



A TO Z OF THINGS TO DO IN ENNISCORTHY AND COUNTY WEXFORD

Wexford County known as the "Model County" offers coastal villages, sunny seashores with numerous beaches, bird watch reserves, Festival Opera , Strawberry Fair, Johnstown Castle Gardens incorporating the Irish Agricultural Museum, the John F Kennedy Park and Arboretum and it is in the location of the Irish National Heritage Park.

ABBEY, CATHEDRALS, CHURCHES

Dunbrody Abbey-Dunbrody Abbey, founded in 1170, one of the finest examples of a Cistercian Monastery in Ireland. Attractions include [the Abbey](#), [the Maze](#) with Pitch & Putt, Craft Shop and Tea Room.

Enniscorthy - Saint Aidan's Cathedral was, designed by A.W. Pugin, work beginning in 1840. Because of the Great Famine it was not completed until 1860. The tall majestic building and elevated site adds to the imposing impression, especially because of the fine spire that was added in 1873.

Ferns – The original monastic foundation was plundered by the Vikings in 930. Only portions of the later Mc Murragh Kavanagh Abbey, dating from 1158, now survives. Partly incorporated into the present Church of Ireland building are the ruins of a Cathedral built in the 13th Century. It is very well presented with suitable signs and interpretative plaques. Also at Saint Mary's Abbey are a number of High Crosses dating from the 8th 7th 9th the Century, together with the broken shaft of a 12th Century cross which is believed to mark the final resting place of Dermot Mc Murragh.

Gorey – The Catholic Saint Michael's church was designed by Augustus W. Pugin (1812 – 1852). Dunbrody Abbey inspired the building with massive square tower. South of the town in Ballygarrett is the site of a very early Christian Settlement on which a 19th Century Church ruins still stands.

ANGLING - GAME

The Slaney River offers a range of angling opportunities being a well-known salmon river. The annual salmon season commences on Feb 1st, trout on March 1st while both seasons close on 30th Sept.

Licence and permits are available from:

- Myles Keogh Bar, Castle Hill, Enniscorthy, Tel No: 053 9233588
- Murphy's Tackle Shop, 92 North Main Street, Tel No: 053 9124717

A number of special local by laws are in operation on the Slaney in regard to fly fishing. Please enquire locally.



ANGLING – DEEP SEA

Approved operators and centres are located in:

Duncannon

South East Charters – Fast, purpose built angling boat, equipped with radar etc. Max 12 persons.

Contact: Walter Foley, Tel No: 051 389242/ 0872437148

Kilmore Quay – Saltees Princess

Daily cruises around the legendary Saltee Islands.

Contact: Declan Bates, Tel No: 053 9129684

Kilmore Quay – Autumn Dream

Wreck, Reef, Deep Water, Up Tiding and Tope Fishing. Boat trips around the Saltee Islands and film and photography trips available.

Contact: Eamonn Hayes, Tel No: 053 9129723

www.kilmoreangling.com

Dick Hayes

Reef & Wreck Fishing

Tel No: 053 9129704 or 088 5491119 (mobile)

Wexford Town

Wexford Boat Charters – Deep sea and wreck fishing, 143 The Faythe.

Contact: Nick Bowle, Tel No: 053 9145888 or 088 547110

ANGLING – SHORE

The varied coastline of Wexford County offers a wide variety of beach, shale and rock angling opportunities. Shore fishing is free. There are frequent competitions open to visitors and club groups.

Details are available in Tourist Offices or from Murphy's Tackle Shop, 92 North Main St., Tel No: 053 9124717

Cahore: Cahore Sea Angling Club - Gerry O' Loughlin

Tel No: 053 9127383

Rosslare: Rosslare Angling Club – Tommy Byrne

Tel No: 053 9132190

Other

Loch Mahon Lakes

The fishery has 3 spring fed lakes. Two lakes are filled with Rainbow trout and are open to both Fly & Bait fishing. The third lake is solely for Fly fishing with trout up to 6kg.

Kellystown, Adamstown, 053 9240707



ART GALLERIES

Crossabeg: Kyle Gallery and Craft Centre

Fine art, wood sculpture, stained glass, silk painting and antiques
Tel No: 053 9128433

Gorey: Woodland Crafts Gallery, Kilanerin

Frequent Exhibitions, Woodturning by appointment.
Contact: Micheal Murphy, Tel No: 0402 37474

Wexford Town: The Art Centre, Cornmarket

Frequent Exhibitions
Contact: Ms Joanna Murphy, Tel No: 053 9123764

Greenacres:

Tel:053 91 22975
www.greenacres.ie

Ivan Sutton
Kilmore Quay
Tel:053 91 29515
www.ivansutton.com

BIRDS, WILDLIFE

Wexford is acknowledged by all as the best county in Ireland for Bird Watching. Among the County's many sites, the more significant are:

North Sloblands

The Wexford Wildfowl Reserve – Perhaps as many as 10,000 (1/3 of the world's total population) of Greenland White fronted Geese winter here. Large flocks of geese and wading birds can be seen here each autumn. The well-equipped visitor centre has many interesting exhibitions; an audio visual show entitled "The Greenland Goose – Winter Visitor". There are fully developed facilities for bird watching, hides with guided tours on request.

Contact: Christopher Wilson, Tel No: 053 9123129

Hook Head – The peninsula is a landfall location for migrant land birds and a suitable vantage point to note the sea passage of migrant seabirds in both spring and autumn.



Raven Point Nature Reserve – Adjoining the Wexford Wildfowl Reserve. A summer venue

Tacumshane Lake – Winter concentration of waterfowl including Bewicks Swans, Brent Geese, Wigeon, Oystercatchers, Golden Plover and Lapwing. Vagrant American Waders are to be seen in the autumn.

BLUE FLAG BEACHES

The ultimate accolade for beaches offering clear waters and superior environmental enjoyment. Blue Flag status has been awarded by the European Commission to Courtown, Curracloe, Duncannon and Rosslare beaches.

CASTLES AND FORTS

Many are long abandoned and now stand, mute testament to the skilled craftsmen and the stirring times that created them. 51 castle sites are listed in the widely regarded guidebook, Archaeological inventory of County Wexford (OPW 1996). Only some of the more noteworthy are listed here:

Enniscorthy Castle

An imposing Norman Castle built by the Prendergast Family in the 13th century. This castle together with St Aidan's cathedral dominates the historic town of Enniscorthy under the famed Vinegar Hill. Built in 1205, the castle was actually occupied as a residence up to 1951 and was adapted for use as a museum in 1961.

Tel No: 053 9235926

Ferns Castle

An impressive ruin of a Norman Fortification, dating from the 13th century. It has a chequered history and was owned by an Irish family, a bishop and later a countess during the 14th century alone. The Maccurrough Kavanaghs held it for some 200 years until it was retaken by Lord Grey in 1536. The castle, now in state care, is open to the public and guided tours are available during the summer months.

Contact: Jim Gethings, Tel No: 053 9366746

Ballyhack Castle

Dates from the 16th century. The first two floors have been renovated. The castle houses a number of exhibits, some of which relate to other heritage sites in the area.

Tel No: 051 389468



CRAFT STUDIOS

Enniscorthy has been one of Ireland's main pottery areas for centuries. The most well recognised are:

Badger Hill Pottery- Stoneware, oven to table ware.
Contact: Pat Collins, Tel No: 053 9235060

Ballyellend Pottery - Castlebridge
www.ballyellendpottery.com Tel 053 91 59930

Carley's Bridge Pottery- Specialises in large terracotta pots.
Contact: Martina O'Neill, Tel No: 053 9233512

Castle Hill Crafts- Open all year.
Contact: Maura Flannery, Tel No: 053 9236800

Creations by Annette Whelan
Annette specialises in stained glass, hand painted glass fused glass and mosaic. She makes mirrors, lamps, sun catchers, candle holders vases and much more. Libgate, Kilmore, Wexford. Tel (0)53 912 9628

Kiltrea Bridge Pottery- Garden & plant pots and country kitchen crocks.
Contact: Micheal Roche, Tel No: 053 9235107
www.kiltreapottery.com

Hillview Pottery– Established more than 400 years.
Contact: Paddy Murphy, Tel No: 053 9235443

Paul Maloney Pottery-Barntown
www.paulmaloneypottery.com Tel 053 91 20188

Selskar Design
Dedicated to showcasing and promoting the best in craft and design from the county of Wexford.
Tel No:053 9146506

CRUISING RESTAURANTS

New Ross: Galley Cruising Restaurant
Providing a splendid meal while you enjoy a superb cruise.
Contact: Capt. Dick Fletcher, Tel No: 051 421723



CYCLING

Please see our cycling section on our website for cycling packages, clubs and routes in Wexford and Carlow.

South East Cycle Tours Ltd, Mary St, Enniscorthy

Contact: Paul Nolan, Tel No: 053 9233255

Kenny's for bikes, Slaney St, Enniscorthy

Contact: Paul Nolan, Tel No: 053 9233255

EXHIBITIONS & MUSEUMS

Camolin: Ballymore Historic Features

Small museum at the centre of a traditional farm which also contains an ancient church, mote, holy well and period farmyard.

Contact: Mr Richard Donavan, Tel No: 053 9383189

Craanford Village

Craanford Mills is a 17th century; corn grinding, water mill which has been restored to full working order. The works are on view to visitors with additional interpretative data and explanatory exhibits. Wholesome food served in the Kiln lift.

Contact: Micheal Lyons, Tel No: 055 28124 or 055 28392

Enniscorthy – Wexford County Museum

Housed in an important medieval castle, of considerable interest in its own right, the museum contains a wide range of items and artefacts depicting mostly 19th and early 20th century history. Tel No: 053 9235926

Fr. Murphy Centre – Boolavogue, Ferns

Restored farm house where Fr. Murphy lived. Tranquil, mature gardens with picnic area, tea rooms and craft shop.

Tel No: 053 9366898

Hook lighthouse

Hook Lighthouse is a unique example of an almost intact medieval lighthouse. It dates from the early 13th century and was a major feat at the time of its construction. Purpose built as a lighthouse, it has served sailors and shipping for 800 years, apart from a short closure during the 17th century. It is thought to be one of the oldest operational lighthouses in the world. *Hook Head, Fethard-on-Sea, Co. Wexford* Tel: 00 353 (0)51 397055/4

National 1798 Visitor Centre

This is a unique, family friendly, enthralling interpretative exhibition which combines audio-visual presentation, interactive computers, storybooks and original artefacts. Facilities include access for visitors with disabilities, baby changing rooms, car/ coach parking, picnic area and quality tea rooms and craft shop.

Tel No: 053 9235540 www.1798centre.com



Irish Agricultural Museum at Johnstown Castle Old Farmyard

The National Museum of Agriculture and Rural life is located in the former estate farmyard within the extensive ornamental grounds of Johnstown Castle.
Tel No: 053 9142888

Irish National Heritage Park, Ferrycarraig

The region's showpiece exhibition, on a well developed 35 acre site, overlooking the Slaney River. The Irish National Heritage Park is made up of fourteen faithfully replicated sites, depicting man's first settlement in Ireland from 7,000 BC up to the coming of the Norman's in the 12th century AD. Lake dwellings, pre-historic and early historic houses are depicted, as well as a medieval castle, even a Viking Shipyard are among the many fine exhibition the most memorable of visitor attractions.
Tel No: 053 9120733 www.inhp.com

Tagoat: Yola Farmstead

Reconstructed farm buildings, flora and fauna walk, crafts studio and children's play area. Official genealogical Centre for County Wexford.
Tel No: 053 931177

SS Dunbrody ..Dunbrody Famine Ship

The 176 feet long, three masted, barque is scheduled to sail into Boston in 1999. Traditional methods of timber construction are being used and an elevated viewing platform viewing enables the visitor to fully appreciate the work in progress and the skills involved.
Contact: Sean Reidy, Tel No: 051 425239

EQUESTRIAN

Wexford provides a wide choice of horse riding facilities suitable for every rider, novice or experienced and regardless of age. Trekking and trial riding over farmland, forest and mountain is available, as are cross-country courses designed to please the more experienced rider. A variety of training programmes is also available. Some riding schools provide holidays for unaccompanied children.

Belmont Equestrian Centre

Camolin Tel 053 9383993

Butterfly Farm Equestrian Centre

Contact: Alma Byrne, Camolin Tel No: 087 7666618

Curracloe House Equestrian Centre

Contact: Bill Fiske, Tel No: 053 9137129 or 088 2662428

Gorey: Laraheen Pony Trekking, Laheen House

Contact: Josephine Buttle, Tel No: 053 9428289

Shelmalier Riding Stables

Trinity, Taghmon Tel 053 91 39251



Kingsfort Riding Stables

Barntown Tel 053 91 34065

Wexford Race Course- Please contact reception for the fixtures listing

GARDENS, PARKS & HOUSES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Curracloe Nature Trails

A delightful, 800 metres nature trail through the seashore sand dunes, supported by an informative and colourful, 20 page booklet available from The Winning Post.

Tel No: 053 9142211

Kennedy Homestead

The Kennedy Homestead, birthplace of President John F. Kennedy's great-grandfather Patrick Kennedy, celebrates the story of five generations of the Kennedy dynasty and is still today farmed by his descendants. The Visitor Centre with its unique collection of John F. Kennedy memorabilia, Audio-Visual Display, Souvenir Shop & Picnic Area. Dunganstown, New Ross, Tel (0)51 388264

Killinick: Shortalstown Gardens

84 year old gardens, featuring rare trees and shrubs.

Contact: Helen Miller, Tel No: 053 9158836

John F Kennedy Arboretum

A plant collection of international standing with 4,500 types of trees and shrubs from all regions of the world. Covers 252 hectares.

Contact: Mr Christopher Kelly, Tel No: 051 388171

Johnstown Castle Gardens

The gardens of Johnstown Castle have a large gothic revival style mansion incorporating part of a more ancient castle, Rathlannon Castle, the ruin of a medieval tower house, 50 acres of ornamental grounds with over 200 different kinds of trees and shrubs, three ornamental lakes with wildfowl, walled gardens and hothouses, and a picnic area in the old sunken garden between the main park and castle. Opening times for gardens 9.00am- 5.30pm all year.

Tel No: 053 9171200

Wexford Town: Heatherset, Rocklands

Small prize winning garden with extensive choice of plants, set against a backdrop of Mediterranean Pines. It is especially delightful in the western light on summer evenings.

Contact: Mrs Mary White, Tel No: 053 9123026



RIVERSIDE PARK
hotel & leisure club

Golfing

Excellent golf packages available for Weekend and midweek in various golf Clubs at a preferential rate.

GOLF CLUBS

Enniscorthy Golf Club	053 9233191
Courtown Golf Club	053 9425166
Wexford Golf Club	053 9142238
Rosslare Golf Club	053 9132203
New Ross Golf Club	051 421433
St Helens Bay Golf Club	053 91 33669
Bunclody Golf Club	053 93 74444

PAR 3 COURSES

Ballymoney	18 Hole	053 9425139
Blackwater	18 Hole	053 9129199
Borrmount	18 Hole	053 919247776
Duncannon	9 Hole	051 389188
Garrylough	18 Hole	053 9137246
Rathnaspeck	18 Hole	053 9146155
Scarke	18 Hole	087 2374444
Tara Glen	18 Hole	053 9425413
W'ton Bridge	18 Hole	051 561308

GOLF DRIVING RANGES

Ballymoney	053 9425519
Borrmount	053 9247776
Garrylough	053 9137246
Scarke	087 2374444

Pitch and Putt

St Patricks Pearse Road, Enniscorthy
Castle View Heights Broadway

stpatrickspc@gmail.com
053 91 31140



GREYHOUND RACING

Enniscorthy

Monday and Thursday evenings at 8pm, Tel No: 053 9233172

GUIDED WALKING TOURS

Enniscorthy

Departs from opposite the Castle, available in French and English. Conducted visits by coach to Vinegar Hill and Borodale Nature Trail are also available.

Contact: Ms Maura Flannery, Tel No: 053 9236800

Oulart Hill and the 1798 Village

Scene of a famous battle during the 1798 rebellion. Panoramic views from the top of Oulart Hill, where a series of commemorative stones have been installed, one in respect of each battle site which can be seen from this elevated car park.

Tours by prior appointment.

Contact: Ray Murphy, Tel No: 053 9136498

OPEN FARMS

Blackwater Open Farm

Visit for a fun day out for the whole family, meet the animals, play in the playground, ride the tractors and enjoy a bite to eat at our café

Ballinaclesh, Blackwater .Tel 085 1227901 / 087 1303057

Ballygarrett: Shrúle Deer Farm – Red and Sika Deer and other animals.

Tel No: 053 9427277

Ferns: Tobergal Farm, Boolavogue

Educated Tours and children's groups.

Tel No: 053 9266286

Gorey: Kia Ora Indoor Mini Farm - Wide range of native and foreign animals.

Tel No: 053 9421166

Young McDonalds Animal Park, Askamore –

Varied selection of animals, river walks, play area and coffee shop.

Tel No: 053 9426312

Gorey: Shrúle Pet Farm – A varied and interesting selection of farm animals, pets and poultry. Extensive play area, refreshments, self catering picnic area and gifts available. Tel No: 053 9427277



SIGNPOSTED CAR ROUTES

Distinctively signposted car touring routes range through coastal, scenic and always interesting countryside. Some routes have supporting guidebooks and other literature. Established routes include:

- Bannon Drive
- Ring of Hook
- Slaney Drive
- Wexford Coast Road Drive

Spas

Monart Destination Spa, Ireland's only, Adult only destination Spa offering beauty treatments and spa packages. The Still Enniscorthy. Phone: +353 (0)53 92 38999

OTHER RECREATIONAL ITEMS AND EVENTS

Bree community centre; an evening of **Irish music**, song, dance and storytelling. Every Tuesday night during July and August.
Tel No: 053 9247000

Ar Mbreacha – House of **storytelling** Camolin. Bring your own food, refreshments and share in an evening of storytelling, drama, prayer and art.
Tel No: 053 9144148

Pirates Cove, Courttown, purpose built centre, offering **adventure golf**, ten pin **bowling** and many other adult's and children's attractions.
Tel No: 053 9125555

Shielbaggan Outdoor Education Centre

They offer the following family friendly activities, at Shielbaggan OEC we are proud to be the South East's premier provider of Outdoor Activities.

The Activities we can offer include;

Sea Kayaking ,Coasteering ,Whitewater Kayaking ,Team Challenge ,Orienteering ,Archery ,Hillwalking ,Rockclimbing

Quad attack Visit the track at **Quad attack** for adventurous cross-country driving over a rugged 80 acre course in all seasons.

Tel No: 053 9244660

Paintballing Delta Force

Tel No: 053 9244717 www.deltaforcepaintball.ie

Go With The Flow River Adventures

River adventures on many and varied stretches of water throughout Ireland. Ranging from village hopping lake trips, to floating along peaceful, tranquil stretches of Ireland's inland waterway system, to thrilling paddling on exciting white-water rivers.
Tel No: 087 2529700



Wexford Playzone, Indoor adventure play area for children.
Clonard Tel: 053 91 84509 www.playzone.ie

Leisure Max Bowling Alley Indoor adventure play area for children with bowling alley.
Drinagh Tel: 053 91 22900 www.leisuremax.ie

Theatre / Cinema

Many informal performances are mounted in various towns in the county during the season. Tourist offices will provide current details. Towns with established theatre groups include Gorey, New Ross and Wexford.

Gorey Little Theatre

Gorey Theatre Hall, Gorey Little Theatre Group Tel No: 053 9421248

Wexford Town

Theatre Royal Wexford Festival Opera Tel No: 053 9122144

Wexford Arts Centre

Catering for visual arts, drama and concerts
Cornmarket, Wexford Tel 053 91 23764

Enniscorthy Cinema – Slaney Plaza

Templishannon Tel 053 92 37066

Wexford Omniplex

Rosslare Road, Drinagh Tel 0818 221 122

TO WALK, DRIVE OR CYCLE

Visit our web site for activities for Walking and Cycling Routes.

Forest walks and mountain walks – Borodale, Mount Leinster, Camolin Park, Castleboro and White Mountain, Rathnure, Boolavogue, Ferns and Killane.
For further information on the above activities, please contact Enniscorthy Tourist Information Office, Tel No; 053 9234699