

GALWAY TOURIST GUIDE

Eolai Turasora na Gaillimhe

FREE



JCI 
Galway

Junior Chamber International Galway - 47th Edition



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Galway Tourist Guide 2019 - 2020
47th Edition

Junior Chamber International Galway
www.jcigalway.org



President of JCI Galway

People often ask me 'What is JCI?' and there are many different answers. In my opinion JCI trains the young adults of today to be the future leaders of tomorrow.

Junior Chamber International Ireland (JCI) has been active since 1957 and is a voluntary, world-wide, independent, personal development organisation for young professionals and entrepreneurs aged between 18 and 40.

We develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of our members on a personal basis but also in the community, in business and internationally.

We have 150,000 members world-wide, across 5,000 local chapters and located in 100+ countries. The shared purpose, common vision and camaraderie among JCI members is palpable. No one who's attended a European Convention or graduated from Leadership Academy would deny it.

Our national and international conventions, workshops, trainings and awards programs, everything we do, is produced and directed by our JCI boards, ran by people just like you and I.

If you feel the power of that community like I do—the power to improve places, connect people and drive prosperity—then you really ought to be a member of JCI.

In 2020 we want you to be #InspiredByUs

Colleen Baxter
JCI Galway President





Mayor of the City of Galway

Méara na Gaillimhe

Cuirim fáilte roimh an eagrán seo den Treoirleabhar do Thurasóirí de chuid Junior Chamber International, acmhainn iontach le heolas a chur ar fáil do chuiditheoirí chun na cathrach maidir leis an réimse leathan gníomhaíochtaí atá ar fáil.

Is cathair dhátheangach spleodrach í Gaillimh ó cheann ceann na bliana le féilte idirnáisiúnta seanbhunaithe mar Fhéile na nOisrí, an Fhéile Ealaíon agus Rásaí na Gaillimhe ina n-imeachtaí rialta ar an bhféilire agus an-tóir orthu i measc mhuintir na háite agus cuairteoirí araon. Ar leac an dorais den Ghaeltacht is mó sa tír, is féidir leat a bheith ag súil go gcloisfidh tú agus go bhfeicfidh tú an Ghaeilge agus tú ag dul tríd an gcathair. Tá ceol agus damhsa traidisiúnta mar chuid den eispéireas cultúrtha anseo i nGaillimh freisin.

Mar aon le líon mór imeachtaí eile a bhaineann le bia, greann, faisean, spórt agus cultúr, bíonn breis agus 120 féile in aghaidh na bliana i gCathair na Gaillimhe amháin! Tá radharc tíre gleoite i nGaillimh agus neart deiseanna ann le sult a bhaint as gníomhaíochtaí mar iascaireacht, siúlóireacht, galf agus spóirt uisce. Bronnadh teideal Réigiún Gastranamaíochta na hEorpa ar Ghaillimh in 2018 mar aon le Príomhchathair Chultúir na hEorpa in 2020, agus tugann siad seo deis dúinn gach atá luaite thuas a léiriú agus a chur i láthair don domhan. Táim ag tnúth le fáilte a chur romhat go Gaillimh, an tseoid seo atá i bhfolach ar chósta thiar na hÉireann. Táim cinnte go mbainfidh tú sult as do chuairt agus go ndéanfaidh tú plananna chun filleadh arís go luath.

I welcome this edition of the Junior Chamber International Tourist Guide, which is excellent in informing visitors to our city of the vast array of activities available.

Galway is a bilingual vibrant city all year round with several well-established international festivals such as the Oyster Festival, Arts Festival and Galway Races regular events on the calendar and ever popular amongst locals and visitors alike. On the doorstep of the largest Gaeltacht in the country, you can expect to hear and see 'an Ghaeilge' as you stroll through the city. Traditional music and dance is also part and parcel of the cultural experience here in Galway. Together with so many more events around gastronomy, comedy, fashion, sport and culture we offer in excess of 120 festivals per year within Galway City alone! The scenery in Galway is picturesque with ample opportunity to enjoy activities such as fishing, hiking, golf and a host of water sports.

Galway was proudly awarded the title of 2018 European Region of Gastronomy as well as 2020 European Capital of Culture which allows us capture all of the above and present it to the world. I look forward to welcoming you to Galway, to this hidden gem on the West coast of Ireland where I am sure you will enjoy your stay and make plans for a quick return.

An Comhairleoir Mike Cubbard, Méara Chathair na Gaillimhe



Cathaoirleach of Galway County Council

Supporter of the JCI Galway Tourist Guide

I want to thank the Junior Chamber International Galway for giving me as Cathaoirleach of Galway county Council this opportunity to showcase to all the visitors to County Galway what we have to offer them.

From our diverse and unique population of 260,000 people including Ireland's largest Gaeltach, landscape, lakes, mountains, valley, islands and bogs. Our towns and villages, history and heritage, our architecture, ancient seats of learning, our great houses and castles

from the Atlantic Ocean to the majestic Shannon from the river Suck to the Slieve Aughty mountains.

We want to invite all visitors to join with us in our music song and dance, to meet our artists and performers, our poets, play writers and story tellers. To enjoy excellent food and drink prepared and presented by professional staff, to enjoy the hospitality of our many quality hotels.

Jimmy McClearn, Cathaoirleach of Galway County Council



Fáilte Ireland

Supporter of the JCI Galway Tourist Guide

On behalf of Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority of Ireland, welcome to Ireland, and welcome to Galway! Together with our partners across the tourism industry, we thank you for making the time to visit with us and hope that you have a most enjoyable and memorable experience during your time here.

Galway is located mid way along the Wild Atlantic Way, a 2,500 km long-distance coastal driving route stretching from the Inishowen peninsula in Donegal to Kinsale in Co. Cork.

Galway is located mid way along the Wild Atlantic Way, a 2,500 km long-distance coastal driving route stretching from the Inishowen peninsula in Donegal to Kinsale in Co. Cork. This is more than a driving route however, the Wild Atlantic Way is attracting visitors from all walks of life, and all corners of the globe, each looking for different experiences, as it offers a world of treasures within a series of looped itineraries off the main route. So get out there, and experience it!

Galway City is one of Ireland's most historic and happening hubs, with its Spanish Armada links and vibrant events like the Galway Arts Festival, Oyster Festival and annual races. From the Prom in Salthill, look west across the great sweep of Galway Bay and watch the sun go down on the Gaeltacht Aran Islands and south Connemara, while enjoying a night out to remember.

Tucked away in little village and towns not far from Galway City you can also indulge your passion for great wine and food. You might hear some Irish spoken as you stop off in Gaeltacht regions, or why not chase some adventure. This region of the Wild Atlantic Way is a salty, open-air playground, loaded with dazzling beaches and Blueway trails, with opportunities to kayak, kite-surf, paraglide, swim and dive. Killary Harbour is a great place for this, home to one of our Signature Discovery Points, it is one of only three fjords in Ireland, and its here you will find some of the most dramatic scenery in Ireland and two world class adventure centres. There's history and culture too, visit our Signature Discovery point at Clifden's Derrygimlagh Bog, where Alcock and Brown landed after the first transatlantic flight in 1919.

Ireland is a land of some amazing and unexpected stories and natural storytellers. We pride ourselves in the art of storytelling in our writings, poetry, images, music and dance. Even the stones tell tales! We hope that the magic of Ireland, its landscape, heritage and people will engage you and help you to create and share your own stories of Ireland.

Miriam Kennedy, Head of Wild Atlantic Way, Fáilte Ireland



Junior Chamber International Galway

Project Chairman

On behalf of the committee team of the 47th Edition of the Galway Tourist Guide, I am delighted to welcome you to our City and County.

Keith Killilea, JCI Galway Past President 2016 & 2019

Welcome to Galway



Welcome to our City and County guide which offers a selection of our finest accommodation, food experience, activities & adventures along with shopping and a calendar of events. Galway is a modern exciting and progressive city and is well known as the Cultural capital of Ireland. Galway County is the 2nd largest county in Ireland and is steeped in history with many quaint towns and villages for you to enjoy using our free maps along with city walking tours and county driving tours. *We hope this guide assists you during your stay and please mention this "JCI Guide" when responding to adverts.*



Fáilte go dtí ár eolai turasora chathair agus chontae na Gaillimhe. Cuireann an leábhran seo reims leathan eolais den scoth ar fáil dhuit ar loistin, bia, gníomhaíochtaí agus imeachtaí. Chomh maith le sin, tá eolas ar shiopadoireacht agus feilire d'imeachtaí na bliana don turasoir. Is cathair beomhar, briomhar agus nua aimseartha í cathair na Gaillimhe. Tá sí ag fás agus ag forbairt agus tá clu agus cáil uirthi mar phríomhchathair cultúrtha na hÉireann. Sí contae na Gaillimhe an dara chontae in mo in Éirinn agus tá sí lán le stair. Tá go leor bailte ársa agus sráidbhailte ar fud na háite gur feidir leat taitneamh a bhaint astu, (Feach-leárscail saor in aisce leis an leábhran seo). Sa leábhran freisin tá eolas ar thuras coise thart ar an gcathair chomh maith le turas cairr timpeall an chontae. Ta suil agam go cabhroidh an eolai turasora seo leat fad is atá tu ag fanacht i nGaillimh. Faoi dheireadh, bheadh muid buíoch ach ár n-ainm a luaigh nuair atá tu ag deanamh teagmhail le lucht fograíochta an leabhráin.



Esta guía de la ciudad y del condado le da la bienvenida. Galway es una ciudad moderna, fascinante y en evolución, conocida como la capital de Irlanda.



Benvenuti nella nostra Guida della città e della contea che offre una selezione delle nostre migliori sistemazioni, consigli gastronomici, attività & avventure, i luoghi per fare acquisti e conosciuta come la capitale culturale d'Irlanda. La Contea di Galway è la seconda contea d'Irlanda per grandezza ed è immersa nella storia con le sue città e villaggi pittoreschi, che potrete visitare usando le nostre cartine gratuite e attraverso le escursioni a piedi in città e le escursioni in autobus nella contea.



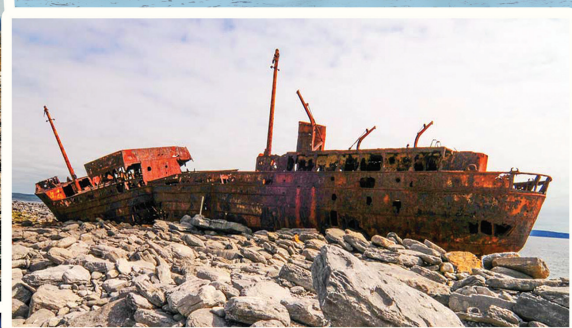
Nous vous souhaitons la bienvenue sur Galway. Notre Guide de la Ville et du Comté vous propose une sélection de nos meilleurs logements et adresses gastronomiques. Vous trouverez également un panel d'activités et d'excursions, ainsi que de bonnes adresses pour faire les magasins. Un programme d'événements et festivités est également à votre disposition. Galway est une ville moderne, vivante et toujours en mouvement. Elle est réputée pour être la capitale culturelle de l'Irlande. Nous espérons que ce guide vous aidera lors de votre séjour. N'oubliez pas de mentionner ce - Guide JCI - lorsque vous visiterez les adresses ou utiliserez les services suggérés.



Herzlich willkommen zu unserem Stadt- und Countyführer. Hier bieten wir Ihnen eine große Auswahl der besten Unterkünfte, Restaurants, Freizeit- und Abenteuerangebote, außerdem Einkaufsmöglichkeiten und einen Veranstaltungskalender. Galway ist eine moderne, aufregende und fortschrittliche Stadt, die als die kulturelle Hauptstadt Irlands bekannt ist. Der County Galway ist der zweitgrößte County Irlands, wo die Geschichte allgegenwärtig ist. Wir hoffen, dass dieser Reiseführer Ihnen während Ihres Aufenthalts hier dienlich sein wird.

THE ARAN ISLANDS

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HISTORY of Galway City

Galway City is the capital of the West of Ireland. A thriving modern city with a University, Institute of Technology, Shipping Port and the Innovation District.

The origin of the place name “Galway” (Gaillimh in Irish) is uncertain with many suggested origins based on historical fact or folklore. It is known, however, that among the Gaelic Irish, foreigners were called ‘na Gall’, hence the suggestion that Gaillimh was “the place of the foreigners”. The term probably derived its name from the Anglo-Norman settlement founded by the de Burgos in the 13th century.

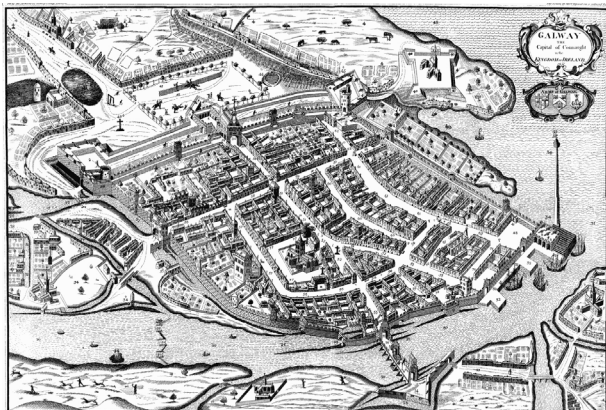
After capturing the local dún, or fort, from the O’Flaherty Clan in 1234, Richard de Burgo built his castle there in 1236. By 1270, the city wall building programme began, and the medieval city grew inside a great

encircling wall. By the 17th century, fourteen massive wall towers including Shoemakers and Penrices wall towers (both of which have been restored and are located in the Eyre Square Shopping Centre) and three corner bastions such as the Spanish Arch extension of 1584, secured the city from attack.

Medieval Galway became a powerful city-state. It traded in wine, spices, salt, animal produce and fish and became the next port after London and Bristol. The wealth of its citizens was expressed in the many fine stone-faced buildings. The Church of St Nicholas of Myra started in 1320, had become its most important building.

In 1484 Richard III of England gave it mayoral status, power was transferred from the de Burgos to the leading merchant families (fourteen tribes). The aftermath of the Parliamentary and Religious Wars of the 17th century saw Galway much reduced in status. A partial recovery based on its waterpower industries occurred during the 19th century. In the last quarter of the 20th century, Galway concentrated on promoting its tourist potential and building a strong local industrial base.

**STAIR NA
GAILLIMHE**



1651 Pictorial Map

James Hardiman's
History of the Town
and County of
Galway.

Galway is best known as the 'City of the Tribes', which dates back to between the 13th and 14th centuries when 14 wealthy merchant families mainly of English origin commanded the commercial, political and social development of Galway. These Catholic merchant families only became mockingly referred to as the 'Tribes' of Galway by Cromwell's forces during their invasions in the 1650s; however the Tribes later adopted this title as a mark of defiance.

The 14 families are Athy, Blake, Bodkin, Browne, D'Arcy, Deane, Ffont, Ffrench, Joyce, Kirwan, Lynch, Martyn, Marris and Skerrit.

These Tribes were proud and chose their own special coat of arms, some without heraldic authority and had them carved on limestone which can still be found on and in buildings in Galway City today.

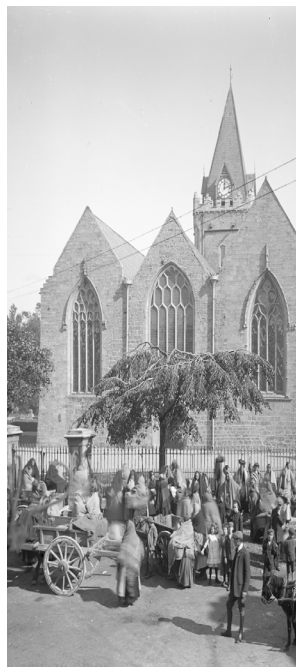
The redevelopment of Eyre Square in Galway has included a row of flags displaying the coats of arms of all the 14 Tribes. Walking through the main thoroughfare in Galway City, the Tribes still make their mark today, with their names present in the local business establishments and city roundabouts.

National Library of Ireland
& William Lawrence



THE TRIBES

City of the Tribes



Walking Tour Guide

City of the Tribes walking tour, siuloid cathair na dtreabh. The Galway walking tour takes in the important areas of the city. Notably these sites are associated with the 14 Tribes of Galway and give an idea on how they shaped the social, cultural and economic development of the city.

1. City Hall, College Road (Tribe: Ffont)

The City Hall is home to Galway Corporation. Galway was given city status in 1484. Galway's first Mayor was elected a year later. While Officers of the Corporation were elected annually, it was later dissolved in 1841. It was 1937 before the Corporation was revived. On formal occasions the Mayor of Galway carries the Civic Sword and Mace. In 1610, the Sword was created locally to commemorate the Charter of King James I, while the mace was made in 1710 and was presented to Mayor Edward Eyre two years later. When the Old Corporation was dissolved in 1841, the last Mayor, Edmond Blake was allowed to keep both items. Upon the restoration of the Corporation in 1937, a campaign was started to have the Sword and Mace returned to Galway. At that time they were held by the Hearst Foundation of America. In 1961, this was finally achieved by Mayor James Redington who travelled to New York to reclaim these items. **Map No. 8**

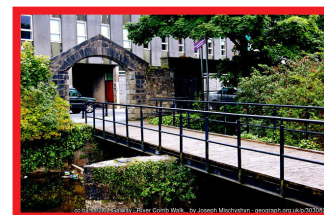
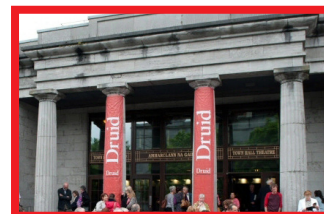
2. Eyre Square Centre, Eyre Square (Tribe: Athy)

In 1991 the Eyre Square Centre was opened. Within the centre stands the longest remaining section of the old town wall. After the foundation of Galway in 1232, the town walls originally consisted of stakes of wood. After numerous fierce attacks by the surrounding Irish, work began on building a more formidable stone structure, incorporating the tall watchtowers and was finally completed in 1388. Over the course of the next couple of hundred years Galway town withstood attacks from the Clannicard Burkes, the O'Flaherty's, and Red Hugh O'Donnell, who, frustrated at being unable to take over the town, eventually burned its suburbs. By the early 1800's the walls and towers were decrepit, and were eventually demolished and replaced with new housing. When work began in the late 1980's, a decision was taken to incorporate the remaining section of the wall, and restore the two towers, most notably the Shoemaker's Tower.

3. Browne Doorway, Eyre Square (Tribe: Browne)

The Browne Doorway was built in 1626 and occupied the facade of the house of Martin Browne Fitz Oliver in Showmaker's Lane, now known as Abbeygate Street. Browne was a wealthy merchant, one of the Tribes. In 1870, his house, long derelict, was moved to Eyre Square as a symbol of Olde Galway. In 1609 Martin's father, Oliver, was elected Sheriff but refused to take the Oath of Supremacy (allegiance to the British crown) and consequently was not appointed. In 1632, his eldest son, Andrew, was appointed Mayor, but was dismissed for the same reason and also in 1632, two of Andrew's daughters, Catherine and Mary, joined the Order of Poor Clares, Mary became Abbess in 1647 and commissioned Dubhaltach Mac Fhirbhisigh to translate the Rule of St Clare from English to Irish. Forced into exile to Spain in 1652, she wrote a now lost religious book in Irish, which included narrative events of Galway during the 1600s. The Poor Clare's convent is a silent order of Catholic nuns located to this day at Nun's Island near the city's cathedral.





4. Town Hall Theatre, Woodquay (Tribe: Skerritt)

Galway's Town Hall was built in 1820, it was initially used as a courthouse. The Town Hall and its sister building, the current Courthouse was built directly across the river from the county jail to facilitate easy transportation of prisoners between the courthouse and the prison. From the 1950s onwards, it was used as a cinema but by the late 1980s it was in a very bad state of repair. In 1993, the Galway Corporation began a two-year renovation of the building as a theatre. It is now opened year-round, and is the host to all types of performance art, from ballet to drama. It has featured artists such as David Gray, the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company and performances of plays by Irish playwrights such as Tom Murphy, JM Synge, Martin McDonagh, Marina Carr, Marie Jones and JB Keane. **Map No. 3**

5. Corrib River Walkway, Waterside (Tribe: Ffrench)

The Corrib River Walkway is a beautiful quarter-mile path from the Salmon Weir Bridge to Wolfe Tone Bridge, flanked by a former millcourse waterway on the east and the Corrib River on the west. This river was previously known as the Gaillimhe, and the lake it flowed from as Lough Oirbsen. The Corrib is both the shortest and most powerful river in Europe, approximately four miles in length from the lake to the sea, and is driven by water draining from one of the largest lakes in Ireland, Lough Corrib. Until the last century, it acted as a way of travel for people living in remote areas of Connemara and north Galway, who docked at small islands which the city is now built upon. The name of one adjoining district, Woodquay, is a reminder of this. Located on the west-side of the bank is the National University of Ireland, Galway, and the Cathedral of our Lady Assumed into Heaven and St Nicholas. The University was founded in 1849 as Queen's College Galway. The Cathedral was officially opened in 1965, and hosted John Paul II on his visit to Ireland in 1979. It is located on the site of the former county Gaol, which was built in 1820 and eventually demolished in 1959 with a memorial on the south side of all those who died in the prison.

Walking Tour Guide

6. Blake's Castle, Quay Street (Tribe: Blake)

Blake's Castle is now incorporated into the front of Jury's Hotel & a cafe located inside of it. The Blakes became one of the prominent and prosperous of the Tribes, with several of them holding offices of Mayor, Bailiff and Sheriff. Three of Richard's brothers were renowned for their duelling abilities and were nicknamed 'Pistol Blake', 'Blake the Lamb' and 'Blake God Damn'. A more sinister bearer of the name was Captain James 'Spanish' Blake, who in the wake of the Spanish Armada of 1588 plundered its shipwrecks and captured surviving sailors for the English. In 1590s he became a member of the English secret service where he operated as a spy in France and Spain.

The information he provided helped the English deal with Irish rebels and the Spanish invasion in Ireland in 1602. In the latter year, he offered a sum of several hundred pounds to travel to Spain and assassinate the exiled Irish rebel leader, Red Hugh O'Donnell. Blake, himself, travelled to Spain and within weeks O'Donnell had died under suspicious circumstances. Blake died peacefully in Galway in 1630. Blake's Castle acted as Galway's prison from the late 17th to early 19th century. Often overcrowded, it was stated on one occasion to be holding in excess of one hundred inmates when built to hold forty. Only intended as a temporary solution before a proper prison was constructed, its defences were undermined in October 1741 when the entire population of the prisoners escaped by throwing a rope over its walls.

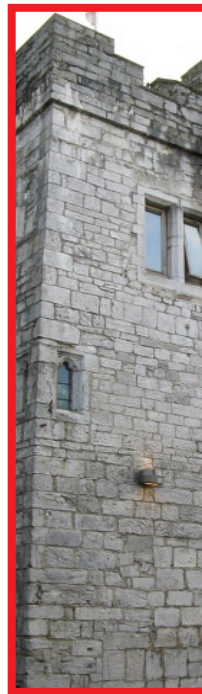
7. Spanish Arch, Long Walk (Tribe: Morris)

The Walkway leads past Jury's Hotel, which is built on the site of Galway's first mill. This was erected in 1270 by Walter de Burgh, Earl of Ulster and son of the founder of Galway. Upon crossing O'Brien's Bridge at the south section of the town. It acquired its name from the frequent visits from Spanish ships that traded with Galway. Its most famous visitor was Christopher Columbus, who visited Galway in 1477 en route to Iceland. A statue was erected in 1992 to commemorate his visit.

The Spanish Arch was formerly known as the Fishmarket because women from the Claddagh area sold fish, which were caught by their husbands. The Claddagh - an Irish word meaning strand - is located directly across the mouth of the Corrib from the Spanish Arch. It is famous for a type of boat, the Galway Hooker, which has been used for hundreds of years to transport turf, fish, cattle and people all over the Galway Bay area. These boats are still used in the west of Ireland today.

8. Tigh Neachtain, Cross Street (Tribe: Martyn)

One of Galway's best known, Tigh Neachtain (Neachtain House) on the corner of Cross Street and Quay Street has been run by the Neachtain family since 1894. Prior to this the family ran a pub on nearby High Street. During the Irish War of Independence (1919-1921) it was machine gunned by the notorious English paramilitary group, the Black and Tans who objected to the family displaying their name in Irish. Wooden support beams uncovered in nearby Kenny's Bookshop and Art Gallery were carbon dated to the 1470's, indicating the age of Tigh Neachtain. For centuries it was the home of the Tribal Kirwan family, who were native of Ulster but had migrated to Galway c1488. Much of Kirwan's property within Galway was obtained through marriage with the Devlin family, it is thought that Tigh Neachtain was originally held by this family. In the 18th and early 19th century, Tigh Neachtains was home to the Martin family of Dangan and Ballinahinch, who were closely related to the Kirwan's through marriage.



9. Red Earl's Lane, Quay Street

Red Earl's Lane was named after the Red Earl of Ulster, Richard Fitz Walter de Burgh (1259 - 1326), grandson of Richard Fitz William de Burgh, who founded the town of Galway in 1232. The first fort, built by the O'Flahertys in 1124, was destroyed and rebuilt on several occasions until captured in 1232 by de Burgh. It was from here that the first urban area began. The de Burgh family used Galway as their primary base from which to conquer vast areas of Connaught and beyond. The Red Earl was the most powerful member of the family, and amongst the last to hold Galway as his personal property. After his death, the family were riven by internal dispute, and over the course of the 14th century became 'more Irish than the Irish themselves', leaving a power vacuum in the town, which was filled by the Tribal families. In 1999 excavations carried out in the courtyard of the Galway Customs House unearthed the remains of the Hall of the Red Earl, which was built on the site of the old O'Flaherty fort.

10. Kirwan's Lane, Cross Street (Tribe: Kirwan)

Kirwan's Lane derived its name from the Kirwan family owning the property in this section of Galway, but it has been most associated with the Martin family, in particular Humankind Dick Martin. In 1779, Martin founded Galway's first theatre, located in Kirwan's Lane for the entertainment of his wife, Bridget Barnewall. Both he and his wife frequently participated in plays performed there, as did the family tutor, Theobald Wolfe Tone. Later to become famous as one of the chief leaders of the unsuccessful 1798 Irish Rebellion. In the early 1780s Wolfe Tone had an affair with Martin's wife. Luckily for him, it was a brief duration and Martin did not learn of it until years later. In 1792, Martin divorced his wife following an affair with another man and consequently was awarded a staggering sum of £20,000. Mad with rage, he

had his horses' shoes forged in gold, and on the long journey back to Galway, he threw every last pound out of his carriage window. In 1822, he successfully passed an 'Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals', popularly known as the Martin's Act. After being unseated as an MP in 1826, he fled to France to avoid being jailed for debt and died at Bolouge in 1834. Kirwan's Lane was briefly home to a nunnery in the 17th century, but by the 1900s had fallen into severe decay. Renovation began of the entire lane in the mid-1990s, and it has now become a vibrant centre of commerce and residence.



Walking Tour Guide

11. Claddagh Ring, Quay Street (Tribe: Joyce)

The Claddagh Ring has been associated with Galway since at least the 17th century. It consists of a pair of hands enclosing a heart and topped with a crown, representing friendship, love and loyalty respectively. It was originally used as an engagement and wedding ring. It's exact origins are obscure, however, it is generally agreed that the goldsmith, Richard Joyce, helped widen its popularity if not actually creating it. While en route to the West Indies as a



servant in 1675, Joyce's ship was attacked and its crew and passengers were captured by Algerian pirates. Joyce was subsequently sold as a slave to a goldsmith in North Africa where he learned the art so well that he became highly regarded by his master. In 1689, he was freed and returned to Galway where he settled and worked in the trade until his death in 1737. Several examples of his work are still in existence.

There are two ways to wear a Claddagh ring. If it is worn with the heart pointed outwards, it is to show that the wearer is single and fancy free. If it is worn with the heart pointing inwards, it demonstrates the wearer is poken for.

12. The King's Head, High Street (Tribe: Deane)

After the siege of Galway ended in April 1652, the occupying English forces took over many of the buildings for their own use. Among these was Colonel Peter Stubbers, who took over a three-storey building on High Street, much to the disgruntlement of the previous owner. However, the two did meet regularly for drinks, and was said to have entered into partnership, exporting tobacco from Virginia. However, one night after a few drinks too many, Stubbers let slip a deadly secret when he boasted to Deane, gesturing with arm that "This hand knew the strenght of Charles Stuart's neck. Apparently, Stubbers was the unknown executioner of King Charles I in January 1649. When the Stuarts were restored to the crown in 1660, Deane blackmailed Stubbers and received enough capital to buy an estate at Balroebeck, Tuam.

The King's Head has a basement, which was common to most of the houses constructed in Galway centuries ago, and were used to store hogshead barrels of wine from which the Galway tribes made their fortunes. In 1615 alone it was recorded that 1200 tons of Spanish wine were shipped to Galway. As Galway was the prime port and market town for the entire Irish west coast, its merchants enjoyed a virtual monopoly on the sale of wine, salt and other goods. Consequently, by the first decade of the 17th century this enabled them to buy vast areas of land not only in County Galway but also all over Connanght. It also enabled them to build and fortify the town to such an extent that for at least three hundred years it was reckoned to be a commercial and urban centre second only to Dublin.





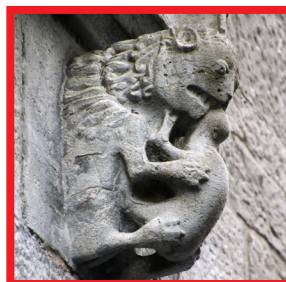
13. Lynch's Castle, Shop Street (Tribe: Lynch)

The Lynch family were the first among the Tribes in power. The earliest recorded member of the family is Thomas de Linch, provost of Galway in 1274. Moreover, the name Lynch features prominently in all surviving records of Galway life from the 13th century onwards. The family were instrumental in wresting the town from the lordship of the Burkes and setting it on the path to independence. Also they were almost entirely responsible for the instrument of autonomy, the Charter of Mayoralty, granted to Dominick Duff Lynch Fitz John by King Richard III in London in 1484. Pierce Lynch Fitz John became the first Mayor in 1484, while as recently as 1998 Angela Lynch served as Mayor of Galway. In total, sixty-four individual Lynches have occupied the office of Mayor, some serving as many as three times, and many more served as Bailiffs, Sheriffs and in other responsible positions.

Lynches Castle stands on the northwest side of the Four Corners, the junction of Abbeygate Street Upper and Lower Williamsgate Street, and Shop Street. It is the only complete medieval building left intact and still in use in Galway.

It is four stories high, and is thought to date from about the late 15th century as it features the arms of the King Henry VII (reigned 1484-1509). It is adorned with magnificently sculpted coats of arms, decorations and gargoyles. It has been in use for various commercial purposes since at least the early 1800s, and in 1930 was bought by Allied Irish Bank, who undertook a programme of restoration.

The most well known story of concerning the Lynch family is the connection with Mayor James Lynch Fitz Stephen, who is alleged to have hung his own son after being found guilty of murder in the 1490s. However, those suspicions of the veracity of the incident - which is said to have taken place at a free-standing wall with a pointed window adjacent to St Nicholas' graveyard - have pointed out that the date of the stone work is wrong for the period in which the story is set. Moreover, there is no record of such an event before 1822. It is now generally regarded as an entertaining myth because as was pointed out some years ago "You can't hang a 15th century man out of a 16th century window!".



Walking Tour Guide

14. St Nicholas' Church, Market Street (Tribe: D'arcy)

St Nicholas' Church was completed about 1324, and is believed to be the oldest parish church still in use in the west of Ireland. Originally consisting of a simple narrow rectangular structure, it was added to and rebuilt a number of times over the next three hundred years until it reached its present proportions. Endowed by all the Tribes in its early history, it also contained many magnificent tombs of the families, almost all of which were systematically destroyed by the Cromwellian army in the 1650s, who used it to stable their horses. Evidence of their vandalism can still be seen. All but a single angelic sculpture had their faces removed. In the early 1600s it was converted into a Protestant church but was re-consecrated for Catholics following the successful siege of Forthill in June 1643. Given back to the Protestant faith after the Confederate Wars, it was briefly in Catholic hands again during the War of the Two Kings (1689-1691), but was afterwards returned to Protestant use, which it still remains. In 1647 bloodshed was witnessed at St. Nicholas' church where disputing factions of Confederates drew swords with each other, resulting in one death.

Monuments within its walls commemorate Galway men who died in wars abroad in the 19th and early 20th century. The oldest surviving tombstone within the church dates to about 1280, and commemorates Adam Bure, a Norman who probably took his name from the town of Bure-in East Anglia. It is called the Crusader's Tomb from a mistaken assumption that it marks the grave of a Knight Templar. St Nicholas' Collegem which was demolished in 1836, occupied the area surrounding the church along what is now Market Street and Lombard Street. It may have been the site of one of the schools operating in Galway in the first half of the 16th century, which attracted thousands of students from all over Ireland on an annual basis. One person virtually forgotten by history, yet who was closely associated with the college was the county Sligo-born historian and genealogist, Dubhaltach Og Mac Fhirbhisigh (c1600-1671). Whilst at the college during the years 1649-1650 he wrote what was to become the largest and most extensive Irish genealogical work ever written, popularly called 'Leabhar Genealach / The Book of Genealogies'. It contains the genealogies of almost all the main families of Ireland, as well providing priceless and unique information on obscure people and septs.

Nowadays the site hosts the weekly Saturday market where all kinds of goods including food, clothing, craft and domestic goods are sold.

The Tribes of Galway by Adrian Martyn, is currently available in all Galway book shops



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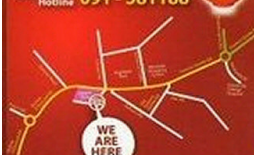
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Galway Festivals



The Galway Sessions

We would like to extend a true Galway welcome to visitors & locals alike to this year's Galway Sessions Festival. This year, our focus is on the deceptively simple looking but quite complicated instrument, the harmonica. **June 2020**

Galway County Show

We have Ridden horse, Side Saddle RDS Qualifiers, Showing classes, Irish Pony Society (IPS), Connemara Ponies, Young Horse Showing classes, Welsh Ponies, Cattle, Sheep, Dog Show, Vintage cars, Trade stands, Food and Stalls. **June 2020**

Gaelforce West

It is a multi-sport adventure race involving cycling, running, hiking and kayaking. Challenging, exciting and inspiring - the terrain includes mountain scree, bog land, trails, sealed roads and the majestic waters of Killary Fjord. **June 2020**



SeaFest - Maritime Festival

Ireland's national maritime festival. SeaFest is a fun, free summer festival for all ages and the programme of events includes a seafood fair, seafood cookery demonstrations with celebrity chefs and seafaring family fun. **July 2020**

Galway Film Fleadh

The Galway Film Fleadh is a six day international film event held every July. We welcome a mad diversity of filmmaking from all around the world, all generations and cultural backgrounds. Now in its 32nd year. **July 2020**

Galway Fringe Festival

The Galway Fringe Festival aims to provide a platform for emerging and established artists to perform and showcase their work and to elicit new artistic developments. The ultimate aim is bringing the Arts into the community. **July 2020**

Galway International Arts Festival

Is a major cultural organisation, which produces one of Europe's leading international arts festivals. Performing and visual arts which takes place in and around Galway City. **July 2020**

Galway Races

Widely regarded as the highlight of the Summer season in Ireland, Galway Races offers you fantastic horse racing, live music and entertainment, stunning fashion, family fun and an electric atmosphere. **August 2020**

Galway Heritage Week

Galway's rich heritage is celebrated with over 100 different events are planned in and around Galway City, & County. The programme highlights the abundance of great work that is carried out in all communities in Ireland. **August 2020**

Galway International Oyster Festival

Events for all to enjoy; seafood trails, oyster opening (shucking) championships including the Oyster 'Olympics' or World Oyster Opening Championship, foodie talks, live music & tasting events. **September 2020**

Tulca Festival of Visual Arts

Since 2002, TULCA Festival of Visual Art has captivated Galway city with an eclectic display of Contemporary Art. Irish curators present innovative exhibitions that provoke and energise audiences into the world of the Visual Arts. **November 2019**



Arts & Culture



GALWAY AT THE MOVIES

The diverse scenery of Ireland has captivated filmmakers since the establishment of film as an artform and many have used Galway, most notably the rugged landscape of Connemara, as a backdrop to their work. It has often been said that when a production is shot in Ireland the true star is the countryside itself and the Galway landscape has certainly been used to stunning effect in the following three films.

MAN OF ARAN

Robert J Flaherty's 75 minute black and white film depicts the ongoing struggles of an island family against the sea. Visitors to Inis Mór will still find a daily screening of this monumental film.

THE QUIET MAN

The most famous movie to originate from the Galway area is the 1952 John Ford classic; *The Quiet Man*. The film relays the love story of returned emigrant Seán Thornton (John Wayne) and Mary-Kate Danaher (Maureen O'Hara). The movie was nominated for seven Academy Awards and won four, including the Best Director Award. While much of the film was shot in county Mayo, the heart of the movie lies in Tully Strand in Connemara where Seán and Mary-Kate embarked upon their married life at the cottage *White O'Mornin'*.

THE FIELD

The 1990 Jim Sheridan adaptation of the John B Keane play *The Field* brought Richard Harris, John Hurt and Tom Berenger to Leenane, in north Galway. Based on true events, the film tells the story of 'Bull' McCabe and his quest to retain a field that his family had farmed for generations, and which his mother had died upon. Harris' portrayal of 'Bull' McCabe earned him a 1991 Academy Award nomination for Best Actor.

AN TAIBHDHEARC

Catch a show at Galway's oldest theatre, An Taibhdhearc. Immerse yourself in the local language and culture for a night of unforgettable entertainment.

Tel: 091 563600 www.antaibhdhearc.ie

TOWN HALL THEATRE

This 400 seat municipal theatre hosts a full range of theatre, concerts, film screenings and events with a 52 week programme of events.

www.tht.ie

DRUID THEATRE COMPANY

The world-renowned Druid Theatre Company has received critical acclaim for its productions, some of which have played on Broadway and London's West End.

www.druid.ie

MACNAS

The highly acclaimed community arts and theatre group are best known for their street performance and large scale spectacle productions.

www.macnas.com

GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

The Galway Arts Centre is the west of Ireland's leading multidisciplinary arts centre, which aims to encourage all forms of artistic activity.

www.galwayartscentre.ie

GALWAY CITY MUSEUM

Galway City Museum has three floors of exciting exhibitions engaging visitors in the archaeology, history and sea science of Galway. The attraction is one of Galway's most popular cultural hotspots and welcomes over 200,000 visitors per year.

www.galwaycitymuseum.ie

LIBRARY, HYNES BUILDING

The main Galway City Library is located on St Augustine Street in the city centre. Its services are complemented by two other city libraries: Ballybane and Westside.

Shopping Guide

Claddagh rings and Aran jumpers are traditional crafts unique to the Galway area and both make excellent souvenirs or gifts. However Galway has much more to offer, from large department stores and exclusive boutiques to street side stalls selling handmade jewellery. Don't forget the side streets as many of Galway's most interesting shops are located off the main thoroughfare. Check out St Nicholas' Saturday market for unique treasures.

LATIN QUARTER & LEFT BANK

Galway City has its own "Latin Quarter" and "Left Bank". This is the High Street, Church Lane and Quay Street area in the oldest part of the city. This area is awash with retail wonders, from weavers, silversmiths and potters, bookshops and art galleries, craft shops, toyshops and antique shops, hairdressers and boutiques, purveyors of woolly socks and long johns! These narrow streets have great charm, and an aura of antiquity.

Many of the buildings have cut stones, arches and old fireplaces that date back over several hundred years. To the rear of St Nicholas Church, Galway's famous bustling market has been trading in Church Lane in the centre of the city for centuries. The buzz of the market alone is a delight to feel, with stall upon stall selling fresh produce and locally produced crafts. The market is open Saturdays and Bank Holidays from 08:00 to 18:00 and Sundays 14:00 to 18:00, although most stalls will close when their produce sells out, get there before lunch!

THE FISHMARKET

The women of The Claddagh used to sell fish to the citizens of Galway from the fishmarket, now the site of the Portmore building and the courtyard in front of the Spanish Arch. The medieval quays were also here - this was confirmed by archaeological excavation carried out at the time that the Portmore building was being constructed - but were replaced by the present docks which was constructed between 1833 and 1840. The Claddagh is located across the mouth of the Corrib River from the Spanish Arch.



THE SPANISH ARCH, AN PÓIRSE CAOCH

The Spanish Arch is situated on the banks of the Corrib River. The two arches are not part of the old wall proper but are the remains of a strong extension to the walls built in 1584 to overlook, and so to protect, the quays. Relatively recent romanticism has named these 'The Spanish Arch', but the more pragmatic Ordnance Survey cartographers still call it 'The Blind Arch', the English translation of An Póirse Caoch, the name by which it is known to Irish-speakers. The attractive house adjoining 'The Spanish Arch' was formerly the residence of sculptress Clare Sheridan, and it was she who during the 1940s and early '50s obtained the fine portico from Ardfy House in Renville, Oranmore. Clare Sheridan was a cousin of Sir Winston Churchill and of Sir Shane Leslie, the noted county Monaghan Author. She lived such a hectic and interesting life that she has merited a full-blooded biography by her late cousin Anita Leslie, a resident in nearby Oranmore Castle. A competent and imaginative sculptress, her work is to be seen in many places - the 'Madonna of the Quays' which used to reside over 'The Spanish Arch' and the larger than life sized crucifix in Christ the King church in Salthill.





Author: Royal Claddagh CC BY 2.0

THE CLADDAGH RING, FÁINNE AN CHLADAIGH

For a genuine souvenir of Galway you can't beat the Claddagh Ring. A band of gold or silver with a motif of two hands clasping a crowned heart. It is a symbol of friendship, fidelity and love. Its name comes from the Claddagh fishing village situated on the outskirts of medieval Galway, between the modern city centre and Salthill.

The Claddagh Ring belongs to a widespread group called 'Faith' rings, or more frequently by the Italian name 'Fede' rings. They are distinguished by having the bezel cut or cast in the form of two clasped hands, symbolising trust or plighted troth. There are several variants of the fede ring, the commonest being that in which the hands clasp a heart between them. The variant to which the name 'Claddagh Ring' has been given is that in which the clasped heart is surmounted by a crown.

Tradition has it that in The Claddagh these rings were handed down from mother to daughter. They were used both as betrothal and marriage rings: worn with the crown towards the knuckle on betrothal and upon marriage with the crown towards the nail.

There are several popular versions of the origins of the Claddagh Ring, the two best-known of which attribute it to the Joyce family, one of so-called 'Tribes of Galway', albeit a family associated with the city of Galway rather than with The Claddagh.

1. Margaret Joyce married firstly Domingo de Rona, a wealthy Spanish merchant who traded with Galway. He died shortly afterwards, leaving her a considerable fortune. She later married Oliver Óg French, Mayor of Galway in 1596. Margaret used her fortune to build numerous bridges in Connacht and was providentially rewarded for her good work and charity by an eagle which dropped a gold ring, the original 'Claddagh Ring', into her lap.

2. Richard Ioyes (Joyce), a native of Galway was captured by Algerian corsairs (pirates) while on his way to the West Indies. He was sold as a slave to a wealthy Moorish goldsmith who trained him in the craft. In 1689 he was released from slavery and returned home to his native city. He brought with him the idea of the 'Claddagh Ring' - some of the rings stamped RI and bearing the mark of an anchor (thought to signify hope) are believed to be his work.

Many Galway jewellers continue the tradition of making the Claddagh Ring in their own workshops.



Sports & Leisure



Galway against Kilkenny in Hurling. Author: Sean Ryan

ACTIVITIES AROUND GALWAY

Whether indoors or outdoors, Galway provides a variety of sports and leisure pursuits for all tastes and ages.

TRADITIONAL BOATING - BÁDÓIREACHT

The rusty curves of the fountain in Eyre Square depict the characteristic sails of the Galway Hooker. Like the boats themselves, it is a powerful emblem of Galway's seafaring heritage, symbolising the importance of the sea and maritime trade in the development of the city. The Galway Hooker, along with the púcan, gleoiteog and curach are icons of a past way of life.

These distinctive boats were used to carry provisions, livestock and fuel and were often the only means of transport for people living in remote areas, particularly along the Connemara coastline and Aran Islands. In its time, the hooker was like no other craft. Instantly recognisable with its large distinctive brownish/red coloured sail and strong, sharp bow, these powerful boats were sturdy and quick. Perfect for navigating the subtleties of Galway's waters while hauling cargo often weighing up to 15 tonnes. The King of the Claddagh sailed a hooker with a white sail.

Famine, depleted fishing stocks and new technology eventually led to the demise of the hookers as working boats. Now numerous regattas and festivals honour the traditional boats throughout the summer months. During these festivals fleets of vessels compete in various classes of rowing and sailing. Family pride and the local rivalry always ensure a great sporting event and the celebrations ashore are lively and enjoyable for all. Further information from www.feilemara.ie

FISHING IN GALWAY - AG IASCAIREACHT I NGAILLIMH

Galway City and County has long been renowned for some of the most bountiful rivers, lakes and sea shore when it comes to both coarse, game and sea fishing. The untainted lakes and rivers make for a variety of challenging game including salmon, wild brown trout, pike, conger eels, mackerel and sea trout. The season runs from early February until late September. It is a familiar sight to see trout rising to catch the May fly. From May to June you



can witness the return of the Atlantic salmon up through Galway Bay and into the Corrib river. You'll find locals and tourists watching in amazement at the salmon, leaping the weir on the Corrib. The world-famous wild brown trout loughs of Corrib and Mask, spanning over 64,000 acres are unequalled for their high quality game angling. Lough Corrib holds trout and salmon and is regarded as the best game fishery in Europe. Connemara's landscape provides excellent salmon angling with a number of waterways having sea trout from mid-summer. The coast from Kinvara, in south Galway, to Leenane in the North, has hundreds of miles of shore and beach sea angling. Deep sea angling boats operate for six months of the year, catering for anglers who

catch many different species, including blue shark. Galway Bay - particularly around the Aran Islands - is the best place for blue shark, boats in recent times recording over 20 for a day. In late summer crowds of locals and visitors alike line the Salthill Promenade casting their lines into the sea and landing Mackerel by the score. Fly, coarse and spinning fishing tuition is provided by a number of individuals and specialised schools throughout the seasonal months along with

guided tours and boat hire. Salmon licenses can be purchased from tourist offices, fishing tackle shops or fisheries owners. License is not required for sea, coarse or trout angling. Information can be obtained from the Angling Offices, The Western Regional Fisheries Board, Weir Lodge, Earl's Island, Galway. Tel: 091 563118 F: 091 566335.

GALWAY TRADITION - 'KICK THE WALL'

Strollers, joggers, power walkers, children in buggies, locals, visitors, sightseers, teenagers all walk the prom on a daily basis - making this a most interesting spot for people watching if nothing else. Of course you can walk from the Spanish Arch to the end of the prom by taking the coastal road with spectacular views of Galway Bay all the way, passing by the swans and boats at Claddagh, the new causeway to Mutton island, then Grattan Beach, the Galway Atlantaquaria on your right and Seapoint.

Continue your prom walk past the front of the hotels and restaurants, Ladies Beach and Leisureland. You are almost there now.... When the path ends and you reach the stone wall watch everyone young and old 'kick the wall' - tradition has it that this will prolong your life. This walk has been extended along the back of the golf course. Wolfe Tone bridge to wall is 4.5km including new pathways.





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THE BAY COAST

From the crystal waters of distant Erris to the "savage beauty" of much-loved Connemara, the Wild Atlantic Way skims south around some impressive bays.

The largest of these – Clew Bay – is said to have 365 islets and islands, one for every day of the year. Connemara means "inlets of the sea" in Irish, and here water and land merge in a lacy shoreline of loughs,

coves, islands and sea-swept blanket bogs.

The Bay Coast is a salty fresh-air playground, with its dazzling beaches and Blueway trails, and here people come to kayak, kiteboard, paraglide, swim and dive. Riders trek across the sands on sure-footed Connemara ponies. Cyclists follow the Great Western Greenway – one of the world's most scenic cycleways. Walk-

ers climb the sacred Croagh Patrick mountain and Twelve Bens range.

There's history and culture too: from elegant Georgian Westport to the Clare Island stronghold of legendary pirate queen Grace O'Malley, and onward toward Connemara's coarse and captivating Derrigimlagh Bog – a mosaic of tiny lakes and peat, where the first transatlantic flight landed. And



Connemara,
County Galway



**Inishmore,
Aran Islands**

looking west across the great sweep of Galway Bay, you can watch the sun go down behind the Gaeltacht Aran Islands before spending a night in the City of the Tribes itself.

THE CLIFF COAST

It's a place for clifftop walks, island-hopping, traditional pubs... and soul-stirring views: rainbows in the ocean spray along the Loop Head Drive; colonies of puffins on the sheer Cliffs of Moher; bottle-nose dolphins in the mouth of the Shannon; and the view of Clare's mountains from Kerry's Cliffs of Dooneen.

Then there's the otherworldly Burren – a vast limestone pavement rich with rare flora, crossed by ancient green

roads. And down to the Flaggy Shore, described by Seamus Heaney in his much-loved poem Postscript as a place that can "catch the heart off guard and blow it open". Enough said?

CONTINUE FURTHER

The Wild Atlantic Way's six regions showcase all this among sensational scenery. View the Wild Atlantic Way website for further details & also:

- **NORTHERN HEADLANDS**
- **THE SURF COAST**
- **SOUTHERN PENINSULAS**
- **THE HAVEN COAST**

www.wildatlanticway.com

Editorial by JCI Galway



*"The land is hard,
the soul is not"*

*says the Lonely
Planet about the Cliff
Coast ... where ice-
age landscapes meet
west-coast warmth,
and music is a way
of life.*



SALTHILL, BOTHAR NA TRA

Galway's seaside resort has fine sandy beaches, a diving tower, fishing pier, swimming rafts and long distance swimming routes. The promenade, the longest in Europe is not to be missed for either a bracing walk or leisurely stroll. Salthill has many leisure facilities, Leisureland complex, Monkey Business

Children's Activity Centre, Salthill Park with its bandstand, Galway Golf Club, Taylor's Hill Pitch and Putt (where clubs and balls are available), the Aquarium, many eateries, pubs and even storytelling in some venues, Trad on the Prom in the Salthill Hotel is a must for tourists.



BEACHES AND COASTLINE

Galway has a spectacular and diverse coastline. Whether you are looking for beautiful clean white sands for a leisurely picnic, a refreshing swim, fun with the family or a bracing walk, look no further!!

This Beach is entirely made of fragments of coralline red algae and shell, a rare phenomenon in this part of the world. Furbo beach has the only complete coral circled beach in Europe.

The beaches in county Galway that received the Blue Flag in 2020 are:

- Bathing Place
- Loughrea Lake
- Traught
- Salthill
- Silver Strand
- Trá Mhór
- Trá an Dóilin
- Cill Mhuirbhígh.

The long winding coastline leads to many areas of natural beauty, including Coral Beach in Carraroe.



THE SALTHILL PROMENADE

It's hard to beat Salthill's location. Situated on the northern inner shore of Galway Bay, the Aran Islands are visible to the right and Galway City 'The City of the Tribes' to the left. Directly across Galway Bay is the Burren (County Clare) and to the west are the bogs and mountains of Connemara. On a clear day you feel as though you could reach out across the bay and touch the Clare hills though there are also many days when you can't see them at all. There's an old expression which goes, 'when you see Aran and the Clare hills it's a sign of rain and when you can't see them, it's actually raining!'

The Irish for Salthill is 'Bóthar na Trá', which literally means 'the road by the sea'. The main road west to Connemara was 'An Bóthar Ard' ('the high road') or Taylor's Hill as it is known today. Two hundred years ago, the Salthill area was mostly agricultural land around a small village occupied mostly by fishermen. The road west was bounded on the right by a high landlord's wall, from the 237 acre O'Hara estate, while further along the coast was the 100 acre estate of Lord Oranmore and Browne.

In 1839, a storm destroyed many of the traditional thatched cottages along by the coast in the Salthill area. This disaster was closely followed by the Great Famine which decimated the area leaving some of the landlords bankrupt and resulting in the sale of their estates. Among the casualties was Lord Oranmore and Browne. Part of his estate was subsequently bought by an entrepreneur named Barton who then developed a number of summer lodges along the coast road to be rented to university professors. This area, now known as Rockbarton, still bears the developer's name.

The largest development of the time was the building of the Eglington Hotel, which opened its doors in 1860. This was a major step up from the guesthouses and small hotels already in operation and attracted a different more upmarket clientele. Shortly afterwards the Galway and Salthill Tramway Company laid down tram tracks from Eyre Square to its western terminus at The Eglington Hotel. This inexpensive transport made Salthill accessible for tourists and day trippers who travelled to Galway by train and then out to the beach by tram. The small fishing village had become a popular tourist resort with many new amenities being developed, the promenade was built and new facilities were put in place for swimmers. A golf club was constructed on Genetian Hill and later moved on to Barna road before finding its permanent home near Blackrock and an old swampy area was developed and became Salthill Park. A tennis club was built on Threadneedle Road and the "amusements" came to Salthill Park each summer.

Salthill continues to grow and develop. The changes have seen the area grow from a small fishing village into a thriving, bustling, busy modern resort. Salthill has a great community spirit. The Village Salthill is an association of over 60 business' dedicated to make your visit something to remember.

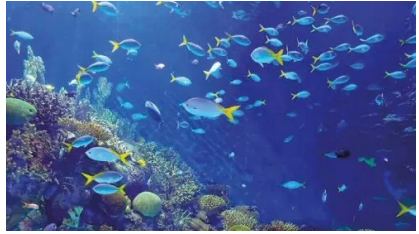


SALTHILL ACTIVITIES

GALWAY ATLANTAQUARIA

Galway Atlantaquaria, National Aquarium of Ireland seeks to present a comprehensive view of the world of water through clear and interesting displays, informed helpful staff and exciting live presentations and animal interaction sessions.

Web: www.nationalaquarium.ie
Call: 091-585100



GALWAY GOLF CLUB

Located in the famous seaside resort of Salthill Galway Golf Club offers the discerning visitor a Championship Standard 18 hole Parkland Course with spectacular views over Galway Bay, the Burren and Aran Islands.

Web: www.galwaygolf.com
Call: 091-522033



LEISURELAND

Enjoy a fun family day at Leisureland, set in the the popular Galway city seaside resort of Salthill. Leisureland, with its weather-independent attractions, overlooks Galway Bay and the Burren and is just a short walk from Atlantaquaria.

Web: www.leisureland.ie
Call: 091-521455



SEAPPOINT

Welcome to Seapoint Leisure, Galway's premier indoor family entertainment centre. We are situated in the heart of the picturesque seaside resort of Salthill overlooking it's beautiful promenade and sandy beaches.

Web: www.seapointleisure.ie
Call: 091-521716

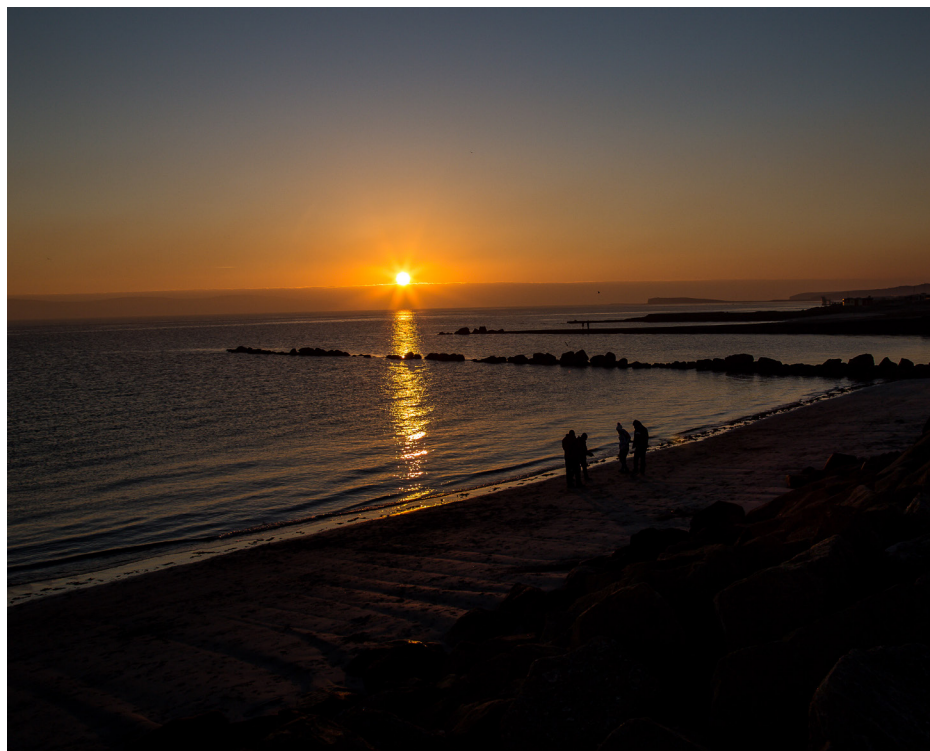


SALTHILL BEACH

Salthill Beach is located approximately 2km from Galway City and is made up of several small beaches which are separated by rocky outcrops. It is a popular beach for walking, swimming and relaxing.

This beach has been dual awarded, achieving the International Blue Flag and Green Coast Award status 2019.





THE CLADDAGH, AN CLADACH



Sited on the western shore of where the Corrib River enters the sea, this fishing village may antedate Galway City which was founded in 1232 by the Anglo-Norman Richard de Burgo and later received its city charter in 1585. It gets its name from the Irish An Cladach, meaning a flat stony shore, and its residents differed in many ways from those within the walled city.

They lived in a settlement of apparently haphazardly arranged cobbled streets and small squares flanked by thatched mud-water houses. Following on its having been declared "an unhealthy area" by the authorities in 1927, this virtually unique settlement ceased to exist in 1934 when the traditional type houses were demolished to make for more modern concrete replacements.

The Claddagh owed no allegiance to the rulers of Galway but was governed by its own independently elected 'Mayor' or 'King' the last of these, Eoin Concannon, died in 1954, aged 90. The 'King' was also known as the 'Admiral of Galway Bay' and his boat was identified by a white sail, instead of the brown or black sails of the rest of the Claddagh fishing fleet. The Claddagh people tended to keep to themselves and generally married within the community - thus ensuring the survival of many interesting local customs, including that of the Claddagh Ring.

Where To Stay

Where to stay in Galway City -
Lóistín.

You are sure of a traditional Irish

fáilte (welcome) in the medieval city of Galway, which possesses some of the finest hotels in Ireland, many having leisure facilities, excellent restaurants and entertainment.

The Twelve Hotel Galway

In a restored 19th-century stone building, this stylish hotel lies in Barna village centre, a 3-minute walk from the pier and the sea. Suites add sofas and minibars.

Address: Barna, Co. Galway

Phone: (091) 597 000

Web: www.thetwelvehotel.ie

Harbour Hotel Galway

This upscale waterfront hotel is a 7-minute walk from Eyre Square and a kilometer from Saint Nicholas Collegiate Church. An exercise room and 5 meeting rooms available.

Address: New Dock St, Galway

Phone: (091) 894 800

Web: www.harbour.ie

The G Hotel

This ultra-chic hotel in a contemporary building is a 6-minute drive from Eyre Square and a 9-minute drive from the National University of Ireland. Room service is available.

Address: Old Dublin Rd, Galway

Phone: (091) 865 200

Web: www.theghotel.ie

Hotel Meyrick

Set on Eyre Square, this polished, upscale hotel dating from 1852 is a 2-minute walk from Galway train station and a 5-minute walk from the pedestrian-only Shop Street.

Address: Eyre Square, Galway

Phone: (091) 564 041

Web: www.hotelmeyrick.ie

Park House Hotel

This upscale hotel in a grand Victorian-style stone building with a columned entrance is a 2-minute walk from Eyre Square and an 11-minute walk from Galway City Museum.

Address: Forster Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 564 924

Web: www.parkhousehotel.ie

The Connacht Hotel

The stylish rooms have free Wi-Fi, desks, TVs with satellite channels, and tea and coffee-making facilities; suites add living rooms and kitchenettes with minifridges, microwaves.

Address: Old Dublin Rd, Galway

Phone: (091) 381 200

Web: www.theconnacht.ie

Barnacles Hostel Galway

Located in the heart of Galway City, Barnacles Hostel lends itself to the bohemian atmosphere that is Galway's Latin Quarter. Immerse yourself in the Medieval history of Galway.

Address: Quay Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 568644

Web: www.barnacles.ie

Kinlay Hostel Galway

Complimentary amenities include continental breakfast, Wi-Fi, and computers for guests to use. There's a relaxed lounge, plus 2 kitchens, tea and coffee-making facilities, & bike hire.

Address: Eyre Square, Galway

Phone: (091) 565 244

Web: www.kinlaygalway.ie

Snoozles Tourist Hostel

This bright, casual hostel is 300 metres from the Galway bus and train station, and 1 km from the Spanish Arch. Modern, no-frills rooms and dorms offer desks, Wi-Fi and en suite bathrooms.

Address: Forster Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 530 064

Web: snoozleshostelgalway.ie

Cooke's

RESTAURANT

Fine Wine, Good Food

Historical 3 Storey Medieval Building in the Heart of Galway City



Serving Traditional 'Old Style' Irish Favourites with a Modern Twist Carefully Prepared using the Finest Seasonal produce from our Favourite Local Farmers & Fishermen

Lunch Served Daily
12pm - 5pm

A la Carte Dinner Daily
5pm - 10pm

Early Bird Menu
5pm - 10pm

Cooke's Restaurant & Wine Bar
28 Upper Abbeygate Street, Galway City

W: www.cookes.ie
E: cookesreservations@gmail.com
T: 091 568203



Where To Eat

Galway's meandering streets offer many eating haunts catering for all culinary desires. Why not dine outside one of Quay Street's restaurants? (weather permitting!). Take away traditional fish and chips, linger over a pub lunch or buy the ingredients for a riverside picnic at St Nicholas' market on Saturday.

The Dough Bros

The Dough Bro's is a pop up Pizza bar serving wood fired pizza and craft beers in a casual, cool, funky environment. We also have a food truck on the go!

Address: Middle St, Galway

Phone: (087) 176 1662

Web: [facebook/thedoughbros](https://facebook.com/thedoughbros)

56 Central Restaurant

A unique Cafe Restaurant Wine Bar in the heart of Central Galway. The menu is a blend of local produce and traditional recipes with an international twist.

Address: Shop Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 569 511

Web: www.56central.com

McCambridge's Of Galway

The stylish rooms have free Wi-Fi, desks, TVs with satellite channels, and tea and coffee-making facilities; suites add living rooms and kitchenettes with minifridges, microwaves.

Address: Shop Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 562 259

Web: www.mccambridges.com

King Ding Restaurant

King Ding takeaway can be found on the right hand corner as you enter Gleann Dara estate just off Bishop O'Donnell Road which is located in Westside, close to Rahoon and Newcastle in Galway.

Address: Gleann Dara, Rahoon

Phone: (091) 581 188

Web: www.kingding.ie

GBC Restaurant

Galway Bakery Company est in 1936 have earned a reputation as a Galway Restaurant and Coffeeshop for cuisine excellence. We provide two floors of fabulous cuisine every day.

Address: Williamsgate, Galway

Phone: (091) 563 087

Web: www.gbcbgalway.com

The Chili Shack

This upscale hotel in a grand Victorian-style stone building with a columned entrance is a 2-minute walk from Eyre Square and an 11-minute walk from Galway City Museum.

Address: Abbeygate Street

Phone: (083) 810 8892

Web: www.thechilishack.ie

Supermac's

Galway founded fast-food chain restaurant from Pat McDonagh, dishing up American-style burgers, chicken, fish and sandwiches. Including Para-Johns, Supersubs & Habaneros.

Address: Eyre Square, Galway

Phone: (091) 566 555

Web: www.supermacs.ie

The Galleon Restaurant

An institution in Salthill, it takes pride in its friendly, experienced staff and its newly refurbished premises, to offer you an exceptional dining experience. Always a warm welcome.

Address: Salthill, Galway

Phone: (091) 522 963

Web: thegalleonrestaurant.ie

McDonagh's

McDonaghs Fish and Chips Bar and Seafood Restaurant have been serving the freshest fish to the people of Galway for four generations. Established in 1902, and open every day.

Address: Quay Street, Galway

Phone: (091) 565 001

Web: www.mcdonaghs.net

GALWAY COUNTY

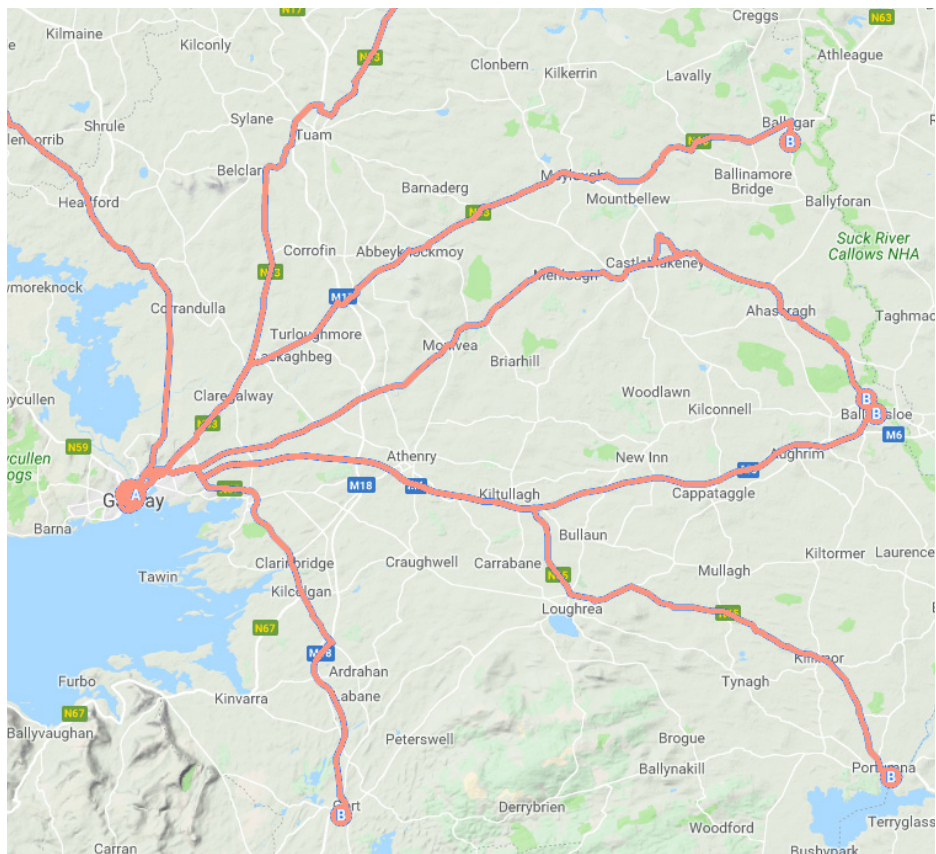
MAP OF GALWAY WEST



KEY DISTANCES

- Galway City to Shannon Airport (M18) - Approx 1 hour & 10 minutes
- Galway City to Knock Airport (N17) - Approx 1 hour & 20 minutes
- Galway City to Inverin Airport (R336) - Approx 40 minutes
- Galway City to Dublin City (M6) - Approx 2 hours & 25 minutes
- Galway City to Clifden (N59) - Approx 1.5 hours
- Galway City to Roseaveal (R336) - Approx 1 hour

MAP OF GALWAY EAST



KEY DISTANCES

- Galway City to Knock Airport (N17) - Approx 1 hour & 20 minutes
- Galway City to Tuam (N17) - Approx 40 minutes
- Galway City to Ballinasloe (M6) - Approx 50 minutes
- Galway City to Portumna (N65) - Approx 1 hour
- Galway City to Loughrea (M6) - Approx 40 minutes
- Galway City to Kinvara (N67) - Approx 35 minutes

West Galway Driving Tours



DRIVING ROUTE 1

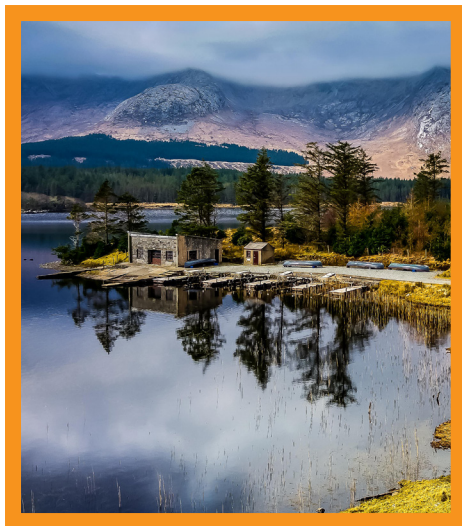
Scenic Drive to Roundstone, Cloch na Rón

As you leave Galway via Newcastle and Bushypark (N59), Lough Corrib, the largest inland lake in Ireland (70 square miles), is clearly visible on the right. The next village is **Moycullen (Maigh Cuilinn)**, a region loved for its beautiful scenery. **Oughterard (Uachtar Ard)**, also known as the 'Gateway to Connemara', is a fisherman's haven offering a plentiful supply of salmon, brown trout, roach, bream, pike and eels. Oughterard has many craft, woollen and specialist food shops. As you approach the town turn right at Oughterard Golf Club to visit Aughnacore Castle. Continue through Oughterard on the Clifden Road and enter real Connemara, with its unique landscape of bogs, lakes and the Twelve Pins or Twelve Bens mountain range.

Ireland's first 'show mine' is situated two miles from Oughterard on the N59, known as Glengowla Silver and Lead Mine. This Connemara mine was abandoned in 1865. It is open from March to November with guided tours every 20 minutes. Doon Hill out the Glann Road is worth a trip for walkers. The Quiet Man Bridge 5 miles outside of Oughterard on the way to Maam was made famous by the film 'The Quiet Man' starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara.

Maam Cross (An Teach Dóite) is the crossroads between north and south Connemara. There is a thatched cottage on the right, which is a replica of the cottage used in the film, 'The Quiet Man' starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara. Leaving Maam Cross continue driving along the N59 towards Clifden and after approx. 12 miles take a left turn at the signpost for Roundstone.

Roundstone (Cloch na Rón) is one of the most attractive fishing villages in Ireland. The village has been, and still is, one of the most popular places in Connemara for artists and photographers to capture an image. At the foot of the Twelve Pins Mountains is Roundstone harbour. The centre of the village is still a great spot to see the local fishermen at work. This popular village has many restaurants and pubs and also boasts a fine craft area at the old monastery. There you will experience the oldest craft in Ireland, Bodhrán making, at the famous Malachy Kearns workshop. Roundstone is also famous for its tow, back to back beaches, Dogs Bay and Gurteen Bay, set back and filled with the clearest Atlantic water (two miles from Roundstone). Not only can the beaches be enjoyed by swimmers and other aquatic water sports people, but to those that are interested, the sand is pure white. It is not formed of quartz grain but of shells exclusively.



DRIVING ROUTE 2

Across the mountains to Clifden, An Clochán

Rather than continuing straight through the cross to being you directly to Clifden as in Route 1, instead take a right turn at Peacocks Hotel, Maam Cross. This drive takes you through Maam Village. Turn left at the village for **Leenane (An Líonán)**, which lies near the head of Killary Harbour. Leenane was the location for 'The Field', a film based on a play by Irish author, John B Keane. Take a left turn at Leenane towards **Kylemore (An Choill Mhóir)**, a scenic valley between the Twelve Pins, the Doughruagh and Guarran Mountains. On the slopes of the mountains is a castle built from 1864 - 1868 by a Liverpool merchant as a family residence. Today it is a girls boarding school.

Continue towards **Letterfrack (Leitir Fraic)**, where Connemara National Park is located. The park has a visitor's centre with exhibits of various features in the park as well as a series of short distance walks. After leaving Letterfrack continue on the Clifden road for about 4 miles. At this point there are two roads, one to **Cleggan (An Clochán)**, a lively vibrant town offering plenty to do - angling, golfing, pony trekking, biking, water sports, shopping or simply relaxing. The town has numerous restaurants with local seafood as its speciality. Clifden is renowned for the Sky Road, the Connemara Pony Show and its Arts Week.

DRIVING ROUTE 3

Coast Road Drive, Stí na Mara

This route leaves Galway via **Salthill (Bóthar na Trá)** and **Knocknacarra (Croc na Cathrach)** (R366). The road follows the coastline of Galway Bay giving a clear view of the Clare Hills, the Burren and the Aran Islands. This scenic route takes you through a number of small villages. One of these is **Barna (Bearna)**. This pretty village is a fine example of Alexander Nimmo's work in the shape of its pier. The next village is **Furbo (na Forbacha)** famed for its beach.

Further on is **Spiddal (An Spidéal)** which is the gateway to Connemara Gaeltacht, the Irish speaking area. A small fishing village, it is renowned for its church, built in 1904 in the Romanesque style. One of the finest craft centres in the country, Spiddal Craft Centre (An Ceardlann), is located on your approach to the village overlooking a beach with spectacular views of The Burren and Galway Bay. The next village is **Inverin (Indreabhán)**, the location of the Connemara airport, which has daily flights to the **Aran Islands**. Beyond Inverin a left turn will bring you **Rossaveal (Ros a Mhíl)**. This large fishing harbour has daily sailings to the Aran Islands.

The road southwest brings you to **Carraroe (An Cheathrú Rua)**, a large village with many pubs with a variety of Irish music and a **Coral Strand (Trá na Dailín)**. The road north from Casla leads to Screeb (Scríob), which is noted for its game fishing. Turn left at Screeb and head towards **Gortmore (Gort Mór)**. A short detour to the left leads to **Rosmuc (Ros Muc)**, where the holiday home of Pádraig Pearse (one of the executed leaders of the 1916 Rising) can be visited.

The road from Gortmore leads onto **Kilkerrin (Cill Chiaráin)**, where currach racing takes place in the summer. On to Carna (Carna), which has beautiful sandy beaches, through **Cashel (An Caiseal)**, to **Roundstone (Cloch na Rón)**, a village founded by Alexander Nimmo in the early 19th Century. It has a number of craft workshops and has magnificent beaches such as Dog's Bay and Gurteen Bay. Further along is **Ballyconneely (Baile na Conaile)**, which has fine beaches including a coral strand. The road leads onto **Clifden (An Clochán)**, the capital town of Connemara.

East Galway Driving Tours



DRIVING ROUTE 1

N18 - Galway Shawl Drive

Galway East consists primarily of five main routes out of Galway City, the N6, N17, N18, N4 and the M6 motorway direct to Dublin City. The N18 will take you through Oranmore, Clarinbridge and Gort with a diversion at Kilcolgan village for Kinvara. **Oranmore** is just 10 minutes from Galway City. The village overlooks Galway Bay and is dominated by Oranmore Castle, built in the 15th century and was once the stronghold of the Clanricardes, a prominent Normal family. The castle has changed hands over the years and bought in 1947 by Lady Leslie, a cousin of Sir Winston Churchill and wife of Sir Shane Leslie. The Castle is still privately owned and occupied by descendants of the Leslie family to this day. In the centre of the village, is the statue of Commandant Joseph Howley who was involved in the struggle for Irish Independent and killed in action in 1920. On exiting the village by the Maree Road, it will lead to the delightful **Renville Park** which is a large public park located by the sea, with playground and picnic facilities. The remains of an ancient castle and ruins of a stately home dating back to the 16th century can be found in the woods.

The picturesque village of **Clarinbridge** is the next stop on the N18 with river Clarin running

through it and a walled village green. Located in the centre of the village, is Paddy Burkes a delightful thatched pub and restaurant established in 1850 and the home of the renowned Clarinbridge Oyster Festival held every September which began in 1954. Taking a right in the village of Kilcolgan, the road leads to Kinvara, a beautiful fishing village on the shores of Galway Bay. Dunguaire Castle in Kinvara is a 16th century restored tower house built by the Hynes clan in 1520 when the site is believed to have once been the royal palace of the legendary King of Connanght.

Gort is the next town on the N18, a medium sized market town situated on the main Galway to Limerick route. An attraction not to be missed on the way to Gort after passing through the village of **Ardrahan** is Thoor Ballylee, former home of the famous poet WB Yeats. Thoor Ballylee is a 16th century Castle built by the de Burgo (or Burke) Family. Restored as 'Yeats Tower' in 1965 and now includes a Yeats museum that contains many interesting artifacts of the poet. On the outskirts of Gort is **Coole Park**, is a Nature Reserve of circa 405 hectares. The park is open all year to the public and admission is free to the grounds.

Other interesting locations not far from Gort include the site of an old monastic settlement Kilmacduagh and a preserved round tower.



Just 10km from Athenry is the small village of **Monivea**, the location of the former Ffrench estate, which still contains the ancient tower house.

Getting back onto the N6, the next stop is **Loughrea** 35km south east of Galway city on the northern shore of Lough Rea, from which it derives its name. The town dates from 1236 when Loughrea Castle was reputed to have been built by the Anglo-Norman, Richard de Burgo. Lough Rea is one of the few inland lakes in Ireland to receive European Blue Flag Status and is also a popular spot for Anglers.

After Loughrea is the small village of **Kilreekil** outside which, is the Dartfield Horse Museum and Park detailing the use of the horse through history in the areas of transport, farming, sport and local traditions. There is opportunity to explore 350 acres of parkland on horseback or by horse drawn carriage as well as a range of other indoor and outdoor activities.

DRIVING ROUTE 2

N84 - Corrib Delights

The N84 out of Galway will lead you to Headford on the border with county Mayo. On route you will pass the village of **Corrandulla** and **Annaghdown**, where the beautiful Annaghdown Bay can be found. This is a popular location for pleasure and angling craft with a marina and swimming area.

The ruins of a 12th century Abbey and 15-16th century tower house can be found dominating Annaghdown Bay. Nearby Cregg Castle was built by the Kirwan family in 1644, one of the Galway Tribes. The Castle is still inhabited and is said to be the last fortified mansion built west of the Shannon.

DRIVING ROUTE 3

N6 - Soft Day Drive

The N6 route will lead you through the small village of **Craughwell** towards Loughrea and Ballinasloe. If you decide to take the N6, take a turn off first of all onto the R348 that will lead you through the famous 'fields of Athenry' to the medieval market town of **Athenry** which dates back to 1240. The charming town features a 13th century Norman Castle, the only restored Norman Castle in Ireland as well as 14th century town walls complete with the original towers and gate.

Another option is to take the N64 off the N6, which will lead you to **Portumna**. Portumna is an attractive Georgian town set on the banks of the River Shannon and Lough Derg. It is a popular tourist location for boasting a variety of activities for the water enthusiast and well known base for cabin cruisers. On the outskirts of the town is the beautiful Portumna Forest Park consisting of 1,400 acres of nature trails. Closeby is the recently restored Portumna Castle and Gardens, which is a National Monument dating back to 1618 and open to the public from March to October.

Staying on the N6, the small village of **Aughrim** with its name meaning 'the horse's back' is located 8km from Ballinasloe. Aughrim is famous in history for the Battle of Aughrim on 12 July 1691 fought during Williamite/Jacobite war in Ireland. The market town of **Ballinasloe** is the next stop, famous worldwide for its annual Ballinasloe Horse Fair, thought to be the oldest horse fair in Europe.

DRIVING ROUTE 4

N17 - Stone Walls & the Green Grass Drive

The N17 route on exit from Galway City will take you through **Claregalway** onto **Tuam** and **Milltown**. The N17 route itself was made famous in a song by well known Irish band the Saw Doctors, who hail from Tuam. Another option is to take the N63, the main **Roscommon** road, just after Claregalway.

Galway West / Connemara

FÁILTE GO DTÍ GALLIMHE THIAIR / CONNEMARA

To the west of Lough Corrib, Connemara stretches in all its rugged beauty to the shores of the Atlantic. Its coastline is stark with many bays and sandy beaches. The scenery is superb and the skyline is dominated by a rocky mountain range known as the Twelve Pins. The inhabitants of Connemara traditionally live by fishing and farming, with tourism playing a key role in many villages and towns.

STONE WALLS

Tourists are always curious about our native walls. Something that we take for granted and seems part of our unique scenery here in the west of Ireland. Once you travel west of the Shannon you will notice stone walls, replacing the ditches and hedgerows of the east. These stone walls separate the fields and they become more noticeable the further west you travel and the fields gradually get smaller.

This is especially evident in Connemara, where the tiny fields have a common characteristic that of protruding rock. This leaves grassy fields a rarity the further west you go. This is a major part of the West of Ireland's scenery. Long ago farmers cleared the fields of stone by building these walls. Many of these walls were built after the Great Famine of 1840 when the land was redistributed among the farming communities. This replaced the previous open system of farming, known as the Rundale System. These stone walls are very sturdy, some are quite high, various in thickness from single stone walls to quite bulky stone walls, they keep animals from neighbouring farms apart, they have no foundation, smaller stones are placed on top while the larger stones are placed at the bottom of the wall, need repair which means fallen stones might be risen or knocked walls built up again.

Ireland has stony land and our main industry for centuries was farming, therefore, the stones had to be removed from the land in order to farm it. However, they were used in a very clever way, to create divisions of land, known as fields instead of forming mounds of stones. The size of the field is due to how stony the land was. The smaller the field the more stones in it. They are dry stone walls. This means no mortar was used to hold the stones together. Stones were selected by the builders, local farmers, to fit together to allow for balance and a sturdy wall.



BARNA VILLAGE, BEARNA

This tranquil seaside village has several restaurants, an idyllic stone pier and is located just 8km from Galway along the R336 coast road. Barna Woods are situated to the right as the one drives from Galway and Silver Strand, recognised as one of Galway's most popular beaches is to the left after the woods. The Burren Hills in county Clare are visible from here, as are the Aran Islands when conditions permit. Although categorised as a Gaeltacht region, this village, due to the expanse of the city, has rapidly become an English speaking region. However Irish is still the main Language and Barna is noted as the gateway to "An Gaeltacht".

SPIDDAL, AN SPIDÉAL

An Spidéal is a coastal village 12 miles west of Galway City. It is a friendly and vibrant village. Spiddal has two beaches on Galway Bay. The first is on the roadside as you enter An Spidéal and called Trá na mBan. The second beach can be reached by a narrow road on the left directly after the village. This beach is sheltered by the pier, known locally as An Cladach, and is a working harbour. The crafts centre, An Ceardlann has a great variety of craft produce and a coffee shop.

An Irish Language soap opera, Rós na Run is filmed weekly in An Spidéal. Also famous for its Irish Colleges, teenagers come from all over Ireland to learn their native language every summer. Students stay with locals where the 'ban an tí' makes them feel at home. She takes these teenagers under her wing and teaches them cúpla focail. Students are immersed in Irish culture, learning traditional Irish dancing and attending cúpla céilí. The students participate in classes and sport all through the medium of Irish.

OUGHTERARD & ROSSCAHILL, UACHTAR ARD AGUS ROS CATHAIL

Located less than 5km from Moycullen and before you arrive at Oughterard on the N59, the small village of Roscahill is home to Brigit's Garden. The garden consists of 11 acres of family friendly, beautifully landscaped gardens of native woodland and wildflower meadows. A relaxing and tranquil setting, it features the largest calendar sundial in Ireland and nature trails.

Sixteen miles from Galway is Uachtar (Oughterard), a small picturesque town, favoured by anglers and tourists alike, is located on the banks of Lough Corrib and Ross Lake. On the outskirts of the town, close to Oughterard Golf Club, is Aughnacore Castle which was built by the O'Flaherty's in the 16th century. The town is located on the banks of the Owengriff River which is overlooked by a delightful 19th century church. Close by can be found the island known as Inchoigoill, well known for its religious heritage.

MOYCULLEN, MAIGH CUILINN

Lying just 13km northwest of Galway on the N59 to Clifden, Moycullen like other surrounding villages is fast becoming a satellite village for the expanding city. On the western shore of Lough Corrib, it offers an ideal angling location with Ballyquirke and Ross Lakes a stones throw away.

There are eleven coarse fishing lakes in the locality, all holding: bream, roach, rudd, perch, eel, pike and roach/bream hybrids. Most of these lakes drain into the massive Lough Corrib, which is often referred to as "an inland sea" with its 42,000 acres.

Galway West / Connemara

CLONBUR, AN FHAIRCHE

The Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) village of Clonbur is located on the border between Galway/Mayo in an area known as Joyce Country, nestled between Lough Corrib and Lough Mask. The area has worldwide angling recognition, for its trout angling, for amazing views over Lough Corrib and the Connemara Mountains, the more energetic may like to climb Mount Gable 21m east of Clonbur. Local lakes, streams, mountains and woodlands make Clonbur ideal for scenic walks. The ruins of the Petersburg Estate that now houses an adventure centre was once the seat of the Lynch family, one of the tribes of Galway. John Lynch a member of the family, was a signatory to the American Declaration of Independence.

LEENANE, AN LÍONÁN

Leenane is an ideal village for exploring an area of magnificent scenery. Overlooking Killary Harbour a true fjord between steep mountain banks which has in the past held the whole Channel Fleet. The Erriff and Delphu rivers, famous for salmon and sea trout - beautiful Ashleigh Falls with Muilrea (2688ft), Bengorm (2303ft) and the Devil's Mother (2133ft) about which many legends have been woven are all nearby. "The Field" a play by John B Keane was filmed on location in the magnificent surroundings of Leenane. One of the main themes of the play is the importance of land and the lengths people will go to acquire it. Richard Harris received an Oscar nomination for his performance in "The Field".

KYLEMORE ABBEY, AN CHOILL MHÓIR

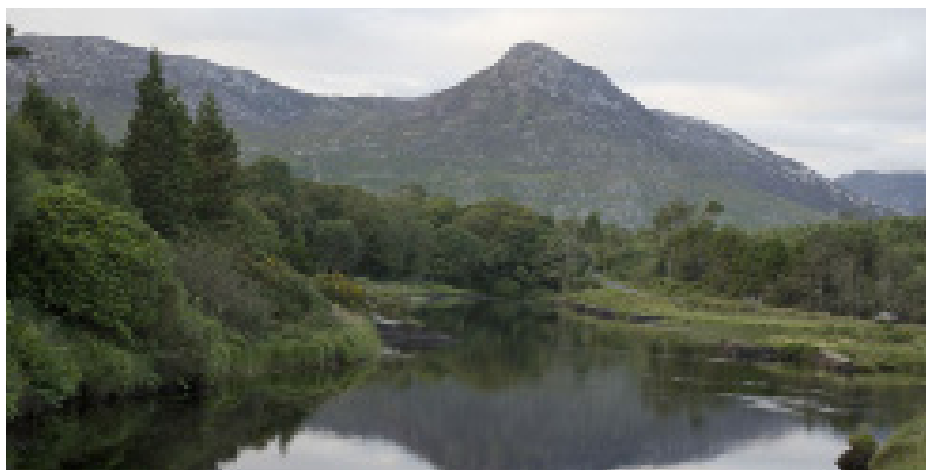
Kylemore Abbey was built in the middle of the 19th century by a Liverpool merchant as a family residence. Since 1920, the Abbey has been home to the Benedictine Nuns of Ypres, and is presently an International boarding school for girls. In 1959, a serious fire destroyed parts of the Abbey. The Abbey partially opened to the public in 1993. The Gothic Chapel decorated throughout with Connemara marble officially opened in 1995 and beautifully maintained walled gardens opened in 2000. Visitors are welcome at Kylemore Abbey, which has a 200 seat Restaurant, Visitors Centre with AV Room, Craft & Retail Shop and Parking.



CLIFDEN, AN CLOCHÁN

Set at the head of Clifden Bay and in front of the Twelve Pins mountain range, Clifden affords some superb views of the loveliest scenery in the country. The town was founded in 1812 and is dominated by two beautiful churches. Some of the activities to be enjoyed in the area are hill-walking, mountain climbing and pony trekking. Clifden is world famous for the Connemara Pony Show held in August each year and a jazz festival in June.

The Alcock & Brown Atlantic Flight in 1919 is also commemorated in the area by a monument on the high ground, about 1 1/2 miles from Clifden, the point at which the plane crash-landed in Derrygimlagh Bog. Derrygimlagh is also famous as the location of Guglielmo Marconi's successful first commercial wireless message to be transmitted between two continents. The date was 17 October 1907 and his transatlantic message from Lord Avebury to the New York Times was picked up at his North American base in Glace Bay, Newfoundland.



BALLYCONNEELY, BAILE CONAOLA

Ballyconneely is north of Clifden, located on a peninsula with spectacular scenery overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Close to Mannin Bay, Ballyconneely has some of the most beautiful beaches to be found in Ireland, including a coral strand. It is also home to the championship Connemara Links Golf Course.

ROUNDSTONE, CLOCH NA RÓN

Roundstone is in the shadow of the Twelve Pins and bordered by the vast Atlantic Ocean. A busy Connemara village, popular for its large clean beautiful beaches, such as Gurteen and Dogs Bay. The two Bays are set back to back, have sparkling shell sand, washed by the Atlantic. Roundstone is one of the oldest fishing villages in Connemara. Formed in the 1820's by Scottish engineer Alexander Nimmo, who settled in Connemara. You will find a busy harbour, where local fishermen prepare and return with the day's catch of lobster, crayfish, crab, mackerel and others. The main street looks onto the pretty stone harbour where lobster boats and currachs (traditional Irish boats) are moored against the walls.

Galway West / Connemara

ARAN ISLANDS, ÁRAINN

The three Aran Islands of Inis Mór, Inis Meáin, and Inis Oirr, are located off the West Coast of Galway. The Irish speaking Aran Islands are famous for their unique way of life, stunning scenery and peaceful atmosphere. The islands are also rich in history, as evidenced by the many ancient monuments such as churches, forts and monasteries. Travelling to the islands is easy - ferries operate from Ros-saveal harbour and you can also fly from nearby Connemara Airport in Inverin. The islanders speak Irish with English as their second language.

Inis Mór is the largest of the islands. Activities on the island include guided tours by luxury mini-coach, tours of the islands on a traditional "jaunting car", or by hired bicycle and visits to sites including the dramatic Dún Aonghasa on Inis Mór, a stone fort standing defiantly on a cliff 300 meters above sea level.

Inis Meáin is the middle island, where one should visit to see what remains of the old, traditional lifestyle, with its thatched roofs on stone cottages and only using electricity for the past 30 years, you'd think you stepped back in time. Inis Meáin also has its share of historical sites that are well worth a visit while on the island.

Inis Oirr, the eastern island, is the smallest of the three and is just as beautiful as the other two. Inis Oirr is mostly rock, but boasts the wildest and most exotic flowers and plants. The islanders will be proud to show you their unique way of life, where age-old traditions co-exist comfortably with modern living.

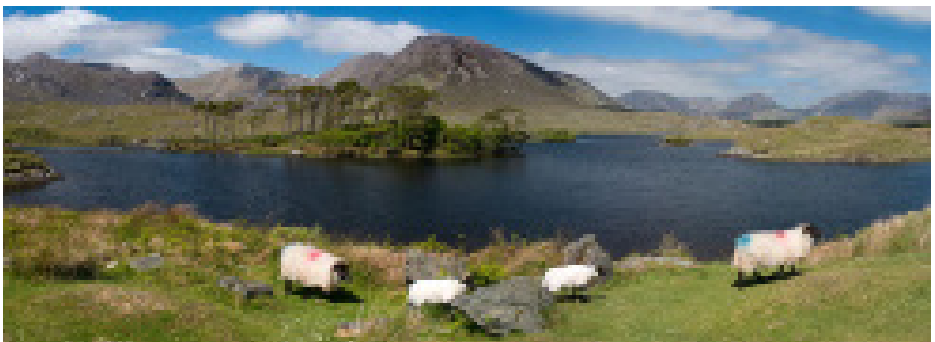
ARAN ISLANDS MAIN ATTRACTIONS

- Kilronan Village, Inis Mór
- Island Landscape, limestone, flora & fauna
- Stone Forts & Cliffs; Dún Dúchathair, Dún Eochla, Dún Eoghanaughta
- Kilmurvey Craft Village
- St Enda's 5th Century Monastery - Teaghlach Éinne
- Old Lighthouse
- Man of Aran Cottage
- The Worm Hole
- Dún Aonghasa World Heritage Site
- Dún Chonchúir
- Dún Fearbhaí
- The church of Mary Immaculate
- Teampall na Seacht Mac Rí
- Leaba Dhiarmid is Grainne
- Caislean Uí Bhriain and Dun Fhormna
- Cill Ghobnait
- Teampall Chaomhain
- Tobar Éinne
- The Plassey Shipwreck
- O'Brien's Castle
- Cnoc Raithní



LETTERFRACK, LEITIR FRAIC

Letterfrack is a small village located 13km from Clifden directly adjacent to Connemara National Park. The village has a diverse history, dating back to 1849 when James and Mary Ellis, a Quaker couple from Bradford settled in Letterfrack and made a significant contribution to post famine relief in the area. Over a period of ten years, the Ellis family established a schoolhouse, a farm providing employment to over 60 men, a doctor's surgery and housing for tradesmen and planted over 40 acres of woodland, most of which is now part of Connemara National Park. In 1886 the property was purchased by the Catholic Church and developed as an Industrial School by the Irish Christian Brothers, who ran the school up to 1974 when it was closed. The farm and farm buildings of the property were sold to the State in 1976 that now forms a significant park of what is now Connemara National Park. The industrial School buildings were purchased by Connemara West, a local community development company in 1978. Today it is a thriving centre of activity for local and regional development. The building is also home to a Furniture College linked to Galway Mayo Institute of Technology (GMIT) and has over 160 full-time students, a furniture restoration and conservation workshop, Connemara Community Radio, a public library with internet access, a hostel, a farmer's co-operative and numerous and community services for youth.



Galway East & County

FÁILTE GO GALLIMHE THOIR

Galway County East has an array of delightful attractions where the visitor will be enchanted by the warmth of the people, spectacular scenery of green fields divided by the stone walls, meandering rivers and streams. Scattered throughout East Galway are an array of castles and churches of impressive architecture. East Galway is an area of contrast with the river Shannon in Portumna, Galway Bay along Oranmore and Clarinbridge, the Slieve Aughty Mountains on the southern borders, the famous fields of Athenry and the atmosphere and craic of the Ballinalsoe Horse Fair.

ORANMORE, ORÁN MÓR

Nestled on the shores of Galway Bay, just minutes from Galway City. The village is dominated by a splendid 12th century castle built by the Cláricarde Burkes which is now privately owned. Opposite it lies a megalithic or large stone tomb dating from approximately 2000BC. Galway Airport is nearby in neighbouring Carnmore. Renville Park is located just 5 minutes from Oranmore.

It is a wonderful amenity, created around an ancient castle, a stately home and a fine estate demesne, which dates from the 16th century. With an extensive network of walks through woodlands, open farmland by the shore.

There is access to Renville Point and Saleen Point, where views of Galway Bay, Galway City and the Burren can be enjoyed. Raven, grey heron and otter are numbered among the fascinating fauna which can be observed, while the flora includes cultivated and wild flowers, shrubs and trees. The Park has picnic areas and a children's playground and is open all year round.

KINVARA, CHINN MHARA, 'THE HEAD OF THE SEA'

Dunguaire Castle in Kinvara is a 16th century restored tower house built by the Hynes clan in 1520. The site is believed to have once been the royal palace of Guaire, the legendary King of Connacht. The Castle was purchased in the early 20th century by the surgeon and poet Oliver St John Gogarty. During the summer months the castle is open to the public where a Medieval Banquet is held every night with costumed performers who recite Irish literature and play traditional Irish music.

Kinvara is famous for its music culture and celebrates two festivals annually namely 'Cruinniu na m8ad' and 'Fleadh na gCuach'. Cruinniu Na m8ad (The Gathering of the Boats) is Ireland's best known Galway Hooker festival. The festival is held in August each year. Fleadh na gCuach (The Cuckoo Festival) which is held each year on the May Bank Holiday Weekend is a traditional Irish Music festival, with out 50 music sessions in the villages pubs, as well as art and crafts, poetry and drama.



GORT, GORT INSE GUAIRE 'THE FIELD ON GUAIRE'S ISLAND'

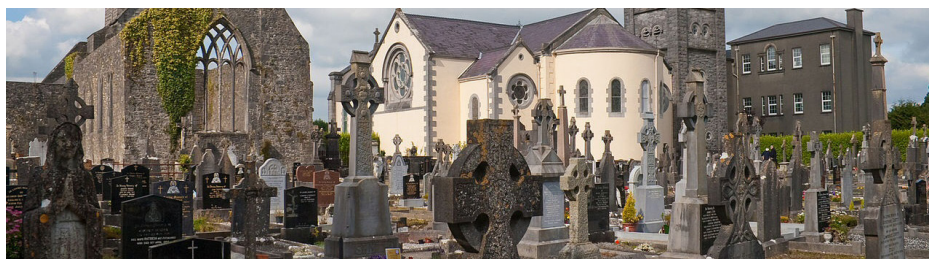
Gort is a town founded on the settlements of former chieftains of the district. Gort is now a recognised heritage town, the hinterland of Gort has numerous cultural and historical sites to visit; Kilmacduagh Monastic site, Coole Park, Thoor Ballylee and Kiltartan Museum. There is a strong tradition of traditional music in the district. The town takes its name from King Guaire, the seventh century King of Connacht, who built a castle here. Gort has the largest proportionate population of Brazilians in the country. The first arrivals in 200 have made a positive and valuable contribution to the area. A once quiet rural Irish market town has been transformed by the colours, emotions and sounds of South America with a traditional Brazilian Festival held annually, called the 'Quadrilha Festival'.



LOUGHREA, BAILE LOCHA RIACH

Loughrea - Baile Locha Riach, on the shores of the largest limestone lake, after Lough Corrib. The clear waters of its lake provide excellent Trout angling and the lake has been awarded the Blue Flag environmental award. It is one of Galway East's medieval towns and is situated on the Main N6 Galway-Dublin road. Loughrea also has the only medieval town moat still functioning in Ireland, and the ruins of the Carmelite Abbey are another medieval feature. St Brendan's Cathedral is a showcase for the Celtic Revival arts and crafts movement, and is a main attraction in the town. The cathedral is arguably one of the country's greatest contributions to European art of the 20th century. It is an absolute must for anyone interested in modern Irish stained glass. Work by an Tur Gloine and Evie Hone are featured in 1897, and completed five years later.

Dartfield Horse Museum, outside the town beside the village Kilrickle houses fascinating and informative displays. The Museum charts the history of the horse and its contribution to society from the earliest times to present day.



Galway East & County

ATHENRY, BEAL ATHA AN RÍ

A medieval town situated 23km from Galway city, steeped in history and proudly claims to be the finest surviving medieval town in Ireland. After the Norman conquest in 1235, Meiler de Bermingham built his castle in the town by the ford on the River Clarin, and founded the medieval town of Athenry, surrounding it with a curtain wall and a moat. Today Athenry contains some of the finest remaining town walling in Ireland including five towers and a town entrance known as North Gate.

Athenry retains many of its medieval buildings and features the award-winning Athenry Heritage Centre, situated in the ruins of the Medieval St Mary's Parish Church, in the centre of town, is the ideal starting point for anyone visiting Athenry. It profiles the 13th Century Norman Castle and Dominican Priory, 14th century town walls- complete with towers and the North Gate and the 15th century Market Cross.

The Fields of Athenry Thatched Cottage is a traditional Irish cottage which brings to life a time when people gathered in their homes to listen to a seanachai (story-teller) or to the music from a travelling fiddler or piper. The cottage has a kitchen where artefacts and farmyard machinery from the early 1900s can be seen. The 15th century 'Lantern' type market cross in the town square is quite uncommon. However the market and fairs have now been replaced by a castle-mart, which makes Athenry an important centre in the heart of this rich farming country, made famous by the popular song, 'The Fields of Athenry'. Today, Athenry is a bustling town with a number of cafes, shops and a choice of pubs for socialising and traditional music. Its streetscape reflects its medieval past, with narrow streets and town walls.



CLARINBRIDGE, DROICHEAD AN CLÁIRIN

Clarinbridge is situated in South Galway at the mouth of the Clarin River and Dunbulcan Bay from which comes the world famous Clarinbridge oysters. The development and design of Clarinbridge in former times stemmed from the local generous landlords, the Redingtons of Kilcornan. The village is well known for it's annual Oyster Festival each September which commenced in 1954, which has been wild attended by National and International celebrities.

BALLINASLOE, BÉAL ATHA NA SLUA 'TOWN OF THE FORD OF THE HOSTINGS'

Ballinasloe was founded beside an ancient ford on the River Suck. As early as the 4th century Máine Mór held the crossing here and later St Grellan came to convert those who lived by the Suck. The market town of Ballinasloe is famous worldwide for its annual Ballinasloe Horse Fair, thought to be the oldest horse fair in Europe. This annual event in October attracts up to 100,000 visitors from all over the world. Ballinasloe is steeped in history, and has been lauded for the architectural character of its fine streetscapes. This planned layout of the town in the 19th Century consisting of wide streets, a market square, fair green, show grounds and town hall can be attributed to William Trench, who was conferred with the Earldom of Clancarty at this time. The town can trace its roots back even further with the existence of three ringforts in the town and two possible Crannog sites dating back to the 1st century. Three medieval tower houses are located within the Urban District as does a well preserved early medieval parish Church at Templepoilin, built in about the 9th century by the Augustinian Monks of Clontuskert. Ballinasloe is the main angling centre on the river Suck, which is renowned for its pike, bream and perch fishing in its more sluggish sections and trout in its tributaries.



KILCOLGAN, CILL CHOLGAIN 'THE CHURCH OF COLGA'

Kilcolgan lies on the N18 to Gort. This village is named after St Colga, who left Iona island in Scotland in the 6th century to found his own monastery, which now lies under the ruins of the Protestant church beside Kilcolgan Castle overlooking the estuary of the Dunkellin River. The Dunkellin River is a noted sea trout fishery and the world-renowned Moran's of the Weir Oyster Pub is situated at its mouth.



Galway East & County

TUAM, AN TUAIM

Tuam is one of the largest towns in the county, 32 km north of Galway City on the N17 and is close to two regional airports, Galway and Ireland West Airport Knock. The town's name is a shortened version of the Gaelic Tuaim dá Ghualainn, meaning the mound of two shoulders, from the time of the town's foundation during the 6th Century. The name probably refers to the high ground which was once noticeable on either side of the River Nanny.

Tuam was the political and cultural centre of Connacht throughout the medieval period. In more recent times, Tuam town has been shaped by waves of prosperity and development driven by the local inhabitants who established tanneries, breweries and fabric mills throughout the town. Many of the Town's historic features reflect the development of its commerce and industry, including Bishop Street Bridge, the Market House in Town Square and Waterslade House on the banks of the Nanny, while the Cathedrals and the history of the Tuam Market Cross are strong links to its ecclesiastical origins. Tuam is also rich in natural heritage as a section of River Nanny flowing through the town is an important trout nursery and the town also hosts large numbers of some of Ireland's rarer fauna, including some rare birds such as the barn owl. Local amenities include golf, tennis, cycling, fishing and horse riding. Tuam is a strong commercial and residential centre with many fine local industries and thriving retail premises, pubs and restaurants.



HEADFORD, ÁTH CINN

Headford is situated 28km north of Galway city and is a popular angling centre due to its location on the eastern shore of Lough Corrib and Greenfields on the outskirts of the town.

Some of the historical attractions in Headford include the well preserved monastic ruins of the Ross Emily Franciscan Friary on the banks of the Black River built around 1439 just after the Black Death in Ireland and the early Georgian Lisdonagh House overlooking Lough Hacket and according to tradition Finvarra, the King of the Fairies kept court here and Queen Maedb is reputed to be buried on top of Knockma Hill.

PORTUMNA, PORT OMNA

Portumna is a Georgian town on the banks of the river Shannon and at the head of Lough Derg. Its name comes from the Irish "Port Omna" meaning "the landing place of the oak tree". Portumna is a well-known tourist destination for boaters, golfers and anglers thanks to its natural amenities. As the town is at the junction of the River Shannon and Lough Derg, there are a number of harbours, two of which are on the Portumna side of the river. For angling enthusiasts, Portumna offer good fishing waters and the most commonly caught species include pike, perch, bream, roach and hybrids. An 18-hole parkland golf course is on the western approach to the town, on the Ennis / Gort road.

The town is famous for Portumna Castle which both King James I and Queen Elizabeth I of England visited, and for the lords that lived there. The great semi-fortified house at Portumna was built before 1618 by Richard Burke or de Burgo and was the main seat of the de Burgo family for over 200 years, until it was gutted by fire in 1826. The ground floor of the house is open to the public. Portumna Castle now includes the recently restored 17th century walled kitchen garden. Portumna Forest Park provides a mile long sign-posted trail that guides you through a marvelous world of common and exotic trees.



LOUGH CORRIB

Bordering Connemara on the east lies Lough Corrib, the largest lake in the Irish Republic (70 square miles). With 365 islands, the lake stretches some thirty-five miles from Galway city to Maam Bridge.

Anglers are recommended to use a guide due to the lake's size and numerous underwater hazards. Inchaquin is the largest island in Lough Corrib comprising of 229 acres where St Brendan, the Navigator built a chapel. Its Irish name is Inis Mac-Hy-Chuinn, or the island of the descendants of Con, monarch of Ireland in the second century and in olden times the lake itself was called Inis-Uí-Chuinn. It was connected with the sea at Galway by a canal in 1852. Of all the great Irish Lakes, Lough Corrib alone appears to have left an indelible memory on those acquainted with it.

It is an angler's delight with plentiful amounts of salmon, trout, perch, pike and eels. Rowing boats can be hired for use on the lake and pleasure trips can be taken in the "Corrib Princess" waterbus.

Irish Language & Useful Numbers

USEFUL IRISH PHASES!

NATHANNA CAINTE

Hello *Dia Duit*

Welcome (One hundred thousand welcomes)

Céad míle fáilte

Thank you *Go raibh maith agat*

How are you? *Conas atá tú?*

How are you? *Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?*

Good, thank you *Go maith, go raibh maith agat*

Very well, thank you *Go maith slán a bheas tú*

Cheers *Sláinte*

Where are you from? *Cé as thú?*

I'm from America / Spain / France / Italy / Germany

Is as Meiriceá / an Spáinn / an Fhrainc / an Iodail / an Ghearmáin mé

What time is it please?

Cén t-am é, le do thoil?

It's one / two / three / four / five / six / seven / eight / nine / ten / eleven / twelve o'clock

Tá sé a haon / a dó / a trí / a ceathair / a cúig / a sé / a seacht / a hocht / a naoi / a deich / a haon déag / a dó dhéag a chlog

It's five / ten / quarter / twenty / twenty five / half past X

Tá sé cuig / deich / ceathrú / fiche / fiche cuig / leathuair tar eis a X

It's five / ten / quarter / twenty / twenty five to X

Tá sé cuig / deich / ceathrú / fiche / fiche cuig chun a X

THE GAELTACHT, AN GAELTACHT

While English is the language of everyday use for the vast majority of population, Irish is the first and official language of Ireland. The Gaeltacht is the term used to refer to those areas of Ireland where the Irish language (Gaeilge) is still spoken as a community language, and its culture and traditions are very much alive and thriving.

Situated mainly along the Western seaboard, the Gaeltacht covers extensive areas of counties Donegal, Mayo, Galway and Kerry and also parts of counties Cork, Meath and Waterford. Each region possesses an environment rich in heritage, folklore, culture and traditions, with a strong sense of its own identity and uniqueness.

West of Galway City, in Connemara is Ireland's largest Gaeltacht region. Here the Irish language is the everyday spoken language of people who live and work in Galway's cultural heartland. People here switch from Irish to English and vice-versa with ease and their English is peppered with Irish phrases. It remains one of the best examples of the distinctive culture and ethos of the Gaeltacht, reflected in its music, song and dance in areas naturally endowed with some of Ireland's finest scenery.



IRISH RECIPES - OIDIS GAELACH

Pot of Tea

There is nothing nicer with a slice of soda bread still warm from the oven, covered with lashings of butter, than a hot cup of tea. Tea should be made with freshly drawn, freshly-boiled water in a warmed pot and allowed to brew. The result will be a pleasant, refreshing drink.

To make a good pot of tea, bring freshly drawn water to a brisk boil. Pour a little into a 2 pint / 1 litre or an earthenware teapot to warm it, then empty the water out.

Using good quality tea, put 3-5 teaspoons, according to taste, into the warmed pot. Bring the water back to the boil and pour onto the tea leaves immediately.

Cover the pot with a tea-cosy and allow to brew for 5 minutes – any shorter and the flavor will not have developed, any longer and the tannin will start to come out, making the tea taste stewed. For the same reason, boiling water should be used to make the tea but the brew should not subsequently be boiled.

White Soda Bread

This bread is popular throughout Ireland. Because it is easily and quickly made it is often baked fresh for tea or even breakfast.

1lb/450g plain flour, 1tsp salt, 1 tsp baking soda, 1tsp sugar(optional), 1pt/500ml buttermilk (approx.)

Sieve the dry ingredients into a large bowl. Scoop up handfuls and allow to drop back into the bowl to aerate the mixture. Add enough buttermilk to make a soft dough. Knead the dough lightly – too much handling will toughen it, while too little means it won't be risen properly. Form a round loaf about as thick as your fist.

Place it on a lightly floured backing sheet and cut a cross in the top with a floured knife. Put it once to bake near the top of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 8, 450°F, 230°C for 30-45 minutes. When baked, the loaf will sound hollow when tapped on the bottom with your knuckles. Wrap immediately in a clean tea-towel to stop the crust hardening too much.

EMERGENCY & USEFUL NUMBERS

UIMHREACHA ÚSÁIDEACH

- **EMERGENCY** – 112/999
- Hospital – Accident and Emergency. University College Hospital – 091 580580
- Westdoc – 1 850 365000
- Garda Station – 091 538000
Salthill – 091 514720

Tourist Information

- Forster Street, Galway – 091537700
- Salthill (June - September) – 091520500
- Oranmore (June - September) – 091790811
- Automobile Association – 1800667788
- Directory Enquiries – 11811/11850

POST OFFICE General Post Office, Eglington Street and all main towns in county Galway

BANKS: 10:00 – 16:00 Monday to Friday

PHARMACY Late night and Sunday opening

- Samaritans – 1850609090
- Galway Family Planning Clinic – 091562992

TOURS, TRANSPORT & PARKING TAISTEAL & CARRCHLÓS

Parking in Galway City and County

On street pay and display parking: Pay and display parking operates from 08:30am to 18:30.

Public Car Parks

Short term car parks from Bowling Green/ Newtownsmith (Town center) and Mill Street (Beside Garda Station). Long term from the Cathedral and Dyke Road (close to Galway Shopping Center)

Salthill

Free surface car parking available along the Promenade, but not in the village center.

Multi-Storey

There are a number of privately run multi-storey car parks in the city center located at shopping centers and hotels.

Galway County

Pay and display parking in many towns & villages.



Junior Chamber International Galway is made up of young people who get involved in the community and make a difference.

JCI is a not for profit organization led and coordinated by volunteers.

Website: www.jcigalway.org



JCI Galway through its activities, it provides unique personal development opportunities for its members while at the same time contributing to the economic, social and cultural development of the community.

Well-established annual events in JCI Galway include training programs, charity fundraising efforts and sports and social events. The publication of this Tourist Guide, produced by a voluntary committee, now in its 47th edition, is the oldest and best-known project organized by JCI Galway. Up to one hundred thousand copies of this guide are distributed locally, nationally and internationally each year. JCI Galway encourages anybody who is interested in getting involved to come along to a meeting held every month.

Opportunities also exist for businesses interested in supporting the branch through sponsorship and patronage. Since the establishment of JCI Galway in 1961, we have served as a leadership training platform to encourage young people to be active citizens and create positive change in several areas including individual, international, community, and business.

2020 Main Projects:

- Ten Outstanding Young Persons
- Friendly Business Awards
- World Cleanup Day
- Easter Bunny
- JCI Galway Young Entrepreneur Awards
- Techgate Summit
- President & Alumni Gala Ball



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The Galway Tourist Guide launched in July 1962, promoting Galway City & County for decades and continues to in the future for the local community.

Galway Tourist Guide 47th Edition Credits

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Keith Killilea, Carol Ho, Anuj Agarwal & Caroline Gannon

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Acknowledgments:

This project is supported by Galway County Council Community Economic Development Fund.

Special thanks to Keith Killilea for the design of the Guide. Gallimhe na Gaeilge Clan Marneil and Maura Flynn for Irish translations. Fáilte Ireland West for support and photos. Photos also supplied by Jeff Warde. Adrian Martyn for walking tour & Association of Irish Festivals. Neil McNeilis, Rosemary O'Neill and Caroline Gannon. Eoin Gardiner for the front cover photo. Most importantly you the visitor and our Advertisers for continued support.

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