef and pork to locally crafted gins and pale ale with a fully licensed bar.



Brooks

Dinn Rí, Tullow Street, Carlow,
R93 C8X5

T: 059 913 3111

E: info@dinnri.com

www.dinnri.com

Open daily from 8.00am-5.00pm



Situated in the heart of Carlow, Brooks at Dinn Rí has fabulous décor, a bustling ambience and offers a delicious selection of menu options with something to suit everyone's taste. This includes light bites, stone baked pizzas, scrumptious burgers, super-food salads, sandwiches and wraps, a range of classic steak, chicken and seafood dishes, speciality teas and coffees, home-baked pastries and a variety of other delightful treats.

At Brooks you can enjoy an array of fresh, tasty and healthy menu options made with local ingredients. Of course there are also options for those with food sensitivities and there is a full bar and superb wine list.



Café de Mode

Chapel Street, Ballon,
Co. Carlow, R93 T226

T: 087 4192 355

E: cafedemode101@gmail.com

www.cafedemode.ie

Open Tuesday – Sunday and
Bank Holiday Mondays.

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS



Winner of Carlow's Hidden Gem 2018 – (County Carlow Chamber), winner of Best Café in Leinster 2017 (Restaurant Association of Ireland) and Rural Enterprise Champion 2018 with Carlow Local Enterprise Office. Family-run with tasteful décor, Café de Mode offers customers a relaxing environment in which to enjoy a varied menu from gourmet sandwiches to lite bites, baked potatoes, homemade pancakes, scones, sweet treats and award-winning coffee. Situated off the main N80 in the beautiful village of Ballon.



Clashganny House Restaurant

Clashganny, Borris, Co. Carlow,
R95 C792

T: 059 977 1003

E: clashgannyhouse@gmail.com

www.clashgannyhouse.com

Open: Wed – Sat, Dinner: from 6pm
Sunday lunch: from 12.30pm



Rob and Karen White own and run Clashganny House Restaurant just outside the picturesque village of Borris. The restaurant was voted "Best Newcomer 2014" in the Georgina Campbell Guide, "Best Fine Dining Establishment", "Best Eating Establishment", "Carlow Venue of the Year Award", "Best Restaurant" and "Best Presented Premises" in the Carlow Chamber Awards 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021. Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence 2015-2019. Rob won Best Chef in Carlow at the Restaurant Association of Ireland Awards in 2020. Fully licensed restaurant serving wine, beer and spirits. "With Robert's excellent cooking, Karen's warmly professional supervision of the dining rooms and the wonderful setting, Clashganny House offers an accessible treat for discerning diners" – Georgina Campbell Guide.



The Coach House Café at Shankill Castle

Shankill Castle, Paulstown,
Co. Kilkenny, R95 T8X7

M: 086 397 1748

E: hello@shankillcastle.com

www.shankillcastle.com

Open: Apr–May and Sep–Oct:
Saturday–Sunday, 11 am–5pm
June–Aug: Thur–Sun, 11am–5pm

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS



Set in Shankill Castle's historic stable yard, the Coach House Café offers a farm-to-fork experience with light lunches, homemade cakes, artisan coffee and teas in a relaxed, rustic setting with indoor and outdoor seating. Everything is made from scratch with seasonal ingredients grown in their walled garden and organic farm, or sourced from local producers. Artwork by the Irish artist Elizabeth Cope is on display, and a selection of jams and juices is available to purchase.

Facilities: Parking, wheelchair accessible.



Conways Bar & Restaurant

Kildavin, Co. Carlow, Y21 PX98

T: 053 937 7223

E: conwaysbar@gmail.com



Conway's is a family-run pub and restaurant, situated at the foot of Mount Leinster and the start of the South Leinster Way long distance walking route. Conway's Bar and Restaurant is well known for its top quality homestyle food, using seasonal and locally sourced produce. Food is served daily, Tuesday to Sunday. All parties and events catered for with the option for private functions. Sample menus can be viewed on the facebook page. Ample parking and free WiFi available. Located just off the N80 5km from Bunclody.



RESTAURANTS

Frederick's Restaurant

Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 C9H0

T: 059 918 0100

E: info@mountwolseley.ie

www.mountwolseley.ie



Dining at Mount Wolseley is a unique experience. Start off the evening with an aperitif in the stylish Aaron Lounge or the eclectic Wolseley Cocktail Bar. Voted 'Best Hotel Restaurant in Carlow', Frederick's Fine Dining Restaurant has also received 1AA Rosette Award for its creative and mouth-watering cuisine. Renowned for its sumptuous dining and fine wine options, Mount Wolseley offers an extensive array of menus to satisfy even the most discernable palate.



The Green Barn at Burtown House and Gardens

Burtown House, Athy, Co. Kildare, R14 AE67

T: 059 862 3865

E: info@burtownhouse.ie

www.burtownhouse.ie

Onsite Jo's Pantry and Café selling delicious fresh, seasonal produce, Irish and French cheeses, olives, preserves, homemade pestos, dips with interesting dried foods, fresh sourdough breads and seasonal produce from the gardens.



The Green Barn Restaurant is easily accessible as a quick brunch or lunch stop, a more relaxed luncheon style affair or for dinner on Friday and Saturday night. Serving the freshest possible seasonal produce that comes straight from the kitchen gardens, polytunnels and surrounding fields. The ethos is on combining seasonal ingredients, using flavours, textures and colours.

The Green Barn's inspiring interior spaces are rustic and contemporary, with an amazing view of the kitchen garden, with different art exhibitions, large photos from the acclaimed *Vanishing Ireland* books, as well as sculptures from Zimbabwe and by Irish artists. Interior artefacts and antiques sourced specifically for the Green Barn are on sale in the shop.



Lennons @ VISUAL

Old Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 A3K1

T: 059 917 9245

E: eat@lennons.ie

www.lennons.ie

Open for lunch Wed & Thurs, 11am - 3.30pm (last orders), Fri & Sat, 11am - 3pm (last orders)

*Dinner: Fri - Sat from 5.30pm
Sunday lunch 12pm - 3.30pm (last orders)*



Dynamic and eclectic food is served in this contemporary and award-winning restaurant and café located in the VISUAL Centre in the fabulous surroundings of Carlow College. Lennons are committed to providing good honest food produced with passion and attention to detail while using only the finest Irish meat, sustainably caught fish and locally sourced ingredients. The intention is to provide a restaurant that will suit all preferences and dietary needs with a carefully chosen menu including gluten free, vegetarian and healthy options.

Winner of 'Best Customer Service' in Leinster at the Restaurant Association of Ireland (RAI) Awards 2017



Lemongrass Restaurant

Kennedy Avenue, Carlow, R93 A8N4

T: 059 9139392

E: carlow@lemongrass.ie

www.lemongrass.ie

Open Wed - Sun



All food is hand prepared by Asian chefs using all natural ingredients - no MSG preservatives or artificial colourings. Lemongrass is the healthy option - as a lot of the food is wok fried, not only is it non-fattening it is also coeliac friendly.

You should never feel too full when leaving the restaurant, but you will leave satisfied.



Liberty Tree Restaurant and Corries Bar & Bistro

Talbot Hotel Carlow, Portlaoise Road, Carlow, R93 Y5O4

T: 059 915 3000

E: reservations@talbothotelcarlow.ie

www.talbotcarlow.ie



The Liberty Tree Restaurant is located on the fourth floor of the Talbot Hotel Carlow overlooking stunning views of the rolling Carlow countryside. The ambience in the restaurant exudes warmth and friendliness providing diners with a vast range of delicious cuisine to choose from. There is no need to look any further for a restaurant with this gem right on the doorstep. Offering modern, fresh and homemade cuisine using only the best ingredients, all locally sourced where possible. The quality of the delicious menus ensures the commitment to excellence in food and service is maintained. Corries Bar and Bistro is a favourite with locals and residents offering an excellent choice of food, drink, friendly service with a smile and a variety of entertainment. Delicious carvery lunches are served daily or choose from an extensive bar menu.



Lord Bagenal Inn

Main Street, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow, R93 E189

T: 059 977 4000

E: info@lordbagenal.com

www.lordbagenal.com

*Breakfast: 7.30am-10.30am,
Lunch: 12pm-2.30pm (5pm Sunday)
À la carte: until 9pm (8pm Sunday)*



The Lord Bagenal Inn, providing excellence since 1979, is a multiple award-winning family-run hotel and restaurant set on the banks of the River Barrow in the heritage village of Leighlinbridge. Offering contemporary Irish and international cuisine using the finest local products, along with daily specials from locally sourced suppliers.

AA Rosette Accredited Restaurant for Culinary Excellence between 2018-2022. Numerous Wine Awards including Wine Spectator & Decanter Wine Magazine.



RESTAURANTS

Lotus Chinese Restaurant

Unit 2, Kennedy Avenue, Carlow,
R93 P7W4 (beside Carlow
Shopping Centre)

T: 059 913 1986

E: lotuscarlow@gmail.com

Special 4 course menu (Mon-Fri)

All night

Special 2 course menu

(Sun/Bank Hols) 3.30pm-7.30pm



Established in 1988, the Lotus Chinese Restaurant is the oldest and leading Chinese restaurant in Carlow. Located in the heart of Carlow Town, they have a strong reputation for exquisite food, friendly service and a range of fine wines.

Offering a variety of Cantonese, Chinese and European dishes with seafood a speciality. All groups are welcome. Also features a hot pot menu as an alternative healthier option. Delivery service six days, 5pm until late, student discount available.



Plum Tree Bistro & Bar

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

Woodford Dolmen

Hotel, Kilkenny Road,
Carlow, R93 N207

T: 059 9142 002

E: info@woodforddolmenhotel.ie

www.woodforddolmenhotel.ie



Awarded Carlow's Best Hotel Restaurant and Best Casual Dining by the Restaurant Association of Ireland, the Plum Tree Bistro is highly renowned for its fabulous traditional Irish and international cuisine. Head chef Caolan, along with his dedicated team, carefully designs seasonal menus emphasising the taste and freshness from the vast range of local produce. The kitchen also boasts seasonings from its own on-site herb garden. Food is served throughout the day, from its award-winning Barrow Valley breakfast to its locally sourced evening menu until 9pm Sunday – Thursday, 9.30pm Fridays and 10pm Saturdays.



Rachel's Garden Café

Arboretum Home and Garden
Heaven, Old Kilkenny Road,
Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow,
R93 P9F4 (Exit 6 off M9)

T: 059 972 1558

E: info@arboretum.ie

www.arboretum.ie



The award-winning Rachel's Garden Café at Arboretum is a self and assisted service restaurant which champions Irish and preferably locally sourced produce, a particular favourite is the Beef Braised in O'Hara's Stout which is brewed by the Carlow Brewing Company only 5km down the road. Enjoy breakfast (including 'the full Irish') from 9am and lunch including soups (gluten free), salads, daily specials and a roast of the day from 12 noon. The tempting desserts are all made on the premises and special dietary needs are catered for with gluten-, sugar- or dairy-free options. The little ones are kept happy with a children's menu, indoor and outdoor play areas and a fun maze. Tempting afternoon tea options are available, bookable in advance. Pre-booked groups and tours are welcome.



The Railway House Bar and Restaurant

Church Street, Bagenalstown,
Co. Carlow, R21 W688

T: 059 972 0676

E: markdoyle.railway@yahoo.com



Situated in the centre of Bagenalstown, Doyle's Railway House Bar and Restaurant is a haven for the weary shopper, a shelter for the tired traveller and a refuelling depot for the hungry passer by. A hearty carvery lunch is served daily from 12pm-2.30pm and there is a full menu in the bar and restaurant from 2.30pm – 9pm. Family-run it provides well priced, delicious food in comfortable surroundings in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. A function room caters for 120 people and may well be the solution for a party or business event.



New Moon Indian Restaurant

Church Street, Tullow, Carlow,
R93F6P0

T: 059 918 0851 or 059 918 1654

E: newmoonindi@yahoo.ie

www.newmoontullow.ie



In India, food, culture, religion and regional festivals are all closely related. Indian food is characterised by a great variety of foods, spices, and cooking techniques. At New Moon, everything is cooked after the order and dishes can be customised upon request. Cooking food for everyone, from children to adults, they offer a children's menu, curry, noodles, kebabs, tandoori, biryani, seafood, vegetarian and so on. Award-winning Indian restaurant with each dish distinguished by its sophisticated use of spices and herbs. All food is cooked uniquely for you.



The Merry Tree Restaurant

Rathwood, Rath, Tullow,
Co. Carlow, R93 X3F9

T: 059 915 6285

E: info@rathwood.com

www.rathwood.com

Second restaurant/café – The
Wood Shed Café situated beside
the Ark Indoor Playcentre



From a light snack to a full meal the award-winning Merry Tree Restaurant has it all; seating 300 in a spacious and comfortable restaurant. Rathwood is famous for its homemade desserts. Hot food lunches seven days per week with a full deli and sandwich range including local, organic salads. Full Irish breakfast Monday to Saturday with buy one get one free each Saturday morning until 11am. Childrens' menus and a free outdoor children's play garden makes Rathwood a great place for younger folk to eat too!



RESTAURANTS

The Tullow Gate

JD Wetherspoon, 7 Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 YC66

T: 059 914 2432

E: p7390@jdwetherspoon.co.uk

This Wetherspoon pub restaurant takes its name from the Tullow Gate, one of the four town gates of the old walls around Carlow. In 1361, 'improvements' to the walls were carried out at a cost of £500. However, in 1577 it was recorded that the walls of Carlow were "in ruins and down in many places". The pub serves breakfast from 8am each day and a full food menu from 11.30am until 11pm daily, as well as offering a wide range of both Irish and international alcoholic beverages. A fantastic range of food and drink products are on offer, while the pub also has a lot of local history and artwork which is another great reason to visit.



Reddy's Bar and Restaurant

67 Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 FN44

T: 059 914 2224

E: info@reddyscarlow.ie

www.reddyscarlow.ie

Food served daily from 9.30am

Seven days a week

Private parking for guests



Renowned for home-cooked food including our famous roast joints, homemade soups and delicious desserts. High quality produce is sourced locally. Catering for small and large parties, Reddy's always work hard to accommodate your specific requirements. Various private function areas available which can cater for up to 100 guests. Whether you would like to host a party, a small gathering or just drop in for a drink, morning coffee and pastry or lunch with a friend we look forward to welcoming you.



Sha-Roe Bistro

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 KH61

T: 053 937 5636

E: sha-roebistro@hotmail.com

www.sha-roe.ie



Beautifully appointed little restaurant, in an immaculately maintained 18th century building. Henry Stone, awarded Chef of the Year 2011 by the Georgina Campbell Guide, is exceptionally talented. This delightful spot is definitely worth a detour - for Henry's seasonal menus and outstanding cooking and the atmosphere of relaxed efficiency. Best Newcomer of The Year 2007 - Georgina Campbell Guide. "Bib Gourmand", Michelin Guide 2008-2022, Best Chef of The Year 2011 - Georgina Campbell Guide.



The Tara Arms Traditional Irish Pub and Restaurant

Church Street, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 T6K8

T: 059 915 1305

E: info@taraarms.ie

www.taraarms.ie



The Tara Arms has established a reputation for excellent food and value for money in a friendly atmosphere. It is Olde World in style with two open fires, tiled floor, mahogany back bar and furnishings. Offering the very best of local produce it is perfect for families, business, casual, special events and private parties.

From a tasty snack to an unbeatable burger, the Tara Arms menu offers something for everyone and is your ultimate destination venue where you will receive a warm welcome and a great dining experience.



Teach Dolmain

76 Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 NY70

T: 059 913 0911

E: info@teachdolmain.ie



Teach Dolmain has built up a firm reputation for great food and fantastic service in a relaxed setting. Food is served from 9.30am for the breakfast and coffee menu, lunch is served from 12pm-3pm while an à la carte menu is available from 3pm-9.30pm daily. Join us every Thursday night for our famous traditional Irish music session. Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights also has entertainment in the form of DJs and live bands. Visitors are guaranteed a warm and friendly Céad Mile Fáilte.



T.D. Molloy's

Seven Oaks Hotel and Leisure Club, Athy Road, Carlow, R93 V4K5

T: 059 913 1308

E: info@sevenoakshotel.com

www.sevenoakshotel.com



TD Molloy's Restaurant offers intimate surroundings in which to enjoy the very best of Irish and international cuisine. The head chef and his highly trained team carefully plan menus to suit the needs and requirements of guests using only the finest and freshest local produce. Private dining option also available. A superb sit down lunch and the popular Night Bites menu is served every evening until 9.30pm Monday - Thursday; 10pm, Friday and Saturday and 9pm on Sundays. No bookings required.



CAFÉS

Goodly Barrow Museum and Café

Ballyellen, Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny, R95 W8FY

T: 087 2440551

E: GoodlyBarrow@gmail.com

www.goodlybarrow.com

Open: Wed-Sun, 9.30am-5.30pm



Goodly Barrow Café and Waterways Museum has something for everyone. They specialise in soups and salads that you won't get anywhere else. They also do a fine selection of other delicious freshly made foods, cakes and desserts. As well as traditional fare, they have the best vegan and gluten-free options around. The friendly team and laid back environment make the Goodly Barrow a great place to meet and soak up the history and natural drama of the great River Barrow.



CAFÉS

Flynn's of Tullow

Dublin Road, Tullow, Co. Carlow,
R93 A2F2

T: 059 915 1205

E: admin@flynnstullow.ie

Open daily until 10pm



Established in 1924, Flynn's of Tullow is a 72 seat foodhall complete with Supermac's Restaurant and Papa John's Pizza. It also includes a Top Oil forecourt, Spar shop with Insomnia coffee, Smooch ice cream, off licence, ATM, Wi-Fi, toilets and lottery all under one roof. 140 car parking spaces are shared with Aldi while the forecourt includes a brush wash, self-serve cabinet wash and vacuum. Buses welcome.



The Lazy River Café

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

Unit 1, Castleview Quay,
Graiguecullen, Carlow, R93 ET22

T: 059 917 3588

E: thelazyrivercafe@hotmail.com

W: www.thelazyriver.com

Open daily Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm
Sat and Bank Holidays, 8am-4pm



The Lazy River Café set on the banks of the River Barrow along the Barrow Way walk specialises in delicious and reasonably priced cuisine. Traditional home baking includes home-made muffins, desserts, breakfasts, wraps and full dinners served in a relaxed, welcoming setting. Try some of their homemade breads, scones, tarts and cakes from their new mini-bakery. Delicious range of flavoured coffees. Outdoor catering for all occasions. Free Wi-Fi.



The Mullicháin Café

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

The Quay, St Mullins,
Co. Carlow, R95 XY93

T: 051 424 440

E: themullichaincafe@gmail.com

W: www.themullichaincafe.ie



The Mullicháin Café is part of the tastefully restored old grain store buildings that were used by the Grand Canal Company and then Odlums, the millers. Enjoy freshly ground coffee and a range of homemade scones and cakes. Or why not have a glass of wine or craft beer with an extensive menu which includes homemade soups, tasty salads or a panini/ciabatta wrap. Open 11am - 6pm, weekends in February and daily March - October.



McDonald's

Kennedy Avenue, Carlow, R93 P2Y2

T: 059 913 5460

W: www.mcdonalds.ie

Open daily at 8am for breakfast.

Sun-Wed until 11pm

Thur-Sat until midnight



Since 1999 McDonald's have been proud to serve the people of Carlow Town and county. Owned and managed locally, open seven days per week with a modern reimaged restaurant.

All bacon, cheese, water and eggs are 100% Irish, together with Bord Bia certified Irish beef and National Dairy Council Irish milk. Delivery now available. Free Wi-Fi.



McDonald's Drive Thru

Rathcroogue, Junction 5, M9
(near Carlow Town), R93 N2X8

T: 059 914 2802

W: www.mcdonalds.ie



Dual lane Drive Thru located at Circle K Service Station on the N80 and Junction 5 of the M9 with self-order kiosks and table service. Ideal for buses and large groups with generous parking and easy access from major routes. Open 24/7.



Sugar & Spice Café at Altamont Plant Sales

Altamont Walled Garden, Altamont
Gardens, Ballon, Co. Carlow, R93 N882

T: 053 937 6388



This café provides comfort and refreshment in the beautiful setting of the Walled Garden in Altamont, offering delightful home baked cakes and scones with freshly brewed tea and coffee. Light snacks including sandwiches and salads - summer months. Open daily, February to October, 11am - 4.30pm. Opening times may vary, depending on the weather.



Supermac's Drive Thru

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

Dublin Road, Carlow,
R93 KV96

T: 059 918 2855

Drive thru restaurant open seven days per week serving quality food from 10am - 11.30pm. Groups welcome.

Seating for up to 100 people. Easy access to M9 at Junction 4. Home delivery available on 059 9130444.



Supermac's Family Restaurant & Papa John's Pizza

TAKE-AWAY
OPTIONS

Burrin Street, Carlow, R93 YH79

T: 059 913 0444

E: carlow@supermacs.ie

W: www.supermacs.ie

W: www.papajohns.ie

Supermac's offer a unique experience of a national brand providing quality products. For clubs, societies or families seeking to host a large party or event Supermac's set up facilities ranging from a small gazebo to a full mobile unit. Supermac's cater for corporate events and offer a wide range of finger foods including the Papa John range of pizzas that will satisfy all guests. Free Wi-Fi.

Open daily. Home delivery available on 059 913 0444



Thrive Café

Market Square, Tullow, Co. Carlow,
R93 W3K8

T: 059 915 1607

E: thrivecafetullow@gmail.com



Thrive Café is dedicated to providing processed-free, refined sugar-free, nutritious breakfasts, snacks, smoothies and lunches to customers with sustainability at the core of their values. They cater for all diets with a range of GF, vegan, vegetarian and dairy free options and host a range of events and classes promoting a healthy lifestyle from within. Visit their café or follow them on social media.



PUBS

The Ardattin Inn Bar, Restaurant & Off Licence

Ardattin, Co. Carlow, R93 FK20

T: 059 915 5652

E: info@ardattininn.com

W: www.ardattininn.com



The Ardattin Inn is situated in the picturesque village of Ardattin. A fantastic country pub comprising bar, lounge, venue and snug bar. Close to Altamont Gardens and the River Slaney. Available for all functions and parties.



PUBS

Carpe Diem

Court Place, Carlow, R93 XA03
T: 059 913 4580



Carpe Diem, a hidden gem in the heart of Carlow. Three-time winner of the prestigious County Carlow Pub of the Year. Enchanting open fires draw you into the relaxing atmosphere. Carpe Diem is your ultimate destination for a great night out with a range of local beers such as O'Hara's Pale Ale, Falling Apples Cider, O'Hara's Red Nitro, 12 Acres and an extensive gin menu.



Corcoran's Bar

24 Governey Square, Carlow, R93 C2D9
T: 059 914 1200
E: mfinn101@gmail.com



Corcoran's Bar is the oldest original bar in Carlow Town, located just before you cross the bridge to Graiguecullen. The bar offers a relaxing atmosphere and a special old-world charm. Features some of the best examples of Victorian hand-carved mahogany and ebony in the country. Selections of international and local craft beers, along with a choice of Irish whiskeys are always on offer.



Dinn Ri Bar

Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 C8X5

T: 059 913 3111
www.dinnri.com

Open daily: 10.30am-11.30pm (Sun-Thurs) / 10.30am-12.30am (Fri & Sat)



Dinn Ri Bar exudes comfort and style and has several spaces within that are suitable for dining, casual drinks and all kinds of celebrations and get-togethers. Patrons can relax in 'The Library' whilst reading the paper over a beverage or enjoy a delicious meal from the Food Fayre and Deli Hall. Additionally, there is the option of popping out to The Terrace to enjoy the midday sun or for drinks in cosy surroundings under the stars at night. Dinn Ri Bar is renowned for delicious food and carvery lunches.



Dunne's Pub

Clonegal, Co. Carlow.
T: 053 937 6336

Dunne's is the final pub at the end of the infamous Wicklow Way Walk and offers a complimentary certificate for completion of the walk. The inside of the pub tells a story of the area with artefacts from the past hanging on the walls and pictures, photos and other mementos on display.



The Fighting Cocks

Templepeter, Nurney (N80 Wexford Road), Co. Carlow, R93 A436

T: 059 910 4509
www.fightingcockspub.ie



A family-run bar, The Fighting Cocks is passionate about offering seasonal fresh and locally sourced produce. Food is served every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12- 8 p.m., 8km from Carlow Town. Join us in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere, with a large array of old photos and memorabilia dating to 1874. Ample car parking, free Wi-Fi.



JJ's Bar,

Mill Street, Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 PD35
T: 059 915 1285



Traditional, comfortable bar in the heart of Tullow Town. A warm welcome and friendly service is guaranteed from the hospitable owner John Jackman. Music on selected nights at weekends and you can enjoy traditional Irish music once a month.



Joyce's

Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 DV76
T: 059 977 3468



This traditional pub features an old bar and grocery with a special charm of its own. Family-run and steeped in sporting tradition, visitors can expect a warm welcome and lots of lively chat. Live music some weekends.



Osborne's Bar & Lounge

Clonegal, Co. Carlow, Y21 XT32
M: 085 862 7891

E: osborne.clonegal@gmail.com
Winner of Carlow Best Pub of the Year at the National Restaurants Awards 2019



Enjoy a lovely pint on the coffin board counter top and wonder how the floating shelves are still doing their job. This bar is the original end for so many Wicklow Way walkers, complimentary completion certificates have been available for the last 25 years for those weary walkers who succeed. Visitors are welcomed with a broad smile, a wee chat and an encouraging farewell with an invitation to return again soon.



Osborne's Bar & Storehouse

Rathanna, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 R2A4
M: 085 862 7891



Situated at the foot of Mount Leinster, Osborne's Bar is a beautifully restored traditional pub which retains much of its Victorian interior. Along with the 12 bed, self-catering facility next door, one can explore all the area has to offer. Then relax, soak up the atmosphere and enjoy a drink at this beautiful bar.



O' Shea's Pub

Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow, R95 C92R
T: 059 977 3106



This charming, rural pub in traditional style serves a great pint of stout, a wide variety of craft beers and whiskey or tea and coffees if that's your tippie! An ideal spot for a relaxing drink or a night out with friends. The pub hasn't changed much in almost 100 years.



Pint Depot

Royal Oak, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, R21 CR28
T: 059 972 3723



A sports bar showing all matches, sporting events and horse racing. It has a secure walled-in beer garden. Food served seven days per week from 8.30am - 6pm. All parties catered for and external catering also. Entertainment: music every Friday and Sunday.





CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

See What You're Missing

View the pulpit from Carlow Cathedral, included in 'A History of Ireland in 100 Objects'. See the smoking pipe of Captain Myles Kehoe, killed at the infamous Battle of Little Big Horn. Home to Kevin Barry's last cigarette and his death mask, a poignant new exhibit, with both items dating from the time of his execution aged 18 in 1920. Find out about the 19th century scientist John Tyndall, the first person to discover the greenhouse effect. See our latest exhibit, the grave effigy of Robert Hartpole, Constable of Carlow Castle and High Sheriff of Carlow, dating from 1594.

Admission is FREE

Museum Opening Hours

Opening Hours (as of April 2022) are Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. – 1.00 p.m., with the last admission at 12.30pm, 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m., with the last admission at 4 p.m. (last admission 30 minutes before closing)

However, visitors are advised to check our website at www.carlowmuseum.ie for details of our current opening hours. The museum is self-guided, but tours for groups (10+) must be pre-booked.

Carlow County Museum, College Street, Carlow Town
Entrance through Carlow Tourist Office. R93E3T2
Tel: 059 9131554 Email: museum@carlowcoco.ie
www.carlowmuseum.ie



Carlow Historical
and
Archaeological Society



Carlow
County
Museum



IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST®



SEE PAGE 7 FOR FURTHER DETAILS

PUBS

Roberts Bar and Lounge

Myshall, Co. Carlow, R21 ET29

T: 059 915 7612



This family-run, traditional establishment offers the tourist a warm, hospitable welcome. Cosy open fire, comfortable surroundings, suitable for all kinds of functions.

Light lunch/snacks, tea/coffee available. Live entertainment most weekends.



Reddy's Bar and Restaurant

67 Tullow Street, Carlow, R93 FN44

T: 059 914 2224

E: info@reddyscarlow.ie

www.reddyscarlow.ie



Reddy's of Carlow, the oldest pub in the County, celebrates their heritage with a warm welcome. A much loved destination by locals as well as those from further afield, Reddy's has been a landmark in the town for over 250 years. Food served daily from 9.30am, 7 days a week. Private parking for guests.



Teac Uí Braonáin/Brennan's

Main Street, Leighlinbridge,
Carlow, R93 R642

T: 059 9721890

Located on the Main Street in Leighlinbridge, beside the River Barrow this cosy pub/coffee shop has to be accessed through the shop - an almost unique feature today! Family-run, this property has been completely revamped in recent times. A warm and friendly welcome is guaranteed from the owners Richard and Geraldine Brennan.



The Tara Arms Traditional Irish Pub and Restaurant

Tullow, Co. Carlow, R93 T6K8

T: 059 915 1305



Three-time winner of the prestigious County Carlow Black and White Pub of the Year. The Tara Arms, Tullow is your ultimate destination venue where you'll receive a warm welcome and a great dining experience. An open fire, a friendly welcome and a nice smile for everyone.



The Thatch

Maryborough Street,
Graiguecullen, Carlow, R93 H4F8

T: 059 913 4108



Busy pub on the Graiguecullen side of Carlow Town with friendly staff and a welcoming atmosphere, renowned for its quality pint and lively character. Traditional music some Monday nights - check for details.



Tully's Bar

148-149 Tullow Street, Carlow,
R93 W243

T: 059 913 1862



Spacious and stylish pub in the centre of Carlow Town with a great ambience and warm welcome.

Lunch available from 12pm - 3pm.





Feel the mystery and magic that surrounds Europe's largest portal dolmen...

In a quiet, picturesque meadow just 3km outside Carlow Town, proudly stands the magnificent Brownshill Dolmen.

Europe's largest portal dolmen has captured the imagination of historians, antiquarians and visitors alike for centuries.

Journey back in time to prehistoric Ireland, as you take in this majestic megalithic tomb and its 100 tonne granite capstone, first constructed almost 5,000 years ago.

Just one of the many hidden gems waiting for you to discover in Carlow, when you wander off the track.

carlow
wander off the track


CarlowTourism.com

Discovering
BEGINS HERE

 IRELAND'S
ANCIENT EAST

 COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

The character and heritage of Carlow's rural towns and villages reflect some of its most charming aspects. Riverside towns with graceful medieval bridges, old stone-built estate towns, bustling market towns and hillside villages add their individual colour and character to the Carlow landscape. Use the map on page 22 of this publication to guide you on your touring route.

ARDATTIN: a picturesque country village, 6km south of Tullow near the River Slaney. Located closeby was **Ballintemple House**, birthplace of Pierce Butler, soldier, statesman and signatory of the American Constitution. Although the house was sadly destroyed by fire in 1913, an extensive tree nursery tended by the State forestry service, Coillte, now occupies the Ballintemple Estate which is also the base of the National Tree, Shrub and Seed Centre in Ireland. The beauty of this village is strengthened by the pride of its people, which is reflected in its overall character.

BAGENALSTOWN: Situated on the River Barrow, Ireland's second longest river, Bagenalstown derives its name from Walter Bagenal, who, in founding the town, had visions of mirroring the city of Versailles in northern France. However, his efforts became frustrated due to the re-routing of the coach road away from the town. He left more than enough for visitors to enjoy with handsome stone public buildings including the impressive **Courthouse**, now a public library and its **neo-classical railway station**. Visitors can explore the town by following the dedicated heritage trail which starts from the quayside, opposite the Maltings building. This former mill town made full use of the River Barrow to transport grain, beet, coal, turf and Guinness by barge, evidence of which can be seen in its fine industrial architecture. One of the finest views of the town may be enjoyed on the approach road from Leighlinbridge and includes the spire of **St Andrew's Catholic Church** and the fine tower of St Mary's Church of Ireland Church.

ATTRACTIONS: The ruins of the early 14th century **Ballymoon Castle** and 13th century **Ballyloughan Castle** are located near the town. Heritage Trail – follow the map available locally and heritage plaques on the various buildings for an interesting two hour walk of the town.



Quayside in Bagenalstown

Wells Church, situated closeby, is the preserved ruin of a church dating back to 1262. The church is surrounded by an enclosed and well-maintained graveyard which is still in use today.

ACTIVITIES: **Outdoor heated swimming pool.** The **McGrath Complex** offers fine sporting facilities including cricket, hurling, soccer and Gaelic football, a tennis court and pitch and putt course. The River Barrow in this area is renowned for **coarse fishing** with wheelchair-friendly fishing stands located near the swimming pool. The **Barrow Way** long-distance walking route.

BALLYMURPHY: A gentle hillside village captured in a glen on mountain slopes which derives its name from Matthew Murphy of Clonroche, County Wexford, a powerful landowner and builder of a castle in the area in the mid-17th century. This is the first village encountered on the County Carlow side of the Blackstairs Mountains by the traveller passing close to the picturesque Sculloge Gap. Closeby on Shannon's Lane is the site of the 1941 German bombing which killed three members of the Shannon family.

ACTIVITIES: **Walking:** South Leinster Way.

BALLON: The Blackstairs and Wicklow Mountains provide a dramatic backdrop to the pastures and cornfields, the winding country roads and traditional farmsteads around the charming rural village of Ballon. Ballon Hill, 450 ft above sea level provides magnificent views of the surrounding countryside while map boards and a heritage trail with accompanying map supplies information on the historical significance of the area.

ATTRACTIONS: **Organic Garden** – grounds of Ballon National School, **Ballon Tree and Heritage Trails**, Lecky Graveyard. **Siopa Glas**, national award-winning community shop, **Altamont Gardens**, **Lace Gallery** and **Malone's Fruit Farm**.

BORRIS: is a Georgian, granite village, full of charm and heritage nestling in the fertile valley of the River Barrow and the ideal gateway for nearby Mount Leinster and the Blackstairs Mountains. Its old, granite houses and Victorian shop fronts have remained largely intact. Most of the town's buildings stand on the north side of a steeply rising main street, overshadowed by the presence of the very substantial demesne walls of Borris House. Built in Tudor style, Borris House is the home of the Kavanagh family, direct descendants of the McMorrough Kavanagh dynasty, former Celtic Kings of Leinster. Visitors are invited to explore this charming town by following a series of mapboards located at the upper and lower end of the town, and at Borris Viaduct.



Borris town and 16-arch viaduct www.borrisviaduct.ie

ATTRACTIONS: **Borris House** is open on selected days throughout the year.

Clashganny Lock, 5km south of Borris on the R729 New Ross Road offers a panoramic view of Carlow's waterways system and two looped walks through the beautiful Clashganny Forest.

ACTIVITIES: **Hang-gliding and paragliding on Mount Leinster**, walking on the South Leinster and Barrow Ways. **Coarse angling**. Clashganny Forest Looped Walks.

CARLOW: In Carlow Town the visitor is presented with a rich tapestry of history dating back a millennium and beyond, many associated famous names and an architectural heritage telling the story of the town's evolution since the Normans first came here in the 12th century. With a population of over 20,000, Carlow is the county town and gateway to the South-East standing at the confluence of the Barrow and Burren rivers. Tradition has it that the junction of the two rivers once covered such a large area of ground that a lake was formed, or, as some believe four lakes, hence the name Ceatharloch or City of the Four Lakes. Famous names associated with Carlow include George Bernard Shaw, the dramatist and critic whose mother Lucinda Elizabeth Gurley was born in Carlow. The famous impressionist artist Frank O'Meara was born at 37 Dublin Street on March 30th 1853, sharing that birth date with Vincent Van Gogh.

ATTRACTIONS: Carlow Town Heritage Trail. Carlow Town Park, a 12.8 acre park on the banks of the River Barrow offering a host of amenities for all the family. **Brownhill Dolmen** – Europe's largest portal dolmen, with a capstone weighing 101 tonnes, 5km from the town on the R726. **Carlow Art Collection** for visitors to enjoy at Carlow College, St Patrick's. **VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art**.



The Liberty Tree, Potato Market, Carlow



CLONEGAL: received the accolade of Ireland's tidiest village in the 2014 and 2015 Tidy Towns Awards and is well worth a visit for its stunning planting and colourful flower displays. The village of Cluain na nGall, or in English, *the Meadow of the Stranger* is set in a valley between the Blackstairs and Wicklow mountains. It is often referred to as the "Switzerland of Ireland" for its outstanding natural beauty. With a backdrop of tree-clad hills and abundant wild and bird life centred on its picturesque river, Clonbeg is a delight to explore.

ATTRACTIONS: Huntington Castle, Weavers Cottages, Wicklow Way Walking Route.

CLONMORE: is one of Carlow's most important early Christian sites with a wealth of history for visitors to discover. Situated in the scenic north-eastern corner of County Carlow, the present road cuts through the monastery founded by St Maedóc around 600 A.D. 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. **P.J. McCall**, the famous balladeer was born here and composed hundreds of ballads of historic interest including *Boolavogue* and *Follow Me Up to Carlow*.

FENAGH: Fenagh is known for its architectural design and granite buildings with fine examples of stone work to be seen in the houses and surrounds throughout the village. One of the most famous families associated with the area was the Lecky Watsons, a Quaker family, who first settled here in the early 18th century.

HACKETSTOWN: Resting in the lush green landscape of Ireland's Ancient East, Hacketstown is built on a hill close to Carlow's north eastern border in the foothills of the Wicklow Mountains. It lies in the shadow of Eagle Hill, a steeply rising mound to the south west side of the town, on the summit of which is a prehistoric earthwork.

ACTIVITIES: Situated at the foothills of the Wicklow Mountains, the area has a wide variety of walks.

KILDAVIN: A unique little village outside Bunclody, off the main Carlow-Rosslare Road (N80). Kildavin offers beauty, peace and unspoilt scenery synonymous with Ireland's Ancient East as well as the opportunity to explore its rich and varied past in holy wells, church ruins and simple country life.



Young's Bridge, near Kildavin

ATTRACTIONS: The South Leinster Way long distance walking trail.

Visit www.clonegalkildavin.ie

LEIGHLINBRIDGE: With its narrow, winding streets that rise and fall with the lie of the land, grey stone maltings and jagged castle ruins overlooking an ancient bridge, Leighlinbridge opens a vista of Ireland's Ancient East to the visitor. The development of Leighlinbridge village was greatly influenced through its historic importance as a transport route.

ATTRACTIONS: The Millennium, Vivaldi and Sculpture Gardens and Garden of Remembrance. Ireland's first all-county World War 1 Memorial. Black Castle, Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven.

ACTIVITIES: Walking along the Barrow Way.

MILFORD: A pleasant stop on the River Barrow which was once the centre of a thriving milling industry. The mill at Milford was established in the 1790s and is one of the most extensive and celebrated in Ireland. Electricity was generated from here in 1891, providing Carlow with the distinction of being the first inland town in Ireland and Britain to receive electric power.

MYSHALL: lies at the foot of the northern slopes of the Blackstairs Mountains which provide a magnificent backdrop to the rich pasturelands and winding country roads. The village forms part of the stunning Mount Leinster Heritage Drive which offers beautiful views of Mount Leinster and the Nine Stones vantage point. The village enjoys a long religious history with St Finian and St Columbanus both born in the village.

ATTRACTIONS: The Adelaide Memorial Church. Built as a miniature of Salisbury Cathedral in England, this architectural gem was completed in 1912 by John Duguid of Dover, to commemorate his wife Adelaide who died in 1903 and his daughter Constance who was killed in a riding accident near the village. The key is held locally by Mrs Bridie Daly (white bungalow opposite church grounds).

T: 059 915 7671-please phone in advance or alternatively contact John Kelly
T: 059 915 7584 **M:** 087 929 3661.

RATHVILLY: The picturesque village of Rathvilly in north Carlow lies at the foothills of the Wicklow Mountains. It is a most historic village as the Kings of Hy Kinsellagh had a residence here. St Patrick visited and baptised its king, his wife and his infant son in 450AD at the Holy Well, which may still be viewed in the local graveyard.

ATTRACTIONS: Monument to Kevin Barry, a local boy who joined the fight for Irish freedom with 2020 marking the 80th anniversary of his execution.

ST MULLINS: is a scenically, charming riverside village on the banks of the River Barrow with an impressive ecclesiastical history and is one of the most significant archaeological sites in Ireland's Ancient East, standing in importance with Glendalough and Clonmacnoise. The area gets its name from St Moling (614–696AD). The townland 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 with its history in both fishing and canal boat transportation.

ACTIVITIES: Barrow Way walking route.

TINNAHINCH/GRAIGUENAMANAGH: are popular boating centres on the River Barrow whose character reflects a bygone time when the area was an important focal point for commercial traffic on the river. Both towns are connected by a beautiful bridge, constructed in 1767 when the canal system was being built. One of Ireland's finest Cistercian monasteries was founded in 1204 by Norman monks from Stanley Abbey in Wiltshire.

TINRYLAND: St Joseph's Catholic Church, built in 1819, contains the striking stained glass window to the memory of Captain Myles Keogh who was born in Leighlinbridge in 1840 and was killed at the battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876.

TULLOW: is located in the River Slaney Valley in the midst of rich, fertile agricultural land. Tullow reflects an enduring historical culture with many items of antiquity including an ancient holed stone "Cloch a Phoill" (Ardristan), a pre-historic ring fort (Rathgall) and a pre-historic burial place (Bawnoge). Tullow is also the ancestral home of the famous Wolseley family – Frederick York Wolseley gave his name to the Wolseley car. It is known locally as the granite town because of the fine stone used in its walls and public buildings.

ATTRACTIONS: Tullow Museum, Bishop Daniel Delany Museum, Rathwood and Rath Wood Forest Walks.

ACTIVITIES: Golfing at nearby Mount Wolseley Golf Club.



COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Carlow County Council welcomes you to Carlow
Fáilte, Bonjour, Hola, Guten Tag, Czesć!



VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art
& George Bernard Shaw Theatre



The Barrow Way at Tinnahinch Lock



View from Kilbrannish Forest Recreation Area
to Mount Leinster, Blackstairs Mountains



Altamont House and Gardens



Fireworks at the annual Carlow Arts Festival



Carlow County Museum

Take a holiday break in Carlow this year and enjoy
the great amenities on offer and its friendly people

Carlow County Council - working with communities, enhancing well being and our natural
environment and heritage, supporting economic development, tourism and the arts

For further information: t: 059 917 0300 e: secretar@carlowcoco.ie w: www.carlow.ie