

# A Route To Be Experienced

With striking castles to discover, dramatic landscapes to explore, incredible food to taste, and fascinating stories to hear, your unforgettable visit along the unique Causeway Coastal Route will be an experience like no other. At every twist and turn along the 130 mile route linking Belfast Lough with Lough Foyle,

you can immerse yourself in the history of the area through taking tours with local guides, listening to traditional storytellers, visiting landmarks, and enjoying all of the activities, local crafts, and culinary delights that are on offer. Whether you want to wander through gardens, discover hidden gems by foot, horse or

even e-bike, create your own unique piece of art, or take to the water by boat, kayak, or paddleboard, you're guaranteed to make special memories that will last a lifetime. This is not just a driving route, it is a route full of experiences. Once experienced you will understand why Lonely Planet rated it as a must visit destination.



# How to Use this Guide

This guide showcases a range of authentic, unique and local experiences suitable for groups and individuals. It is broken up into specific colour-coded sections covering Castles, Culture, Food & Drink, Creative and Activities both on land and in the water as well as other useful information. For quick reference see details below:

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# Key to Experience at a Glance Symbols



**Tourism NI Visitor Experience Grading** 



Approx. length of visit



**Outdoors** 



Minimal walking



Moderate walking



Lots of walking





Refreshments included



Meal included



Coach parking



Shopping



Disabled access



Food & Drink available to purchase



**Public toilets** 



**National Trust** 

# Part of The Giant Spirit Experience collection

# All across Northern Ireland, you'll see People hard at work. It's in our blood.

There's always bread to be baked, fish to be caught, trails to be walked, tunes to be our big-hearted hosts look forward to played, tales to be told and smiles to be had. And we're more than happy to share all of that with you.

The Embrace a Giant Spirit Experience Collection represents who we are and everything that's good about us. Our passion. Our warmth. Our respect for heritage and history. Our sense of place. Our giant spirit. Each has a unique story to tell that adds to the rich fabric of your visit to Northern Ireland.

Whatever experiences you choose, welcoming you as you embrace the giant spirit that lives strong in Northern Ireland.

For a full list of all experiences: discovernorthernireland.com/thingsto-do/the-giant-spirit-experiencecollection



# Castle Experiences

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From romantic ruins to elegant homes, the Causeway Coastal Route has plenty of castles to discover. Find out all about the fascinating past of Carrickfergus Castle, one of the best-preserved medieval structures in Ireland, walk through the beautiful gardens of Glenarm Castle and visit its wonderful museum, or explore the ruins of Dunluce Castle and uncover its historic secrets. Providing the perfect opportunity to step back into the past of the Causeway Coast, each castle has its own amazing story to tell, and many are great for a family day out offering fun and educational activities for children to enjoy.



Glenarm Castle Estate, 2 Castle Lane, Glenarm BT44 0BQ Glenarm Castle is the ancestral home of the McDonnell family, Earls of Antrim, who have been in Glenarm for nearly 600 years and owned the Estate for over 400 years. The castle is first and foremost the private family home of the Earl and Countess of Antrim and their family, but they are delighted to welcome visitors to Glenarm Castle for private group tours and guided public tours on selected dates throughout the year.

Delve deep into the history of this special Castle brought to life by the family butler and house staff within the walls of the drawing room, the dining room, the 'Blue Room' and the Castle's striking hall. In the house you will see superb examples of Irish furniture as well as portraits of family members from the early 17th century through to the present day.

Finish the day with the glorious sight of the historic Walled Garden, which dates back to the 17th century. Originally created to supply the Castle with its fruit and vegetables, it is now filled with beautiful flowers and specimen plants to interest the keenest garden enthusiast. Onsite catering options include: Glenarm Castle Tea Rooms; The Potting Shed; The Milk Parlour and the Pizza Pavilion.

# **Operating hours:**

As this is a private residence, dates are limited and booking in advance is required.

### Cost:

Adult £17.50 per person Concession/Pensioner £12.50 per person

Children (4-17 years) £7.50 per person

Children (Under 3 years) free Group price / discount:

£15 per person for groups of 16 and above. Please note if groups fall below 16 guests the minimum cost will be £250 in total.

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 30

# How to book:

Visit: glenarmcastle.com
Tel: +44 (0)28 2889 8113

#### For further information:

Contact: William Rainey
E: welcome@glenarmcastle.com

# Additional information:

Public castle tours can be booked online or at the Welcome Centre within the estate. Group bookings can be made over the phone or by emailing with the requested date of tour.

# Experience at a Glance











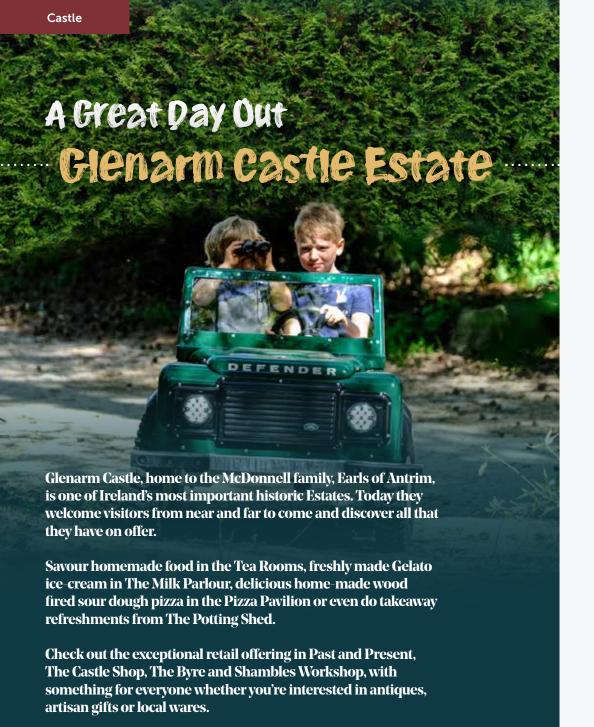












Enjoy enchanted walks in the Walled Garden & Woodland Walk, 'Home to Percy the Park Keeper'. Delve deep into the history of Glenarm Castle in their Heritage Centre & Coachworks Museum

Let your little ones take a turn in the driving seat at their Mini Land Rover Experience: Ireland's first ever off-road adventure designed just for kids. Or you can hire out e-bikes to explore more of the Causeway Coastal Route and Antrim Glens - available for full day, half day and weekend bookings. Or try a stone masonry class with Carved at the Castle? You can even stay overnight in one of their luxurious 4\* pods with stunning views across the Irish Sea. Special events are also held throughout the year.

# **Operating hours:**

Opening hours vary dependant on activity or business so please check website before departure. Alternatively ring the Welcome Centre which is open from Monday to Sunday 09:00 – 17:00. Please note - some activities require advance booking.

#### Cost:

Walled Garden, Woodland Walk, Heritage Centre & Museum admission

Adult £10 per person

Concession £8.50 per person

Youth (4-17 years) £5 per person

Children (Under 3 years) free

Member: RHS/HHA free

Group price / discount:

Walled Garden, Woodland Walk, Heritage

Centre & Museum admission (Group Size 12+)

Adult £8.50 per person

Concession £7 per person

Child (4-17 years) £2.50 per person

Children (Under 3 years) free

Half day session: £35 (From 10:00 - 13:00 or

14.00 - 17.30

Full day session: £50 (From 10:00 - 16.30)

Weekend Booking: £85

# How to book:

Visit: glenarmcastle.com Tel: +44 (0)28 2889 8113

### For further information:

Contact: William Rainey

E: welcome@glenarmcastle.

E: william@glenarmcastle.com

Number restrictions may apply to some activities.

#### Additional information:

Coach parking available at main car park. Vegan / vegetarian and gluten free dining options available onsite. Where possible they make provisions to ensure the site is accessible for wheelchair, mobility scooter and buggy users. Please speak to the friendly on-site staff for any special requirements.

# Experience at a Glance













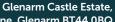


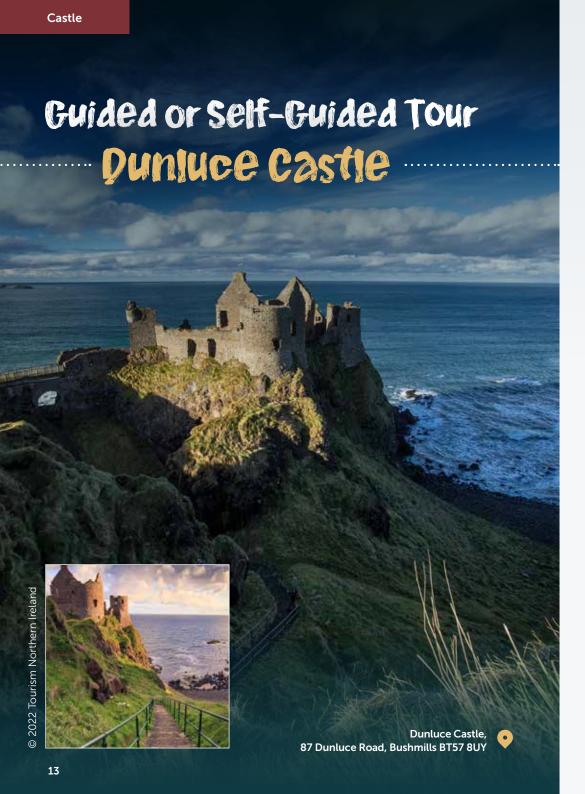






2 Castle Lane, Glenarm BT44 0BQ





Experience Dunluce Castle with a guided or self-guided tour.

The cliff top ruins of Dunluce Castle, make it one of the most picturesque and romantic of Irish Castles. With evidence of settlement from the first millennium, the present castle ruins date mainly from the 16th and 17th centuries. It was inhabited by both the feuding McQuillan and MacDonnell clans. Historical and archaeological exhibits are on display for your viewing. Guided tours last approximately 1 hour.

There is a gift shop onsite selling souvenirs, books, jewellery and toys.

Dunluce is an impressive castle set in a stunning, scenic location with panoramic views of the beautiful Causeway Coast. Opportunities for photographers are limitless!

# **Operating hours:**

Regular opening hours are: February to November: Daily 09:30 -17:00. December/January: Daily 09.30 - 16:00.

Note: Last admission 30 minutes before closing.

### Cost:

Adult £6 per person
Concession £4.50 per person
Child (5-17 years) £4 per person
Child (under 5 years) free
Family (up to 5 people) £18
Group price / discount:

Group Rate (15 adults or more) £4.50 per person.

# How to book:

E: dunluce.castle@communities-ni. gov.uk (for tour group bookings) scmenquiries@communities-ni. gov.uk (for general enquiries)

Tel: **+44 (0)28 2073 1938** 

### For further information:

Contact: Kenny Hynds /
Steven Harron
Visit: www.communities-ni.gov.uk/
heritage-sites/dunluce-castle

#### Additional information:

Pre-booking is only required for tour groups. Dress appropriately for weather. Comfortable walking shoes/boots and warm layers of clothing advised as the site is outdoors.

The site is on a steep gradient with various ground surfaces (e.g. grass and cobbles) and may not be suitable for those with limited mobility. The castle has different levels which are only accessible by steps. Onsite car park available. Coach drop off only with parking nearby at Magheracross. No dogs are permitted except assistance dogs.

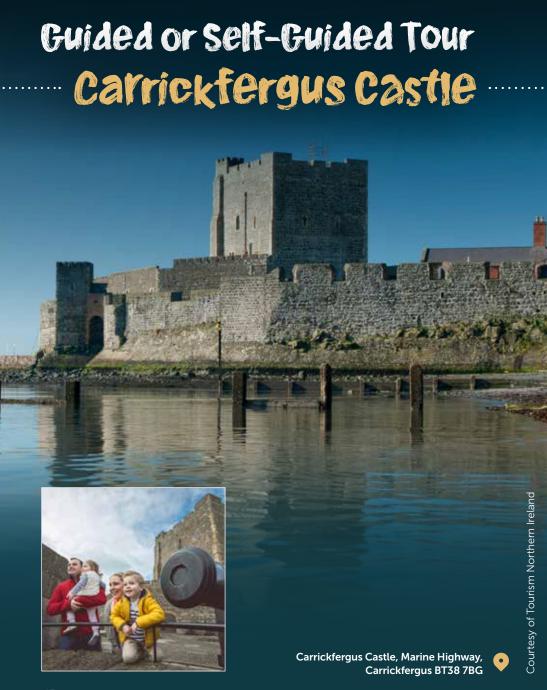












Carrickfergus Castle is an impressive Norman castle, situated in the town of Carrickfergus on the northern shore of Belfast Lough.

Besieged in turn by the Scots, Irish, English and French, the castle played an important military role until 1928. It remains one of the best preserved medieval structures in Ireland and has been an imposing monument on the Northern Ireland landscape whether approached by land, sea or air, offering commanding views over Belfast Lough and beyond.

A visit will give you the opportunity to experience more than 800 years of history brought to life. Guided tours and self-guiding available. Guided tours last 45 - 60 minutes.

Gift shop available to purchase a memento of your visit. No dogs permitted except assistance dogs.

# **Operating hours:**

Tuesday to Sunday, 09:30 - 16:30

### Cost:

Adult: £6

Child (5-17 years): £4 Child (under 5 years): Free

Concession: £4.50

Family (up to 5 people): £18

Group price / discount:

Group rate available for 15 adults (+1 tour guide free) £4.50 per person

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 30

# How to book:

E: carrickfergus.castle@ communities-ni.gov.uk

Tel: **+44 (0)28 9335 1273** 

#### For further information:

Contact: Ineta Kirvelaityte
Visit: discovernorthernireland.com

#### Additional information:

Dress appropriately for NI Weather. Comfortable walking shoes/boots and warm layers of clothing advised as part of the site is outdoors.

There is some disabled access (educational centre, ground floor of the main building and grounds only). There are various ground surfaces including cobbles and the castle has different levels which are only accessible by steps so may not be suitable for those with limited mobility. Sensory room available.

Large public car park for coach parking located beside castle.

# Experience at a Glance





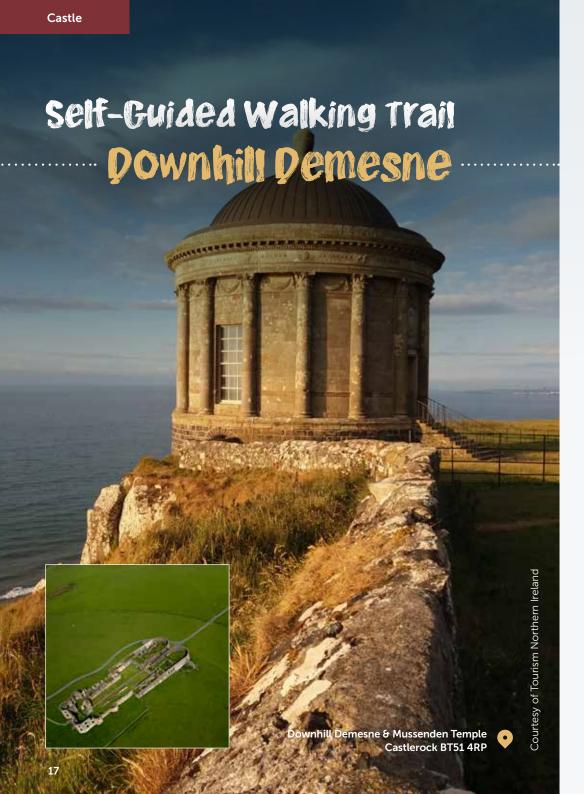












Enjoy a leisurely stroll around the stunning Downhill Demesne with its beautiful, sheltered gardens and cliff walks. Visit the apple orchard in the walled garden, and the beautiful 18th-century folly, Mussenden Temple, originally inspired by the Tivoli Temple of Vesta.

Start at the Bishop's Gate entrance to the Demesne and enter into the Bishop's Gate Gardens. Take the right track and pass through a relict arboretum with many rare tree species.

Follow signs for Mussenden Temple and you will soon leave the trees behind to enter an area of open grassland with views of the majestic ruins of Downhill House. You can turn left towards the Walled Garden or explore the ruin, either way the paths will lead you towards Mussenden Temple, perched on the cliff edge. From here you can enjoy dramatic views of the Inishowen Peninsula.

Follow the path along the cliff towards the east and you will come to a small collection of trees; take the stile on the left side. Steps lead you down to the pond and back to Bishop's Garden. Finish with a coffee and sweet treat from Al's Coffee. Facilities include car park, toilets and light refreshments.

# **Operating hours:**

Grounds open all year. See website for opening times.

#### Cost:

See website for car park prices

Group price / discount: Contact National Trust for group booking prices

# How to book:

Visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ mussenden-temple-anddownhill-demesne

Tel: +44 (0)28 7084 8728

#### For further information:

Contact: National Trust E: mussendentemple@nationaltrust.org.uk

# Additional information:

Mussenden Temple and Hezlett House are open for events only.

Parking at Lion's Gate is paid by PayByPhone app.

Picnic tables are available at Lion's Gate.

Fully accessible grounds, mown grass paths, gravel paths and slight undulating terrain with some steep steps. Dogs are welcome.

Accessible toilet at Lion's gate available - please ensure accompanying adult knows when using facilities in case of emergency.





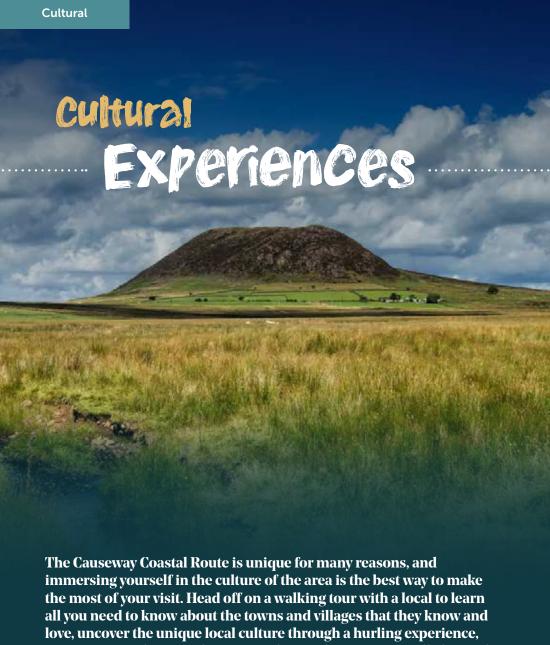












The Causeway Coastal Route is unique for many reasons, and immersing yourself in the culture of the area is the best way to make the most of your visit. Head off on a walking tour with a local to learn all you need to know about the towns and villages that they know and love, uncover the unique local culture through a hurling experience, turf cutting or discover the story of the Lambeg Drum. You'll also find plenty of museums, including Whitehead Railway Museum which tell tales of times gone by, stories about people from the past, and facts about the land you're exploring. For evening entertainment, try the Ballycastle Music Trail or a local pub. Whatever you choose to do, you're guaranteed to quickly discover just how special this area is.

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Natalie is an expert on tracing the roots of members of the Irish, Scotch-Irish and Ulster-Scots diaspora. If you're planning a return visit to Ireland, she will ensure that your visit is utterly individual for you. And that it will stay in your memory.

Here's how it works. Perhaps you already have some knowledge about your family history in Ireland. In this case Natalie can build an itinerary of places to visit based on what you know. Alternatively, with the help of some information supplied by you, Natalie will research your family history before you arrive. Then she can base a tour on her findings, your budget and the time available.

Then again you might prefer to visit the archives yourself. Natalie knows her way around all the most likely sources of useful information, the archives and the record repositories. She'll point you in the right direction, accompany you on your visit and guide you in your search when you arrive. Armed with your findings, Natalie will help you do that amazing, spine-tingling, once-in-a-lifetime thing: to walk in the footsteps of your ancestors.

# **Operating hours:**

Throughout the year, but please note that as much notice as possible is requested due to lead-in time for research.

# Cost:

To be determined – based upon a bespoke itinerary.

# Based on:

There is no maximum number but this is a small group bespoke activity based upon an individual's family and therefore unsuitable for large groups.

# How to book:

E: enquiries@rootsrevealed.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7935 315235

# For further information:

Contact: **Natalie Bodle**Visit: **www.rootsrevealed.co.uk** 

## Additional information:

Genealogy research may need to be undertaken prior to the tour. The need for this will be determined through a conversation with the potential client. Places for food and refreshments will be sourced as part of the tour.

# Experience at a Glance













# Carrickfergus during WWII Lead The Way Tours



Town of Carrickfergus, with tours starting from beside the Castle BT38 7BG



Step back in time and learn how the County Antrim town of Carrickfergus played a hugely significant role during the Second World War with stories of the people who saw Carrickfergus as their "home" either as a resident, worker or member of the British, American or Belgian Armies.

Using a wide range of contemporary photographs, artefacts and stories, your tour which stops at key locations, brings to life the late 1930s and early 1940s. Adrian, your enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide, will take you back to that time, regaling you with tales of what life during wartime was like in Carrickfergus.

Find out how the 1941 Belfast Blitz impacted on the town, why a former British Army camp was key to the formation of an elite US Army unit, what a linen mill started producing for the war effort, and where "servicemen under sentence" found themselves locked up. This is an interesting and informative tour, with important lessons for a modern audience.

Public tours involves an approx. 1.5 mile walk. Private tours can have a route distance agreed at time of booking (0.75 - 3 miles) depending on mobility of guests. Private tours can include a visit to the US Rangers Museum just outside the town centre, subject to its opening days/times.

# **Operating hours:**

Most Saturday mornings for public tours, but private tours can be offered on other days/times.

#### Cost:

From £10 per person

Group price / discount:

From £8 per person for 6 or more persons

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 15

# How to book:

Visit: www.leadthewaytour.com Tel: +44 (0)7916 780474

# For further information: Contact: Adrian Hack

E: adrian.hack@sky.com

### Additional information:

As the tour route is entirely outdoors, please consider the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing. Comfortable footwear recommended.





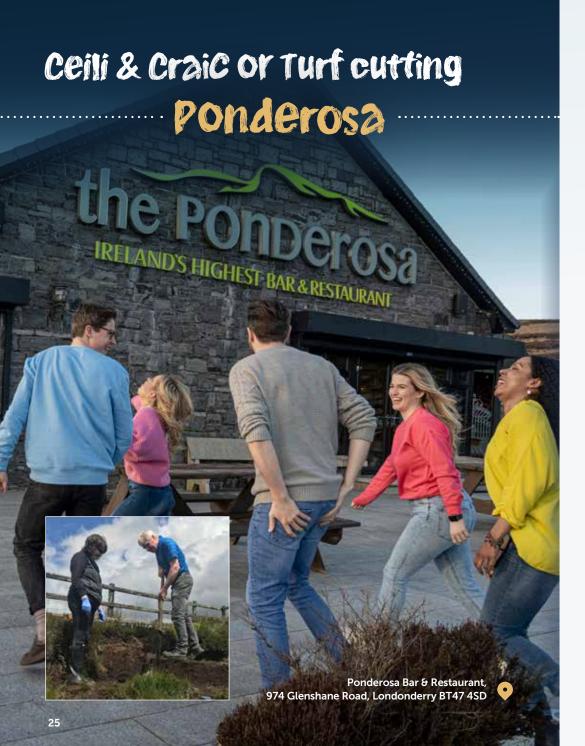












The Ponderosa is Ireland's highest bar and restaurant with breath-taking views of the Sperrin Mountains. It offers everything you could wish for in the way of old-world charm and atmosphere.

# Experience 1: A Night of Ceili & Craic

Paddy Joe's traditional Irish pub is renowned for its evenings of music and dancing or 'ceili' ('kay-lee') as they say in Irish. Throw in their unique blend of fun and banter (known locally as 'craic') and you're in for an unforgettable evening devoted to the essentials of traditional Irish culture, hospitality and socialising. Take your seat for supper as traditional Irish music plays. The menu focuses on locally-sourced produce and includes favourites such as Irish stew and shepherd's pie. There'll be skilled musicians providing live music and expert Irish dancers who will perform a mixture of jigs, reels and other dances.

# **Experience 2: Turf Cutting Experience**

Enjoy a turf cutting demonstration in the Sperrin Mountains, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A local guide will show you the traditional tools and methods used in days gone by for cutting turf, which will be followed by an opportunity to pull your own pint of Guinness in Paddy Joe's old-time pub, and to enjoy a 2-course meal in front of the turf fire in Ponderosa Restaurant.

Souvenirs available to purchase onsite.

# **Operating hours:**

Limited dates – must be pre-booked

#### Cost:

Experience 1: From £25 per person Experience 2: From £30 per person

Group price / discount: Call to discuss

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 30 / 50

# For further information:

How to book:

Tel: **+44 (0)28 7774 1987** 

Visit: www.theponderosabar.com

Contact: Jill O'Donnell E: jill@theponderosabar.com

#### Additional information:

Pre-booking required.













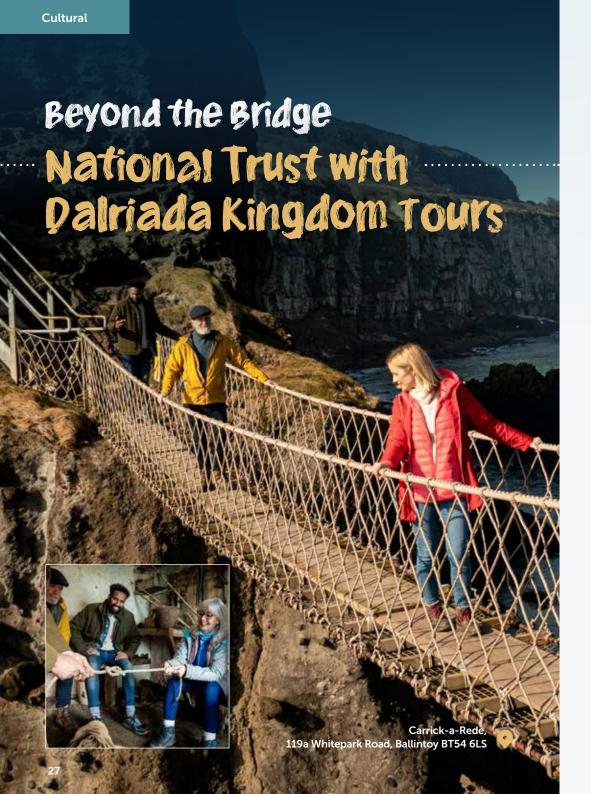
















Suspended almost 100 ft (30 m) above sea level, the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge was first erected by salmon fishermen over 250 years ago and is one of the most iconic sights on the Causeway Coastal Route.

Join Dalriada Kingdom Tours for a special guided walking tour where you follow in the footsteps of generations of salmon fishermen. Venture across this exhilarating bridge and down to the whitewashed, stone-built fishermen's cottage that has provided shelter and a place to rest for the men who once earned their living here. Immerse yourself in stories of a fishing industry that sustained generations of local families.

Try your hand at tying knots with rope and get to feel just how heavy those sacks of salmon really were. Take time to enjoy the stunning views and embrace the tranquillity of this magical little place.

This tour involves a 1 km walk and then across the rope bridge to Carrick-a-Rede Island

Snacks and beverages are available to purchase.

### **Operating hours:**

Phone or email for availability

### Cost:

Price on request

Group price / discount:

Price on request Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 8

#### Additional information:

Coach parking available to pre-book.

# How to book:

Tel: +44 (0)28 2073 1855

northcoastbookings@ nationaltrust.org.uk

# For further information:

Contact: Susan Smith

Visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ giants-causeway



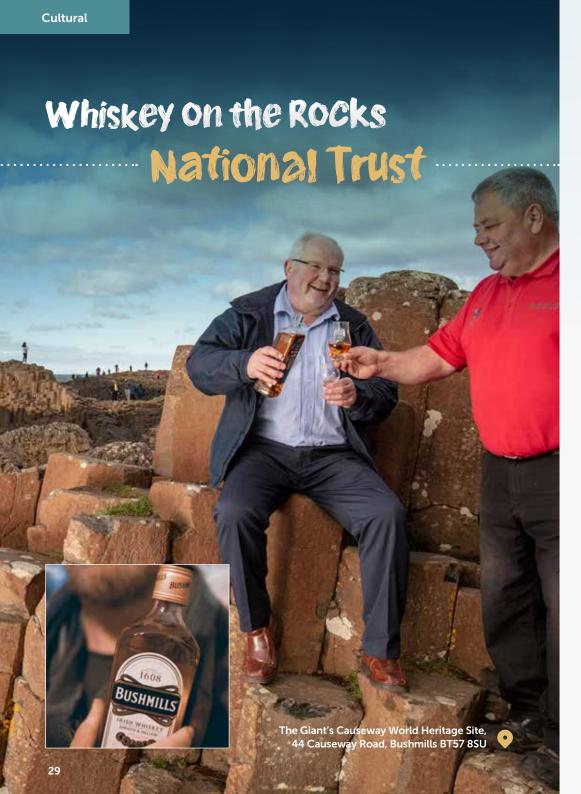
















Enjoy a unique guided whiskey tasting walk and talk.

Walk the slow road to the Giant's Causeway and hear all about this amazing UNESCO World Heritage Site and of course the world's oldest whiskey distillery – Old Bushmills.

Your storytelling guides will immerse you in tales of the great legend of Finn McCool and stories of a bygone era where the winding river Bush connects basalt and whiskey. Sheltered amongst the majestic columns you can enjoy the waves and views. It's also a fitting place to toast our famous giant with a tasting of the exclusive 12 year old malt.

Whiskey tasting of special 12-year-old malt is included. Other snacks and refreshments are available to purchase from the café. Souvenir shopping is available within the Visitor Centre.

# **Operating hours:**

There is availability for experiences during Visitor Centre opening hours and also for out of hours tours.

### Cost:

From £50 per person

Group price / discount:

Telephone or email the booking office for prices

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 12

### Additional information:

Coach parking available to pre-book.

# How to book:

E: northcoastbookings@ nationaltrust.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0)28 2073 1855

# For further information:

Contact: Susan Smith
Visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/
giants-causeway











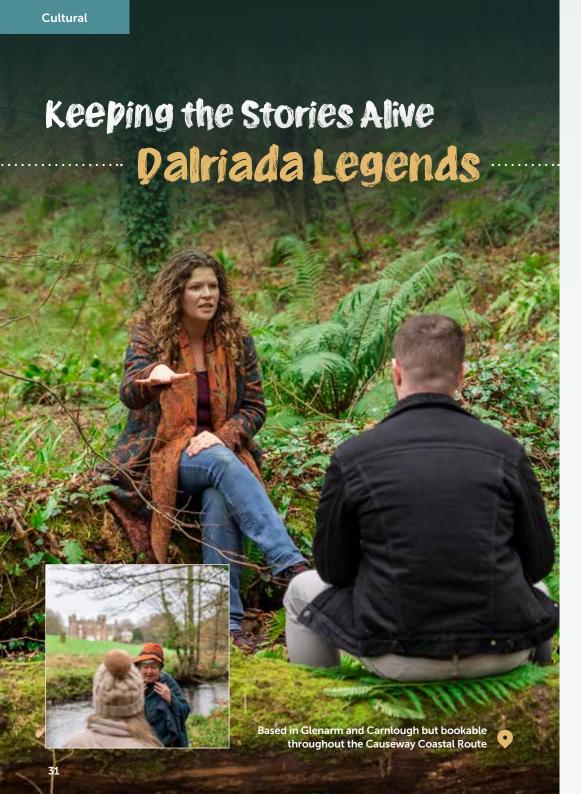












Dalriada Legends is a group of professional storytellers and musicians who aim to keep the storytelling tradition alive on the Causeway Coastal Route. Their storytellers are wordsmiths, artists, musicians, and researchers who work tirelessly to uncover the ancient tales of the local landscape and bring them to audiences from near and far.

Breathing fresh life into the old stories, their storytellers are engaging word-weavers that will transport your audiences to forgotten lands, ancient peoples and worlds beyond, leaving your guests spellbound and nourished.

Bespoke storytelling sessions can be designed to suit your itinerary or you can pick from one of their suggested programmes such as:

- Under the Hawthorn Tree A feast of faery wonder
- Selkies, Shipwrecks and Sea Shanties
- The Children of Lir and other tales of Tir Na nOg
- Fionn Mac Cumhaill Danger, druids and destiny

Dalriada Legends are available to come to a venue of your choice (tour operator to organise room hire/ food/ drinks) or can provide room hire and refreshments as add ons (see details below).

# **Operating hours:**

Morning / afternoon / evenings 7 days per week, all year round.

# Group price:

From £250 for 2 tellers for 1.5 hours plus travel where appropriate (.45p per mile for gigs over 20 miles away) Dependent on size of group. Dalriada Legends can set up in a venue of choice or can source a suitable venue such as the historic Londonderry Arms Hotel or Slemish Barn, near Broughshane. POA Add ons

- Harpist, violinist, piper to accompany stories from £100
- Refreshments ranging from a wee dram or a whiskey flight to meal or dinner POA

## Based on:

minimum 8 / maximum 100

# How to book:

E: dalriadalegends@gmail.com

Tel: Vicky McFarland +44 (0)7855 289757

Janice Witherspoon

+44 (0)7824 721796

**Colin Urwin** 

+44 (0)7519 715285

Karen Edwards +44 (0)7857 922344

#### For further information:

Visit: www.dalriadalegends.co.uk

# Additional information:

Access, coach parking arrangements and catering will be dependent on the venue selected but can be arranged to meet requirements.













You can step onto the footplate of a 100 year old engine, walk through a 1950s carriage from the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland's collection and let your imagination run wild. Or take the chance to view the Society's workshops, where the Society's historic vehicles are brought back to life.

During the summer months, spend your Saturdays riding behind the 100-year-old locomotive 3BG Guinness, named after the celebrated Guinness Brewery in Dublin where it spent its working life. This short trip takes visitors on a 10-minute ride along the museum's siding and allows them to immerse themselves in the smells, sounds and atmosphere of an operating steam locomotive. The guided museum tour takes approximately 60-90 minutes. The Museum's volunteer guides have a rich knowledge of Irish railway heritage, some having been part of the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland for over 50 years! Book a slot in advance to make sure you are not disappointed.

Alternatively you can choose to explore the museum at your leisure, aided along the way by their guides who will be on hand to help with any questions. But again, please book in advance. A big attraction is Platform 3 Café which is located within the station building at the museum. If you wish, an inclusive price can be provided for a museum tour plus refreshments – or else you can simply choose from the menu when you arrive. Special events such as teddy bear picnics, model railway shows, Easter Egg hunts and doggy days take place from time to time throughout the year. Check the steamtrainsireland.com website for details.

# **Operating hours:**

Thursday to Saturday all year round 10:00 – 14:30 (last entry 14.30)

# **Cost per Person:**

From £7 per adult From £5 per child (3 -16 years) Family (2+2) from £20

Group price / discount:
From £6 per adult
From £4 per child
A group consists of 10 people or
more (free entry for group leader).

Based on: minimum 10 / maximum 60

# How to book:

Visit: www.steamtrainsireland.com
Tel: +44 (0)28 9358 6200

# For further information:

Contact: Lisa Adair **E:** info@steamtrainsireland.com

### Additional information:

Please indicate any access requirements prior to your visit. This is a working museum so any visitors with sensory needs should be aware that loud noises and heavy engineering may be going on during their visit. Museum is wheelchair accessible. Guide dogs and hearing dogs are welcome.







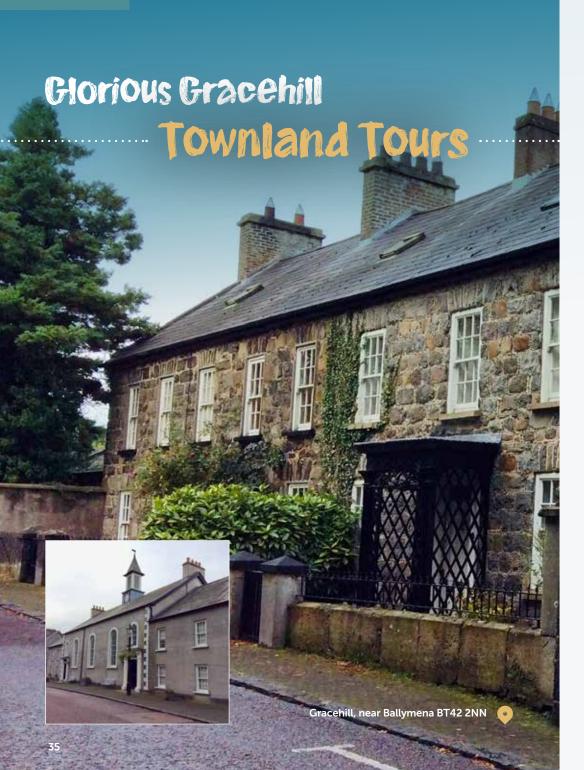
















Join Shirley Gray, an NI Blue Badge Tourist Guide, to experience a walking tour of Northern Ireland's first Conservation Area – Gracehill

In 1759, the village of Gracehill was founded by the Moravian Church and it is still beautifully preserved today, with the layout of the buildings and the unique Georgian style of architecture remaining very much the same. The Moravian values called for a community-based way of life. There was a village doctor, access to education, and many houses had fresh running water.

Hear all about the village's history, what life was like here, and see the setting of this unique village. Catering can be provided in the village restaurant, if booked in advance.

Please note: This tour visits the village, but excludes the church, Square and graveyard, which are the private property of the Moravian Church.

# **Operating hours:**

Available on request all year round

### Cost:

From £5 per person

Based on:
minimum 4 / maximum 19

# How to book:

E: rsgray12@icloud.com

For further information: Contact: Shirley Gray Tel: +44 (0)7511 177718

# Additional information:

Visitors should wear comfortable footwear and clothing suitable for the variable local weather.

Individual audio devices are provided for each tour participant.



















Take a guided tour of Carrickfergus Museum and discover the fascinating history of a town that grew up around its magnificent Norman castle and was once the Medieval capital of Ulster - a town that was more important than Belfast thanks to its historic harbour.

See the museum's object rich displays – including the town's historic sword and mace (still used today), the horse-drawn fire engine and a skeleton of a Barbary Ape that once scampered around the Medieval Friary that stood on this historic site.

Discover items from private and public collections, stories and tall tales, a tapestry of life and location all coming together to create a diverse and distinctive museum highlighting the long and distinguished heritage of Carrickfergus.

You can even visit the renovated Guard Room that once housed rule-breaking soldiers and a look inside the historic Town Hall can also be requested.

Refreshments are available from the onsite café, The Glasshouse Bistro.

# **Operating hours:**

10:00 – 16:00 Monday to Saturday. Guided tours on request. Café open 09:30 – 16:00 Monday to Saturday

#### Cost:

Free for self-guided / independent visit

Group price / discount: From £20 per group

Based on:

minimum 8 / maximum 20

# How to book:

E: carrickfergusmuseums@midandeastantrim.gov.uk

Tel: +44 (0)28 9335 8241

### For further information:

Contact: Shirin Murphy
Visit: www.midandeastantrim.
gov.uk/museums





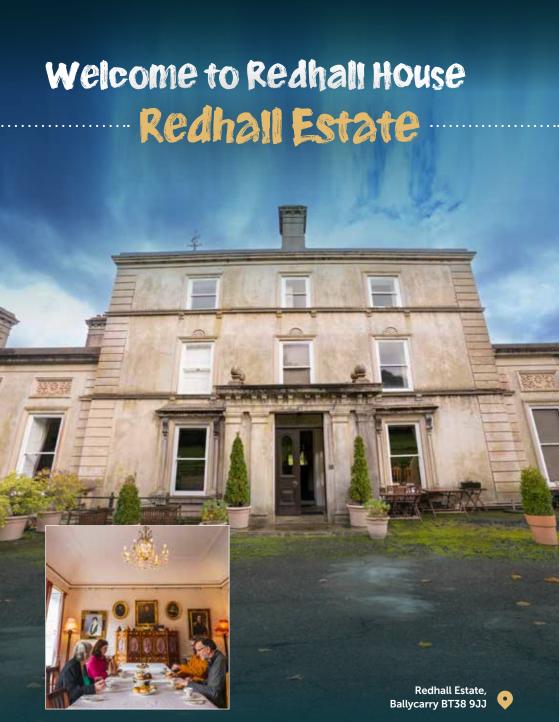












Redhall dates from the 16th century and is a privately owned country house set in its own traditional parkland close to, yet hidden from the A2 Causeway Coastal Route. It has beautiful views over Islandmagee and Larne Lough and is a popular wedding venue.

Pre-booked guided tours are available, led by Irene McClintock, a qualified tour guide, who lives in the house with her family.

You will discover why and when the estate and house was first established in East Antrim plus its connection to Carrickfergus Castle and the people who once lived there.

A wander through the rooms of the first and second floors will show the additions during the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries with lots of interesting heritage features, all with their own unique stories. You will also hear about the current family history including the adventures of the Artic explorer Sir Francis Leopold McClintock (1819-1907), the grandfather of the current owner.

Apart from serving up a rich slice of history, catering can be tailored to requirements at time of booking.

# **Operating hours:**

By appointment only - anytime

# Cost:

Tour only from £15 per person
Tour with morning coffee from £20
per person

Tour with afternoon tea from £30 per person

Tour with meal from £35 per person

Group price / discount:

10% - negotiable **Based on:** 

minimum 8 / maximum 22

# How to book:

E: enquiries@redhallestate.com
Tel: +44 (0)7703 467618

For further information:
Contact: Mrs Irene McClintock
Visit: www.redhallestate.com

#### Additional information:

The house is surrounded by a working farm which is unavailable for walking through. Tour restricted to house only. Not suitable for wheelchairs, as steps to front door and stairs to second floor.















# **Heritage Exhibition**

A permanent exhibition within The Heritage Hub at Carnlough Town Hall tells the fascinating story of the development of the limestone industry in Carnlough by Lady Londonderry in the mid-19th century. It also highlights the many other industries of the wider Glens of Antrim, the marine legacy, beautiful scenery, cultural heritage, wildlife, geology and natural resources. A visit to The Heritage Hub can be combined with a guided walk around the coastal village of Carnlough lasting approx. 1.25 hours, subject to pre-booking.

## **Guided Tours**

After your visit to the Heritage Hub, local tour guide Mary Watson will take you on a circular walk around Carnlough Village. You will take in the harbour, the old railway path from the limestone quarry, the High Street, part of the old road before the building of William Bald's Coast Road and finish back at The Hub. The tour is mainly flat, on footpaths with one short hill.

Tea/coffee is available on request. Also many eating places and takeaways are located nearby.

# **Operating hours:**

17:00
July/August Sat and Sun 14:00 – 17:00.
September, Sun 14:00 – 17:00.
Pre-booked group visits to Heritage
Hub available all year round.

Easter to end of June Sunday 14:00 -

#### Cost:

Free access to Heritage Hub but donations welcome.
Guided Tours £3 - £5 per person donation suggested for Carnlough Community Association.

Group price / discount:
Please contact Mary directly to
discuss. Refreshments can be
provided at extra cost.

# Based on:

Heritage Hub - Min 10 / Max 30 Guided Tours - Min 10 / Max 15

# How to book:

E: watson-mary@sky.com
Tel: +44 (0)7719 357404

# For further information:

Contact: Mary Watson
Visit: www.thebraid.com/
carnlough-heritage-resource

# **Additional information:**

Please advise in advance of any mobility issues, visual or hearing impairments. Lift available to 1st floor of Heritage Hub. Coach parking available nearby at Spar supermarket.



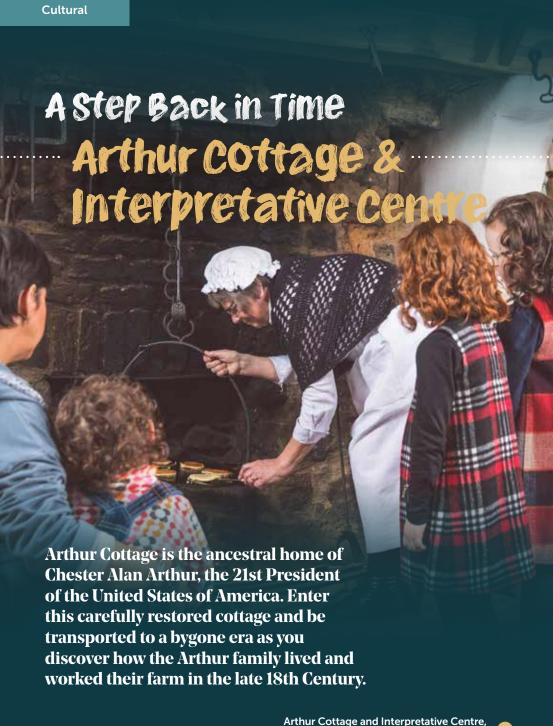












Arthur Cottage and Interpretative Centre, 21A Dreen Road, Cullybackey BT42 1EB



Visitors will be welcomed to the cottage by a period dressed tour guide. You will have the opportunity to experience spinning to produce wool for knitting or soda bread and/or potato bread being made and cooked over the open fire, before learning how to 'harn' bread, to understand how baking and cooking was carried out many years ago. You'll even get the chance to sample some tasty bakes!

Take time to explore the interpretative centre to trace the Arthur family links from a rural village in Northern Ireland to the White House. Examine farm implements, their use on the land, the significance of farming and also discover the connection with Ulster-Scots and its relevance to the cottage. Learn about Chester Alan Arthur and how he introduced Tiffany's of New York to the White House or be surprised at his involvement in the building of the Brooklyn Bridge and other key events that occurred during his reign as president.

Before you finish your visit dander through the apple orchard and depending on the season pick fruit to be used for baking in the cottage or check out the pretty willow sculpture. Visitors can collect turf at the cottage door and add to the fire. Guides will offer stories and folklore by the fire while spinning or baking.

# **Operating hours:**

11:00 – 15:00 all year round Wednesday to Sunday

#### Cost:

From £4 per person

**Group price / discount:**From £3 per person for groups of 10 or more

Based on: minimum 2 / maximum 20

# How to book:

E: Arthur.cottage@ midandeastantrim.gov.uk

Tel: +44 (0)28 2563 5010
Ballymena VIC (Mon – Sat)
+44 (0)7867 136220
Arthur Cottage
(Wed – Sun 11:00 - 15:00 only)

# For further information:

Contact: Mary/Visitor Centre staff Visit: www.Shapedbyseaandstone.

#### Additional information:

Groups over 5 are recommended to book or ring in advance, particularly if baking is required. Small coaches can access the onsite car park. Large coaches can park in the village, which is a 5 minute walk away.

















Let your heart beat to the sound of the Lambeg Drum as you become immersed in its large role within Northern Irish culture.

Join tour guide Billy Thompson as you uncover the secrets and stories that are interwoven into the very creation of this special instrument. Carefully crafted using natural products, Billy will guide you through the processes and component parts involved in its creation and sound, all while sharing his invaluable knowledge on the history and folklore that surrounds the loudest percussion instrument in the world.

An interactive history and music lesson all in one, you'll be treated to a live performance from one of Northern Ireland's Lambeg drummers. Visitors will also have the chance to play some simple tunes or 'times' as they are known on the drum. Tea and coffee will be available throughout the experience with freshly made Bellahill scones.

You can expect a warm welcome from Billy and his wife Arlene, a professional chef, at their home in the village of Ballycarry and a delicious meal can be prepared as part of the experience. (Meal must be pre-booked prior to tour.)

# **Operating hours:**

Wednesday to Saturday 10:00 to 17:00

#### Cost:

Experience only from £15 per person

Experience with meal from £35 per person

**Group price / discount:**Discounts considered for bookings

10 plus

Based on: minimum 7 / maximum 12

# How to book:

: w.b.thompson61@outlook.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7990 808952** 

# For further information:

Contact: William Thompson Visit: www.Bellahillcc.co.uk

## Additional information:

Any special dietary requirements or accessibility issues must be advised in advance. Parking available for cars and small coaches only.





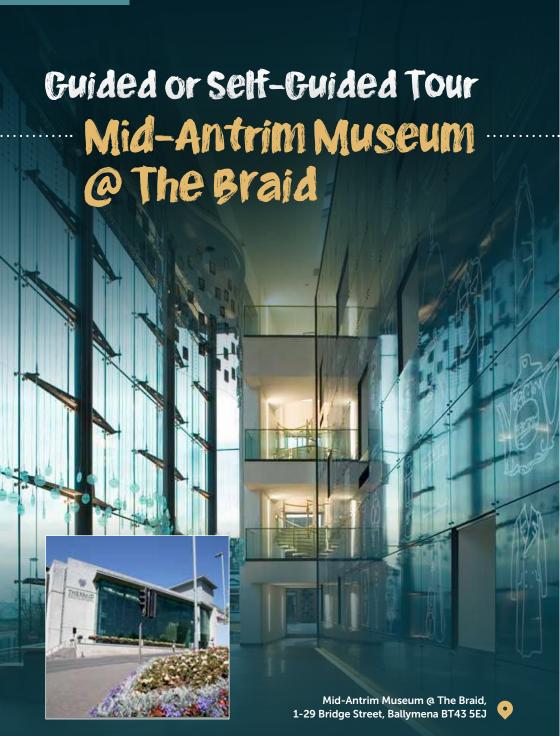












Mid-Antrim Museum offers a range of talks, events and excursions which provide enjoyable ways to get involved with local history. Groups can avail of a guided tour taking visitors on a fascinating journey through the mid-Antrim area that began 9,000 years ago.

Your tour starts in the 14-metre high atrium where special installations designed to open a visitor's eyes to the links between people and place, local history and local identity will be highlighted. Moving on to the Prelude Gallery prehistoric artefacts used by mid-Antrim's earliest settlers will be explored.

Next door in the History Gallery you will discover how Ballymena grew from a small village to the thriving town it is today. Your guide will explain how the gallery has been divided into thematic areas and through the medium of local and national significant artefacts, interactives and film, Ballymena, and its hinterland's, fascinating history has been told. The tour concludes with a visit to the exhibition gallery where changing temporary exhibitions cover a wide variety of subject matter. Tours can be tailored to suit the needs and interests of the group and can also include a handling session.

# **Operating hours:**

Monday to Saturday 10:00 -16:00. Tours can also be arranged for outside gallery opening hours.

#### Cost:

Free for self-guided / independent visit

# Group price / discount: From £20 per tour

Based on:

minimum 8 / maximum 25 Larger groups can be accommodated, subject to advance booking.

# How to book:

E: Noreen.mullan@ midandeastantrim.gov.uk

Tel: +44 (0)28 2563 5029

### For further information:

Contact: Noreen Mullan
Visit: www.midandeastantrim.
gov.uk/things-to-do

### Additional information:

By prior agreement

- A ½ hour handling session, based on the museum's collection, can be organised to take place after the tour concludes.
- Catering can be arranged (at extra cost).

There is a paid car park opposite The Braid (Castle Street Car Park). Coaches can set down and pick up from the front door.

# Experience at a Glance

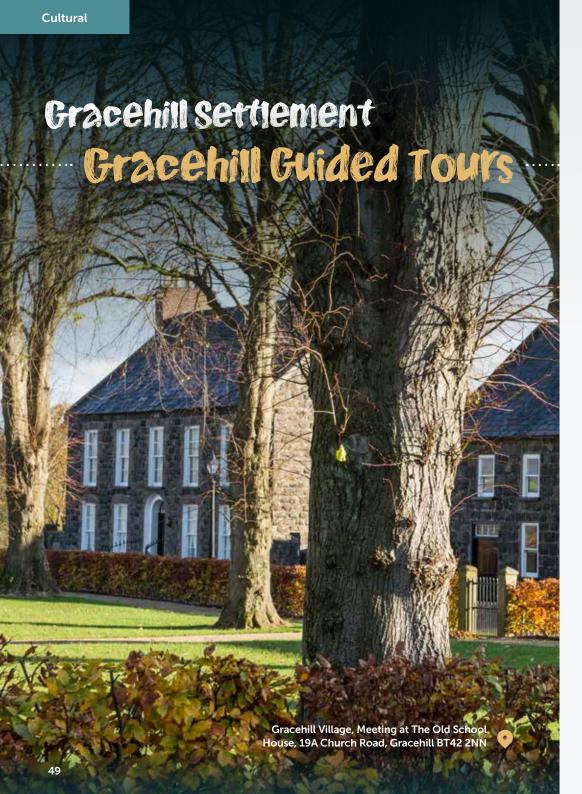












Gracehill, an award-winning Georgian village, founded by the Moravian Church in 1759, was Northern Ireland's first Conservation Area and uniquely, is the only complete Moravian settlement in Ireland.

Group tours with local guides include a short introductory DVD presentation in the restored Old School building and Museum room (dating from 1765). The Museum room also shows the history of the Gracehill settlement and has an exhibition of lacework.

A guided walk then takes visitors around the square to find out more about the history, characters and architecture of the settlement followed by a visit to the church to find out more fascinating history and the influences of Moravian culture.

Optional walk available to the burial ground. The Moravian Church remains central to the village with its burial ground known as God's Acre, bisected by a path into two plots. Men were buried to the left and women to the right of this central path. All the headstones were of the same shape and design as the Moravians believed that everyone is equal in death — and were laid almost flat on the ground.

The Old School is home to the award winning Millside Restaurant. Alternatively, please see village website for further options for refreshments.

# **Operating hours:**

Monday to Saturday by prior arrangement

# Cost:

From £5 per person

Group price / discount:

From £4 per person for groups of 10 or more

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 30

# How to book:

E: gracehilltours@gmail.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7740 553837** 

For further information:

Contact: **Sally Ann Johnston** Visit: **www.gracehillvillage.org** 

#### Additional information:

Tours can be tailored to meet your specific requirements and are suitable for those with disabilities. Limited coach parking available within village.



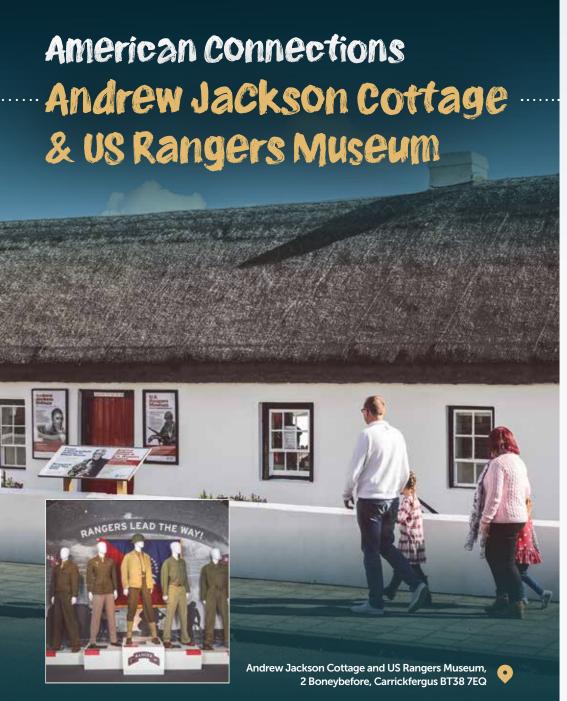












# **Andrew Jackson Cottage**

This restored thatched cottage highlights Carrickfergus' strong American and Ulster-Scots connections, as local guides tell the story of Andrew Jackson, the 7th President of the USA, whose parents emigrated to America from Carrickfergus in 1765.

Sit by the turf fire and hear from knowledgeable local guides about rural life and how the Jackson family worked the land to provide food and income before emigrating and the progression that young Andrew made through his career to become a president.

# **US Rangers Museum**

Beside the cottage is a museum dedicated to the US Rangers, the elite American army regiment formed at Sunnylands Camp in Carrickfergus in June 1942.

The US Rangers trained in extreme conditions and fought in some of the deadliest battles in Europe to become one of WWII's most courageous and decorated units. It remains the only US military unit ever founded on foreign soil.

Today the museum contains visually striking displays, never seen before artefacts and photographs, as well as impressive uniforms and compelling film footage. The museum aims to be a fitting tribute to the men who volunteered their services to this elite fighting force, in Carrickfergus and beyond.

# **Operating hours:**

Wednesday to Sunday 11:00 – 15:00 all year round

# Cost:

Free

#### Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 15

# How to book:

E: AndrewJackson.Cottage@ midandeastantrim.gov.uk

Tel: +44 (0)7834 104684 (Wed – Sun 11:00 - 15:00 only) Carrickfergus Castle VIC: +44 (0)28 9335 8222

### For further information:

Contact: George McGrand Visit: www.shapedbyseaandstone. com

## Additional information:

Groups over 5 recommended to book or ring in advance. Small coaches can access onsite car park.

# Experience at a Glance



















Join resident storyteller and tour guide Janice Witherspoon on a guided tour to discover the hidden charms of Glenarm village, one of the oldest chartered villages on the island of Ireland.

Your journey begins at the Glenarm Visitor Centre perched upon the picturesque marina. Then you will wind through charming streets such as the Vennel and see local landmarks like the Barbican gate and the old Glenarm Bridge. You will hear stories of the great sickness that came to the village at its most famous tavern and even enjoy a tale of the fairy folk at the edge of the forest.

Finally you will enter the Glenarm Castle estate, the ancestral home of the Earls of Antrim which has been at the heart of the village for over 400 years. Learn about the history of the McDonnells, the sunken passageway for the servants and of course the story of the resident ghost!

Finish your experience with refreshments at one of the Glenarm estate eateries (not included in price).

# **Operating hours:**

Available all year round for groups

#### Cost:

From £10 per person

Group price / discount:

Discount of £2 per person for groups of 15 or more

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 20

# How to book:

Visit: www.dalriadalegends.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7824 721796

For further information:

Contact: Janice Witherspoon E: Jwithers8.jw@gmail.com

#### Additional information:

Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared for all weathers. Lots of walking but at a leisurely pace. Not suitable for those with mobility issues.















Ballycastle (three times crowned the Best Place to Live in Northern Ireland by The Sunday Times) is a small seaside town, where tradition and culture run deep.

The Ballycastle Traditional Music Trail is a unique way to experience the tunes, songs, stories and dance of this legendary coastline. Two skilled local musicians will lead you on a musical journey from the seafront with its tales of the sea and songs of sailors, up into the heart of the town.

You will venture off the tourist trail into three of the town's oldest pubs where traditional music has been kept alive through the generations. At each stop they'll play some music and tell you the stories about the tunes, and about Ballycastle, the Coast and the Glens. It's a great way to get closer to the traditional musicians and their instruments, and the language, customs and history that make up this area's vibrant musical tradition.

There will be a 15 minute dander up through the main street in Ballycastle between bar 1 and 2 where you will discover the hidden history and characters all around you.

You will spend approximately 45 minutes in each bar, finishing with a 'chance to dance' along with an experienced traditional Irish dancer (easy steps)!

A range of merchandise will be available to purchase.

# **Operating hours:**

Scheduled Saturdays 16:00 -18:30 (May-Sept) and every second Saturday (Oct-Apr). Private tours can be pre-booked at any time.

#### Cost:

From £20 per person

Group price / discount:
Please contact to discuss

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 18

# How to book:

Visit: www.ballycastletradtrail.com
Tel: +44 (0)7871 744110

# For further information:

Contact: Micheál Ó Seanáin (Michael Sands) E: info@ballycastletradtrail.com

### Additional information:

Please arrive 15 minutes early to the first venue. Bring clothes suitable for local weather. Nearest coach parking is Quay Road Playing Fields – approximately a 5 minute walk from venue.













Situated near the town of Bushmills at the edge of the wild North Atlantic, the Giant's Causeway is the only naturally created UNESCO World Heritage Site on the island of Ireland - a landscape of dramatic towering cliffs and a coastal area made up of approximately 40,000 basalt columns.

With Dalriada Kingdom Tours you can experience a tour of this special site, tailor made for the discerning traveller. Enjoy a private experience that provides an insight into its social, economic and cultural history as well as the geology and folklore that is attracted to it.

This is the most complete guided walking tour experience available on this iconic site. It is a very personal account by a guide who is internationally recognised as being the "Causeway Guide", Mark Rodgers wears his heart on his sleeve during this experience on his beloved Giant's Causeway.

# **Operating hours:**

11:00 and 14:00 daily

#### Cost:

From £65 per person

Group price / discount: 10% discount for 8 people

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 8

# How to book:

Visit: www.dalriadakingdomtours. co.uk/giants-causeway-tour

Tel: **+44 (0)7752 659202** 

### For further information:

Contact: Mark Rodgers

E: Mark@DalriadaKingdomTours.

co.uk

Visit: www.DalriadaKingdomTours. co.uk

## Additional information:

Please wear sensible outdoor footwear and clothing. Private guided tours are crafted to match your requirements. Allow up to 2 hours on site. A moderate level of fitness is required. Coach parking is available for small vehicles that carry up to 8 passengers.



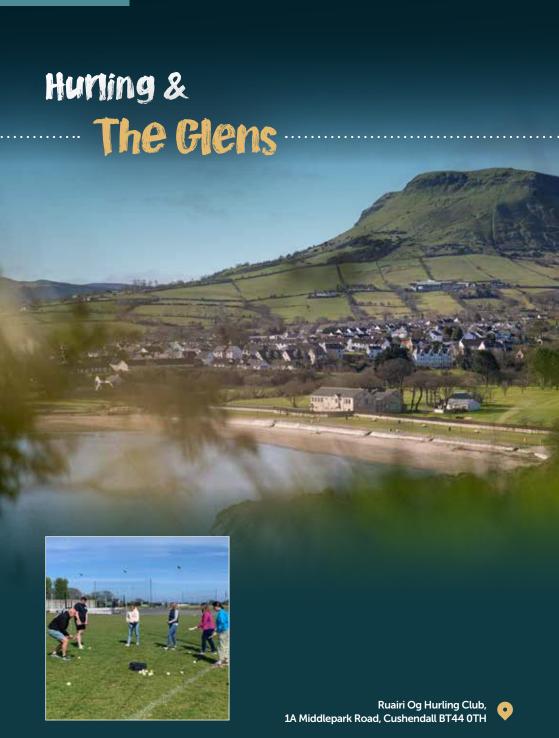
















Come along and enjoy a special sporting and cultural experience like no other.

Learn about the Irish game of hurling and its significance in the Antrim Glens from three local experts and sports stars.

Upon arrival at the club house you will receive a warm welcome including tea or coffee and homemade Irish bread, before being introduced to the experience.

Then, enjoy a demonstration and the opportunity to try the skills of the ancient game. Take a walk along the idyllic seaside coastal path after your lesson and pour your own pint in a traditional Irish bar owned by hurling All Star and Hall of Famer Terence McNaughton.

Branded merchandise, hurls and balls are available to purchase on the day and online.

# **Operating hours:**

Available upon request

### Cost:

From £40 per person

# Group price / discount:

From £100 per family (2 adults + children)

Tour bus price available upon request.

### Based on:

minimum 4 / maximum 25-50 Can be tailored to suit different group sizes.

# How to book:

E: lurigbarguestrooms@gmail.com
Tel: +44 (0)7594 244123

# For further information:

Contact: Christy McNaughton

Visit: www.

mcnaughtonguestrooms.

### Additional information:

Please wear sensible outdoor footwear and clothing.

# Experience at a Glance









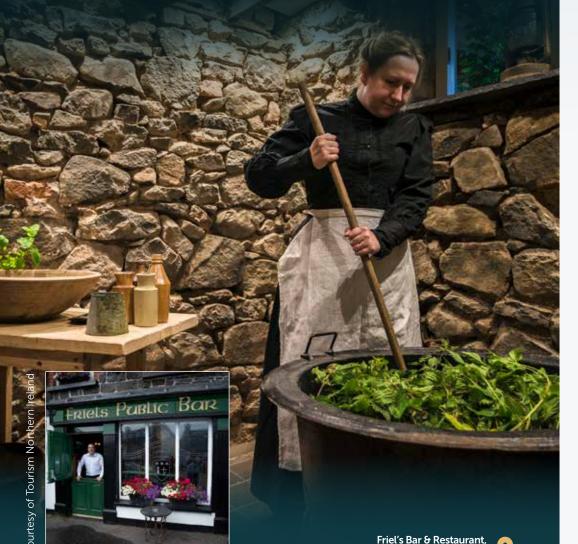








# Famine & Folklore Friel's Bar & Restaurant



2-4 Kilrea Road, Swatragh, Maghera BT46 5QF





Friel's historic Bar and Restaurant was established in 1837 and is nestled in the picturesque village of Swatragh, halfway between Belfast and Derry just off the Glenshane Pass.

Over the years, Friel's has been used as a doctor's surgery, post office, hotel and coaching inn. Dr Mooney set up a soup kitchen here during the Great Famine in the 1840s and the original famine pot is on display.

On this special famine and folklore experience you will learn about Dr Mooney, the famine and the soup kitchen; taste nettle famine soup and see the original famine pot before taking a guided walk along the famine mural.

Immerse yourself in the history and atmosphere of Friel's 5th generation traditional pub as you hear local folklore about poet, traveller and adventurer Mick McAtamney before you sit down and savour a 2-course meal in warm and welcoming surroundings.

A small selection of Friel's merchandise is available to purchase.

# **Operating hours:**

Open Thursday to Monday 11:30 – 20:30. Pre-booking required.

#### Cost:

From £25 per person

Group price / discount:

Driver free of charge

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 30

# How to book:

E: bookings@friels.ie
Tel: +44 (0)7970 676719

### For further information:

Contact: **Dermot Friel** Visit: **www.friels.ie** 

#### Additional information:

Parking is available for coaches and buses within the car park at the rear of the property.

# Experience at a Glance















# Throughout the Causeway Coast and Antrim Glens

Tour causeway coast & Glens

Milliken Tours Ireland

Milliken Tours Ireland is a family-run business offering fully bespoke, escorted driving tours - with their own vehicle that can escort up to six people, but can also offer a hire service minibus for up to 16. Popular tours include:

# Experience 1: Causeway Coast & Glens of Antrim Tour

Discover breath taking scenery along what is arguably one of the most beautiful coastal drives in Ireland visiting sites such as Murlough Bay (where the larger buses can't go), Ballycastle, Carrick-A-Rede Rope Bridge, Ballintoy Harbour, the Giant's Causeway UNESCO world heritage site and The Dark Hedges.

# **Experience 2: Lady Londonderry Trail**

Milliken Tours Ireland have designed a unique half day guided tour to celebrate the legacy of Frances, 3rd Marchioness of Londonderry and her lasting impact on Carnlough and Glenarm. On this tour you will explore these coastal villages and the abandoned Lime Works and take in the buildings and countryside she developed. You will also enjoy a spectacular coastal drive to Garron Tower, the grand summer residence she built in 1850. After exploring Garron Tower and its stunning gardens, you will be driven back to Carnlough to finish your tour with delicious tea and scones and a tour of the historic Londonderry Arms Hotel, built as a Coaching Inn by Lady Londonderry in 1847, which was also owned by her great grandson Sir Winston Churchill.

# **Operating hours:**

Experience 1: Full day tour from 10:00 - 18:00 Experience 2: 13:00 - 18:00

#### Cost:

Experience 1: From £75 per person Experience 2: From £50 per adult, £25 per child

Group price / discount: Experience 1: From £400

Experience 2: From £250

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 6

# How to book:

Visit: www.millikentoursireland.com
Tel: +44 (0)7900 621943

#### For further information:

Contact: Seamus Milliken E: seamusmilliken@yahoo.com

### Additional information:

Experience 1: One hour stop off for meal (Meal is not included in price). Experience 2: Finish the tour with delicious tea and scones at the Londonderry Arms Hotel in Carnlough.









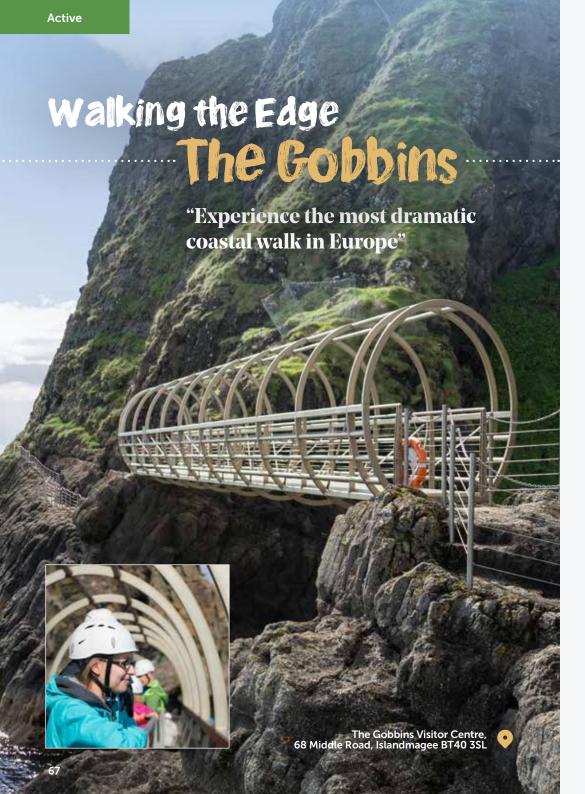


# ACTIVE Experiences Looking for an active and exciting adventure along the Causeway Coastal Route? With plenty of different landscapes to explore, you can get your walking boots on and get your heart rate up as you uncover some of Northern Ireland's most beautiful landscapes. For an alternative form of transport why not rest your legs on an e-bike tour or gallop across wonderful sandy beaches. Discover the dramatic Gobbins Cliff Path Experience which will make you feel at one with nature. If you're brave enough, cross the Carrick-

a-Rede Rope Bridge or take to the water and make the short trip to the breathtaking Rathlin Island. You'll find activities for all ages along the Causeway Coastal Route, so you can take part as a

group, family, couple, or solo adventurer!

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The Gobbins, a spectacular coastal walk, offers you the opportunity to experience a unique tour along the cliff edge of Northern Ireland. Enjoy dramatic views across the sea to Scotland or watch the waves roll in from the Irish Sea, while seabirds fly overhead.

Put on your boots and hard hat and weave your way along 65 million year old basalt cliffs, through tunnels and hidden caves where past generations of smugglers hid their loot and present generations of wildlife call home. Discover this triumph of Victorian engineering and experience one of the most enthralling coastal walks along the Causeway Coastal Route.

You're starting point is The Gobbins Visitor Centre, which tells the dramatic story behind this unique cliff path. The Gobbins Café also offers light refreshments or an extensive all day menu.

# **Opening hours:**

09:00 - 17:30 daily Monday to Sunday. Closed Jan/Feb each year.

#### Cost:

Adults: £20 per person

Concessions (under 16 or over 65):

£14.50

Carers: FRFF

Family rate: 2 adults and up to 3

children: £42

Group price: 10 persons or more:

Adults £18per person

Children and over 65: £13.05 per person

Based on: maximum 20

# How to book:

Visit: www.thegobbinscliffpath.com

Tel: +44 (0)28 9337 2318

### For further information:

Contact: Martin Lusty Tel: +44 (0)7718 969271

+44 (0)7557 962171

E: info@thegobbinscliffpath.com

#### Additional information:

The Gobbins will require visitors to walk for about three hours. The path can be rocky at times and you will be exposed to wind and sea spray. At the end of the tour visitors will be expected to hike up a steep path to the top of the cliffs. Visitors will be required to wear hiking boots which provide ankle support. A hard helmet must be worn by all visitors at all times to prevent injury from bumping their heads. Helmets supplied. If necessary, hiking boots available for hire.

























Experience the spectacular coastline of the Causeway Coast and connect with nature on a five-mile walk through the stunning UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Escape to a place that few explore and immerse yourself in a landscape that is simply breath-taking. Pass by the ruins of Dunseverick Castle, take in the flora and fauna, hear all about the ancient kingdom of Dalriada and cast your eye out to Rathlin Island, Donegal and as far as the Mull of Kintyre.

Walkers will pick their steps along undulating grass and gravel paths and be rewarded with a unique bird's eye view of Ireland's most famous coastline.

Your journey will lead you to the iconic Giant's Causeway, where you can climb the legendary basalt columns before exploring the interactive exhibition within the Visitor Centre. All participants in the Clifftop Experience have access to the full visitor experience at the Giant's Causeway.

Snacks, refreshments and gifts are available to purchase at the Visitor Centre.

# **Operating hours:**

Telephone or email for availability

#### Cost:

Price available on request Group price / discount: Price available on request Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 14

# How to book:

E: Northcoastbookings@ nationaltrust.org.uk

Tel: **+44 (0)28 2073 1855** 

### For further information:

Contact: Susan Smith
Visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/
giants-causeway

# Additional information:

Sturdy walking shoes are essential and a waterproof coat is advisable. A good level of health and fitness is required to complete this hike. Walkers are also advised to carry some water and sunblock. Children must be age 12 years plus.









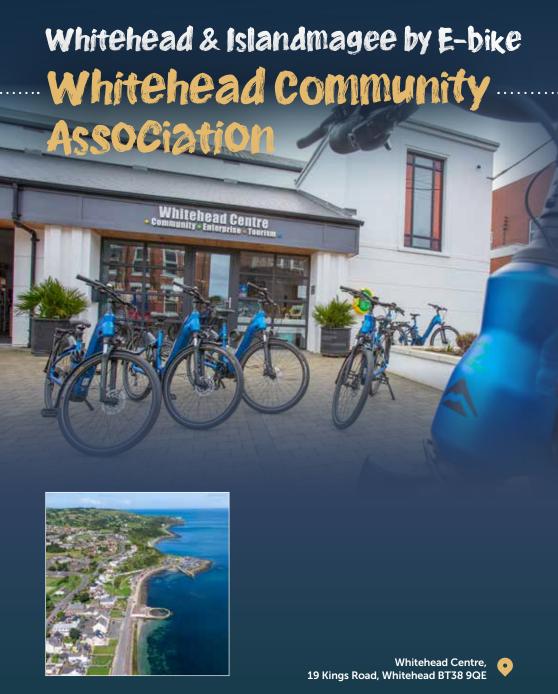
















Whitehead Community Association can offer 7 e-bikes for hire for half days or full days to provide visitors with the opportunity to independently explore all corners of the beautiful seaside town of Whitehead.

Highlights include the Victorian and Edwardian promenade with its colourful houses, the nature reserve where Peregrine falcons nest and the famous Whitehead Railway Museum (you might even be lucky enough to catch a steam train puffing along the track) or the Blackhead Coastal Path, leading to the iconic Blackhead Lighthouse on the cliffs above. (Cycle parking is available to allow you to walk up to the lighthouse.)

The e-bike experience also takes the effort out of enjoying the rolling hills, steep inclines and coves that make up the spectacular scenery of the Islandmagee peninsula.

If you can ride a bike, the e-bike experience opens up every location for your enjoyment. Full instructions and equipment will be provided at Whitehead Centre before you set off including cycling helmets and hi-visibility clothing.

#### **Operating hours:**

Monday to Saturday

Half day hire: 09:00 - 12:00 or

13:00 - 16:00

Full day hire: 09:00 - 16:00

#### Cost:

From £30 half day / £50 full day

Based on:

Up to 7 e-bikes available to hire

## How to book:

Visit: www.whitehead-ni.com
Tel: +44 (0)28 9337 8077

#### For further information:

Contact: Marianne McVey /
Rosemary Allen (Centre Managers)
E: wca@whitehead-ni.com

#### Additional information:

Minimum age: 16 years old. E-bikes must be returned to Whitehead Centre. No licence or previous experience of e-bikes is required. As long as you're a reasonably competent bicycle rider, you'll be powering away in no time.

# Experience at a Glance









Join Pedals2Places e-bike tour guides and explore the hidden corners and unique history of East Antrim from the comfort of a top-of-the-range, eco-friendly e-bike. After a short familiarisation session, participants will head off, as a group, with a guide, on a tour of their chosen area.

Tours will primarily focus on the Whitehead /Blackhead region, however tours to Browns Bay, Portmuck, Ballycarry and Gleno are also offered.

During the tour there will be plenty of stop-offs where the guide will provide snippets of information pertinent to that particular place.

There are options to park up the e-bikes and go with the guide on foot to places such as the Blackhead Lighthouse, and the upper path at The Gobbins. Shorter walks can also be offered at Browns Bay, Portmuck and Gleno as part of those tours.

Participants should expect :-

- a charged & checked e-bike;
- personal protective equipment;
- initial e-bike familiarisation training and on-going support;
- the services of a qualified local tour guide (and repair-man) throughout the duration
  of the tour; and
- a, hopefully never required, bicycle recovery service.
   Bottled water will be available if required.

#### **Operating hours:**

May to September
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Morning tour: 10:00 – 12:30
Afternoon tour: 13:30 – 16:00
Evening tour: 17:30 – 20:00
Availability outside these times or dates

by appointment.

#### Cost:

From £25 per person

Based on:
minimum 2 / maximum 7

# How to book:

Visit: **www.pedals2places.com**Tel: **+44 (0)7762 912191** 

For further information:

Contact: Mark Logan
E: mark@pedals2places.com

#### Additional information:

Participants must be over 16 years of age, be medically fit to undertake the tour, follow the instructions and advice of the tour guide. Disabled cycles not (currently) available. Public toilets available at start and en-route.

# Experience at a Glance







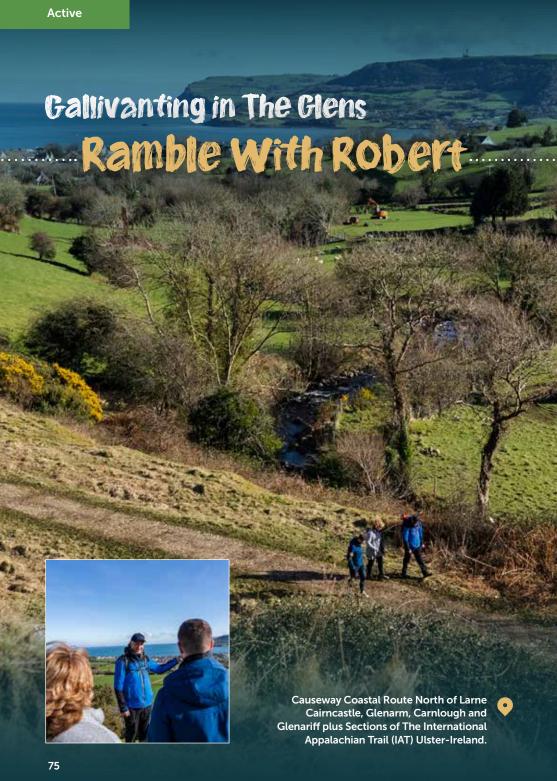






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Whitehead, Blackhead, Islandmagee, Ballycarry, Gleno - on paths and public roads



Join Antrim Glens native and trained tour guide Robert Stewart, on a relaxing hike around the hills of the Antrim Glens. Expect fantastic historical insight, local stories and great craic whilst you climb and enjoy the great outdoors.

With amazing views over the Antrim coast and across the sea to Scotland, there is always something new to see around each corner.

Walks can be either half day (4-5 hours) or full days (8-9 hours). They can be organised to finish at a pub or restaurant where food can be purchased. A light lunch or snacks can also be arranged.

Additionally walking trips can be organised along the Causeway Coastal Route.

Grab your hiking boots and head for a Ramble with Robert!

#### **Operating hours:**

Walks can be organised for any time, however prior booking is essential.

#### Cost:

From £15 per person for half day From £30 per person for full day Additional charge for:

- Lunch / snacks, subject to requirements.
- Separate luggage transfer.

Group price / discount: 10% discount available on groups of 8 or more. 20% for groups over 12.

Based on:

minimum 4 / maximum 20

# How to book:

E: rjstewart1@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7773 731001

#### For further information:

Contact: Robert Stewart Visit: www.facebook.com/ ramblewithrobert

#### Additional information:

This experience involves quite strenuous walking but can be tailored to suit the group taking part. A good level of fitness is required. Suitable footwear and clothing is essential. Walks can be organised around the client's needs whether it is a novice group or people with more experience. Arrangements concerning timing and requirements can be made at time of booking. A luggage transfer service can be arranged to facilitate walking tours.











The Inside Trek's private guided, bespoke and responsible hiking trips allow you to truly explore Northern Ireland in style, all while caring for the places you walk in.

They believe getting outside in the fresh air among nature, with your hiking boots on and with space and time to think, is great for the mind, body and soul. And the hills and coastline on the Causeway Coastal Route have all the scenery you could need for an unforgettable time outdoors, from the St Patrick linked Slemish Mountain, to the Game of Thrones® site near Sallagh Braes.

With all the equipment you'll need, and transport in their electric vehicle, their local knowledge and exceptional service will take you on the inside track to the best places to hike and explore. The place that's just perfect for only you and your group, all in as informative, hassle free, responsible and respectful a way as possible.

They'll leave you mentally and physically refreshed. And with an ever-lasting connection to 'our wee country' and 'our big planet'.

On the trail, you'll pause for tea, water and locally baked tray bakes to give your legs a well-earned rest, all served in reusable packaging and containers (no evil single use plastic here!)

#### **Operating hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday all year round, subject to availability and agreement. Timings flexible, subject to daylight requirements.

#### Cost:

From £50 per person

Group price / discount:

From £45 per person for a group of 3 From £40 per person for a group of 4

#### Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 4 (although both solo group and groups of 5 or 6 may be possible)

# How to book:

E: andrew@theinsidetrek.com
Tel: +44 (0)7976 843765

#### For further information:

Contact: **Andrew Magowan** Visit: **www.theinsidetrek.com** 

#### Additional information:

Group lead name plus number and ages of people in the group.

Any conditions that may impact on any members ability to hike over unpaved or rough terrain.

# Experience at a Glance













Get those boots on and experience the beautiful Binevenagh mountain from a slightly off-the-beaten-track perspective with the **Needles & Tread on the Causeway Coast** experience where you will scale the spectacular summit of Binevenagh and learn the ancient craft of felting.

Ella Mor offers other immersive experiences too, including **Hidden Trails & Childhood Tales**, where you will have your walking boots at the ready, then take a deep breath and venture into the unknown to experience the Gortmore area in all its glory, from a perspective only this Hidden Trails and Childhood Tales experience will allow you.

Or try the adventurous **Binevenagh Hike & SUP experience** where in addition to hiking the majestic trails of Binevenagh, your local guide Dan or one of the team from Longline Surf School will greet you at Swan's Bridge with a warm welcome. With expert guidance you will soon find your way with the paddleboard and your journey on the River Roe will begin, exploring the area, learning the local heritage of the river as you paddle along.

Let the adventure begin......

## **Operating hours:**

Call or email Heather for full details

#### Cost:

From £65 - £125 depending on experience selected

Group price / discount: 10% off

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 10

# How to book:

Visit: www.ellamor.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7793 542468

#### For further information:

Contact: **Heather Nicholl** E: **info@ellamor.co.uk** 

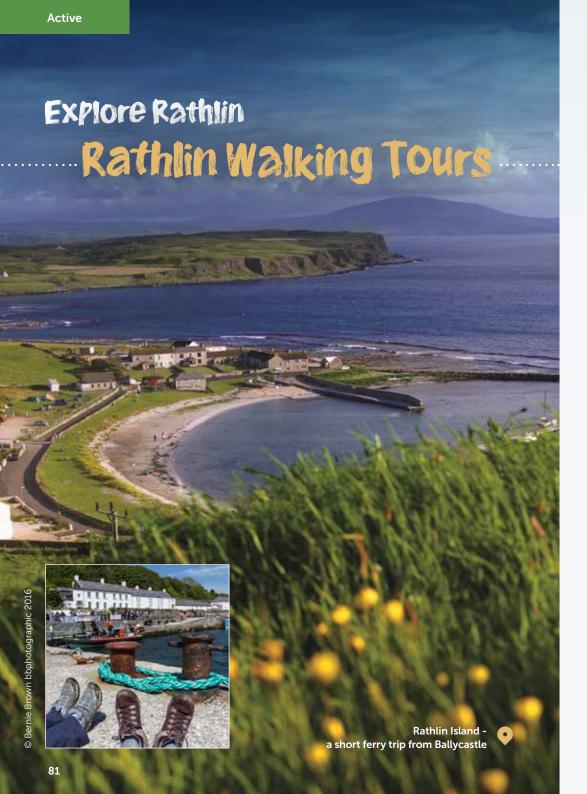












Experience a bespoke walking tour on Rathlin Island, in the company of Paul Quinn, a qualified and experienced local guide.

Paul will guide you round the beautiful sights and sounds of Rathlin Island, Northern Ireland's only inhabited island with around 150 residents. Famous for its seabird colonies with nesting sites for large numbers of Guillemots and Puffins, the best time to see the birds is from May to August.

Paul offers friendly, no-rush walks of the island, which take place mainly on roads or established tracks and are suitable for all abilities. He has a wide knowledge of Rathlin's birdlife, plant life and rich island history.

Paul has local links on the island and would be delighted to help you plan your visiting arrangements. Craft shops, cafes and a convenience store at the harbour, are open on a seasonal basis.

In addition to walks on Rathlin, Paul can arrange walks to the Giant's Causeway.

#### **Operating hours:**

365 days per year

#### Cost:

From £20 per person

Group price / discount:

Negotiable depending on group size and duration

Based on:

# How to book:

E: paul.quinn33@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7745 566924

#### For further information:

Contact: Paul Quinn
Visit: www.rathlinwalkingtours.
com

#### Additional information:

minimum 2 / maximum 30

Comfortable clothes suitable to the season. Basic level of fitness required.

Each experience can be created on a bespoke basis, therefore can be any duration.

The ferry to Rathlin Island travels just six miles across the Sea of Moyle and must be booked separately. Disabled access is available on ferry and tour route can be wheelchair friendly. Parking is permitted at ferry terminal, no coach access to Rathlin.















Dunfin is a traditional sheep farm in the scenic Glens of Antrim, situated in Glenshesk, 5 miles from Ballycastle.

On a special farm visit you can experience a sheepdog demonstration, followed by a sheep shearing demonstration (seasonal), or young lambs in the spring finishing with a leisurely farm walk and nature talk. You are welcome to have a go gathering sheep, helping to shear, and rolling the fleece.

Check out their website for full details on all their special experiences including:

- The Sheep Experience (1.5 hours)
- Nature Walk and Peat Cutting (1.5 hours)
- Mountain Hike to the Shepherds Hut (3-4 hours)

Dunfin Farm provides you with immersive, authentic experiences, giving you a glimpse of farming life with a warm family welcome.

#### **Operating hours:**

April to October

#### Cost:

Sheep Experience & Nature Walk: From £40 per person The Sheep Experience: From £40 per person Nature Walk and Peat Cutting: From £40 per person Mountain Hike to the Shepherds Hut: From £80 per person

**Group price / discount:**Dependant on group size.

Based on: minimum 2 / maximum 30

# How to book:

Visit: www.Dunfinfarm.com Tel: +44 (0)7572 979729

For further information:

Contact: Frank Devlin E: info@dunfinfarm.com

#### Additional information:

Pre-booking essential. Protective clothing and wellingtons provided. Refreshments subject to group size and on request.













On arrival the Patterson family will greet you with a warm, welcome, cup of tea and home baked treat in Granny's Cabin.

Immerse yourself in an exploration of the farm and stables with Amy or Hazel Patterson, get behind the scenes and experience life on the farm on a day-to-day basis.

Meet the gentle Irish cobs and friendly horses, getting to know their life stories. You will get the chance to connect with them; grooming, leading them and taking them out, turning them out to the paddocks.

You will be introduced to international show jumping horses and hear stories of their show jumping achievements, see pictures and observe a training demonstration.

Depending on the season, you may be able to assist with rounding up horses from the field, feeding baby lambs and meeting the foals, young horses and various other animals including the resident goats, sheep, dogs and cats.

#### **Opening hours:**

5 days a week - Monday to Friday 11:00 - 17:00

#### Cost:

From £35 per person Group price / discount: Groups of 6 - 15 - from £30 per

Groups of 16 - 25 - from £25 per person

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 25

# How to book:

crindlestables@outlook.com Tel: **+44 (0)7738 516106** 

#### For further information:

Contact: Amy Patterson Visit: crindlebespoke.com

#### Additional information:

Wear outdoor clothing / coats weather permitting. No riding experience required.













Crindle Stables & Downhill Beach 6 Carrowclare Road, Limavady BT49 9ED

On arrival at Crindle Stables you'll be surrounded by the sights, smells and sounds of life on what is essentially a working family farm. Experience a warm Irish welcome with tea and scones and meet the people who work here.

Get up-close and personal with the magnificent horses and revel in the wonderful tranquility of these animals which will rub off on you. Dander along the country lanes and learn a new set of skills in the scenic arena with the magnificent Binevenagh mountain as your backdrop. It's a relaxing experience, listening to your guide recounting tales and legends of this beautiful place.

You'll head for the shore onboard the horse lorry and be welcomed at the famous Game of Thrones® filming location - Downhill beach - by the revitalising sea air. Take a leisurely ride through the lapping waves and trot over the soft sand. Experienced riders can head-off for a canter or gallop along the strand. With the cliffs soaring up on one side and the Atlantic waves crashing on the other, this is a visit to the seaside like no other.

The dining area is right at the foot of the cliffs upon which the famous Mussenden Temple is perched. It's the perfect place to unwind in the natural elements. Listen to the rhythmic sound of the crashing waves and feel the sand beneath your feet as you tuck into delicious local produce. On days when the weather is inclement, your meal will be served at a local restaurant. As the experience comes to a close, you'll be leaving with great memories and newly acquired skills, plus a gift of the sea's bounty in the form of the local Mussenden Sea Salt.

#### **Opening hours:**

Open 6 days per week May to September: 09:00 or 17:30 October - April: 11:00 or 14:00

#### Cost:

Private sessions up to 4 persons: From £350 per person Group sessions 4 - 6 persons: From £225 per person Group sessions 7 - 10 persons: From £200 per person

Based on: minimum 2 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: crindlestables@outlook.com
Tel: +44 (0)7738 516106

#### For further information:

Contact: **Amy Patterson** Visit: **crindlebespoke.com** 

#### Additional information:

Wear outdoor clothing / coats weather permitting. No riding experience required.

















Glenarm Redspark Lamb, 67a Dickeystown Road, Glenarm BT44 0BA Perched 800ft above sea level with breath-taking views across to Scotland is Eamonn Matthew's award winning sheep farm, which has opened its doors to the public to welcome you on an immersive guided tour.

Brace yourself for a hands-on learning experience as you are taught the ins and outs of being a successful modern day sheep farmer - from handling and herding the beautiful native breeds of Scottish Blackface sheep to hearing about how the landscape and surrounding mountains impact upon this 12th generation modern, low carbon and sustainable farm.

The tour begins with a warm and friendly introduction from Eamonn himself who will reveal all about life as a sheep farmer who rears some of the most highly sought after sheep in Northern Ireland, boasting a Gold Award for its distinctive taste and texture. Watch the master at work as Eamonn gives a glimpse into the loving companionship between him and the farm's sheepdogs who use their highly honed senses and skills to perform the commands given to them to gather the sheep.

No farm tour would be complete without a home cooked treat from the farmyard kitchen as Eamonn invites you to feast on succulent hearty lamb stew or a tasty BBQ chop, accompanied by fresh baking straight from the farm kitchen.

Sample refreshments are included. Full lunch can be arranged at an additional cost. All food is based around recipes using their own lamb, depending upon the season.

#### **Operating hours:**

September to April: 10:00 - 16:00 daily May to August: 10:00 - 18:00 daily

#### Cost:

From £30 per adult From £20 per child (under 16) 5% discount for groups of 25 or more

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 50

# How to book:

Visit: www.glenarmredsparklamb. com/farm-tours

Tel: **+44 (0)7989 534003** 

#### For further information:

Contact: Eamonn Matthews
E: hello@glenarmredsparklamb.
com

#### Additional information:

Sturdy walking shoes and outdoor waterproof clothes are recommended. Tour vehicle is not wheelchair accessible. Any food allergies or special dietary requests are required to be notified in advance.

# Experience at a Glance











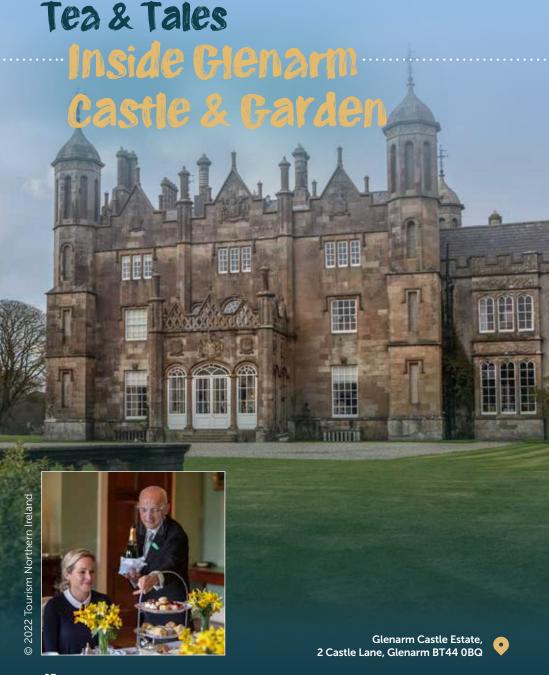








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Nestled in the natural beauty of the Glens of Antrim, you'll find the ancestral home of the McDonnell family, Earls of Antrim, and one of Northern Ireland's most historic family houses. With over 500 years of history and heritage, the McDonnells are also descended from the ancient Kings of Dalriada, while Glenarm Castle itself was built by Randal McDonnell, 1st Earl of Antrim in 1636.

This exclusive tour of the family home of Lord and Lady Antrim begins by entering through the Barbican Gate, the private entrance to Glenarm Castle. On arrival you will be warmly welcomed with a glass of champagne. From unique artefacts to tantalising secrets, you'll then hear the intricate living history behind the family who live here; all brought to life by George, your guide and the castle butler.

Enjoy a unique opportunity to peek behind-the-scenes, see real treasures from the Girona shipwreck off Dunluce Castle in 1588, and hear about George's own account working as the family butler. George has held this prestigious position for nearly 20 years, so you know he's got some stories to tell! In addition, you will be shown works by renowned artist Angela, Countess of Antrim, in areas of the castle not normally on view to the public.

And then, it's time for a most civilised afternoon tea. Relax in the elegant, family dining room as George serves you a delicious cream tea, expertly prepared for you by castle staff. (Vegan/Vegetarian and gluten free options available.) To cap this wonderful experience off, George saves some of his best stories for last, but we won't spoil the ending here.

To finish the day, enjoy a peaceful stroll around the beautiful and historic Walled Garden, bursting with colour throughout the summer season.

#### **Operating hours:**

Dates are limited and booking in advance is required.

#### Cost:

From £150 per person Based on: minimum 6 / maximum 12

# How to book:

Visit: **glenarmcastle.com** Tel: +44 (0)28 2889 8113

#### For further information:

Contact: William Rainey E: welcome@glenarmcastle.com william@glenarmcastle.com

#### Additional information:

No photography allowed inside Glenarm Castle.

# Experience at a Glance





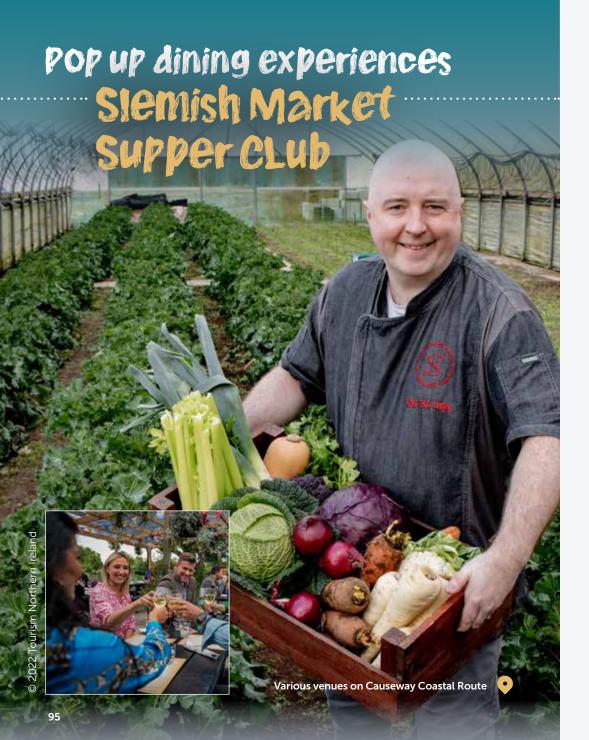












Slemish Market Supper club is a sensational pop up dining experience, showcasing the fabulous produce available from Slemish Market Garden and the surrounding area.

Hosted in a variety of venues, award-winning chef Rob Curley oversees the creation of a mouth-watering six-course menu for diners to experience. Each dish features produce selected for quality and taste to allow visitors from outside the region to experience our food and traditions of the sea, rivers, lakes and lands which are important to the area's gastronomy.

The bespoke menu consists of a drink, wee bite, starter, fish course, meat course and dessert and changes each time to make the most of regional and seasonal produce. Lasting up to three hours, diners sit together around a long table giving them the opportunity to meet new people as well as enjoy fabulous food and drink.

For Chef Rob, each plate tells a story. Every ingredient is chosen to paint a picture in the diner's mind and spark their imagination as well as their palate, with Rob on hand to personally explain the dish, how it's cooked, and the suppliers used.

#### **Operating hours:**

Operates in different locations around the Causeway Coastal Route e.g. cafes, pubs, hotels, event spaces etc. Public pop up Slemish Market Supper Club dining experiences take place monthly. Private dining experiences by advance booking only.

# How to book:

slemishmarketsupperclub@gmail.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7547 804975** 

#### Cost:

£70 per person for 6 course dining experience

**Group price / discount:**Contact Slemish Market Supper Club to discuss.

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 50

For further information:
Contact: Chef Rob Curley

Visit: www.

slem is hmarket supper club.

com

#### Additional information:

Bring your own alcohol. Any food allergies or special dietary requests are required to be notified in advance.















# The Taste Causeway Experience The Chocolate Manor



Handcraft a delectable collection of chocolates with The Chocolate Manor.

During each **Taste Causeway Experience, chief chocolatier** Geri Martin will guide you through making ganaches with a stunning selection of local artisan products.

Want to acquire some basic chocolate tempering skills in a fun and hands on workshop? Then **The Chocolate Box Experience** is for you where you will create a selection of moulded chocolate treats.

Or try the **Truffle Shuffle Experience** where you are guided through making moulded and hand-rolled truffles. You will craft ganache, and flavour your own truffles, maybe even with a nip of your favourite tipple, if you wish.

A hot or cold drink is included in the experience.

Taste Causeway is a collective of passionate artisans drawing upon the rich landscape and heritage to create extraordinary food experiences. The Chocolate Manor are proud to have been a founding member of this group and in their Taste Causeway Experience, you will be introduced to an exclusive selection of local artisan products and learn how to pair them with the finest chocolate.

You can also purchase delicious treats from The Chocolate Manor Chocolate Shop  $\uptheta$  Artisan Food Emporium.

#### **Operating hours:**

Available to be booked privately to suit your group

#### Cost:

From £40 per person

Group price:

From £32.50 (depending on group size)

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 16

# How to book:

Visit: www.thechocolatemanor.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7919332843** 

#### For further information:

Contact: **Geri Martin**E: **geri@thechocolatemanor.com** 

#### Additional information:

Aprons and all you need to bring your chocolate creations home will be provided. Experience involves standing but stools are available.

# Experience at a Glance



















#### Mussenden Unwind - Wellness & Dining Experience

Upon your arrival at the stunning Downhill beach, you'll meander across the wooden walkway, where the mountain meets the shore. Claire, your expert local guide, will take you to the ancient woodland of Downhill Forest, nature's therapy at its best. Then you'll head for a dip in the nearby ocean - those waves are calling to you! Thoroughly refreshed, wrap up in a cosy dry robe before sitting down to a wild cooked meal. The dining area is right at the foot of the cliffs upon which the famous Mussenden Temple is perched. It's the perfect place to unwind as you listen to the rhythmic sound of the crashing waves, feel the sand beneath your feet and tuck into delicious local produce. On days when the weather is inclement, your meal will be served at a local restaurant.

#### Taste of Mussenden - Luxury Dining Experience

Treat yourself to an exclusive and luxury dining experience inside the iconic Mussenden Temple, in partnership with The National Trust. Sip from Crystal Glasses, dine on compostable plates, and enjoy all things local. Arrive at this area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and make your way through Lion's Gate by car, foot or personal chauffeur to take you the short drive to Mussenden Temple.

Immerse yourself in this tailor-made experience, going beyond the doors of the temple, step back in time, to sit back, relax and take in the sounds, sights, and tastes of this exclusive dining experience that very few have had before you. This is a fully guided experience and an exclusive and unique opportunity that is only available to a small number of individuals per year. Menus are five-course taster menus and feature a range of locally sourced products.

#### **Operating hours:**

Available all year. Start times throughout the day or evening can be changed to suit groups. Available on selected dates throughout the year.

#### Cost per Person:

Mussenden Unwind - From £58 per person. Discount available. Taste of Mussenden – Bespoke pricing, contact for details.

#### Group discount:

10% - 20% off depending on booking numbers

Based on: minimum 2 / maximum35

# How to book:

Visit: www.mussendenseasalt.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7437054169** 

For larger groups, email info@mussendenseasalt.com

#### For further information:

Contact: Claire O'Kane E: info@mussendenseasalt.com

#### Additional information:

Any food allergies or special dietary requests are required to be notified in advance.

















Today, the Arkle Whiskey Bar, named after the legendary 1960's steeplechaser, is the perfect place to share a dram, good conversation with the locals and soak up the spirit of the land and people that make this place so unique.

Choose your whiskey flight, then immerse yourself in the stories soaked into the walls around you. From aristocrats, to the amazing racehorse Arkle, share the flavours of the past and feel their warmth as you sip and savour their range of Bushmills Whiskey flights, paired with local delicacies and sharing platters. Check out:

#### The Arkle Hat Trick | The Arkle Club | The Aristocrat

Full details on these flights and their food pairings is available on their website. (Experience duration is dependent on number of participants.)

And before you go, don't forget to touch the lucky horseshoe worn by Arkle, which now sits pride of place in the Arkle Whiskey Bar. Locals will all tell you that good luck and fortune will quickly come your way!

#### **Operating hours:**

Booking essential - required 14 days in advance. Available from 12:00 - 19:00 daily.

#### Cost per person:

The Arkle Hat Trick from £25

The Arkle Club from £45

The Aristocrat from £85

Accommodation available on request - from £65 per person sharing B&B. Dinner options also available.

#### Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 16

# How to book:

Visit: londonderryarmshotel.com/ whiskeyexperiences

Tel: **+44 (0)28 2888 5255** 

#### For further information:

Contact: **Hotel Reception** E: **lda@glensofantrim.com** 

#### Additional information:

Any food allergies or special dietary requests are required to be notified in advance.

# Experience at a Glance





















The Conservatory at the world renowned Galgorm is home to the Resort's award winning Cocktail Bar & Gin Library. A magnificent bespoke glass creation that combines the stunning views of the cascading River Maine with a stimulating dash of theatre from their team of highly-skilled mixologists.

With one of the most extensive and exclusive gin collections in Ireland, boasting over 500 varieties of gin, Galgorm is proud to run a daily gin tasting session, taking place each evening.

Hosted by their Gin Bar Manager, visitors can enjoy a French 75 upon arrival, before embarking on a journey of discovery with a G&T from a local distillery. You will also have the opportunity to garnish your drink from the ingredients on the garnish boards, making for a decidedly unique take on your gin tasting experience. Following this, you'll be treated to an international gin which has contrasting botanicals or flavour profiles. They even have a premium own-label gin, Galgorm Estate Gin, developed in partnership with Copeland Distillery which uses botanicals harvested within their grounds. Ask to try it!

#### **Opening hours:**

Daily, subject to availability

Cost:
From £30 per person

Based on:
minimum 6 / maximum 30

# How to book:

Visit: **galgorm.com**Tel: **+44 (0)28 2588 1001** 

For further information:

Contact: Karen McKee E: dining@galgorm.com

























Come along and meet the owner and producer of The Creamery Can ice-cream and hear the story behind the business.

Launched as an Économusée in December 2019 for their artisan ice cream business, The Creamery Can is a working family farm with a coffee shop and ice cream workshop.

Visitors have the opportunity to see the ice cream production area and to learn how their ice-creams and sorbets are made, as well as hearing more about their story as a family business. There is always an opportunity for some hands-on participation and of course to enjoy some mouthwatering samples of their various flavours.

Their ice-cream, as well as hot food, teas/coffees and bakes are also available to purchase onsite.

#### **Operating hours:**

Demonstrations by prior booking only. Coffee Shop normal operating hours Tuesday to Saturday 09:30 - 16:30

#### Cost:

From £6 per person

Based on:
minimum 10 / maximum 20

E: hugh.reid@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7720 464669

How to book:

# For further information:

Contact: **Hugh Reid** Visit: **www.thecreamerycan.com** 

#### Additional information:

Any food allergies or special dietary requests must be notified in advance.





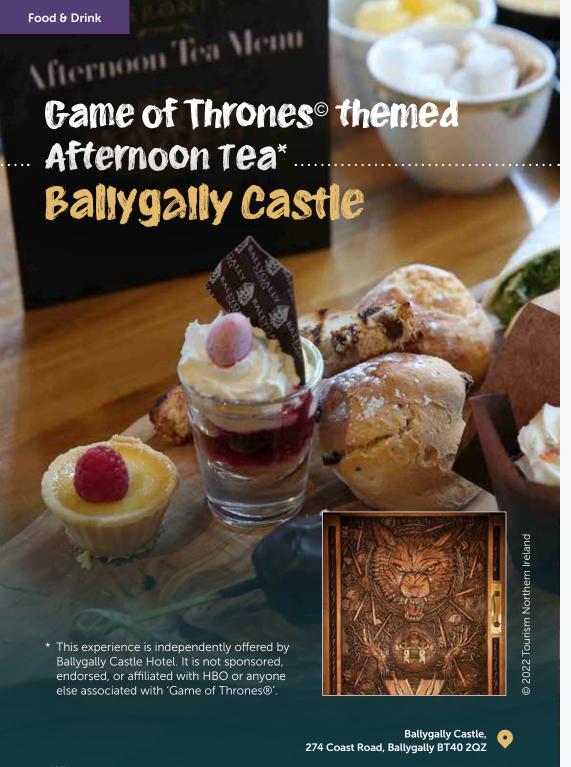
















Ballygally Castle Hotel offers a Game of Thrones® Afternoon Tea which will delight fans of the world renowned show as well as those who love the indulgence of a delicious afternoon tea.

The sweet and savoury treats, inspired by the fantasy lands of Winterfell, Iron Islands, King's Landing or Stormlands, includes Lannister egg rolls, Baratheon bread, Little Finger Chicken Caesar wraps, Jon Snow cakes and Dothraki trifle with mini Dragon's eggs!

Ballygally Castle is the perfect base from which to explore the locations where many pivotal scenes were shot for HBO's Game of Thrones®. The producers used locations across Northern Ireland, but the spectacular Causeway Coast makes more than its fair share of appearances. Only a few miles from Ballygally Castle are Cairncastle, Cushendun Caves, Slemish Mountain, Glenarm and Carnlough Harbour, all of which have close connections to the iconic show.

The Game of Thrones® Afternoon Tea will immerse people into the dark and mysterious mood of the show and you won't want to miss the opportunity to see intricate Door of Thrones No 9 or the unique display of Game of Thrones jewellery created by Steensons of Glenarm.

#### **Operating hours:**

Monday to Saturday: 14:00 - 17:00 daily Sunday: 15:00 - 17:00

#### Cost:

From £32 per person

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 40

# How to book:

Visit: www.hastingshotels.com/ballygally-castle/

gameofthronesafternoon.html

Tel: +44 (0)28 2858 1066

#### For further information:

Contact: Katie Jackson
E: Conf1@bgc.hastingshotels.com

#### Additional information:

Dietary requirements & final numbers. Please allow 24 hours' notice for reservations.

# Experience at a Glance

















Are you ready to step back in time and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea aboard an historic railway dining car? The award winning Whitehead Railway Museum is offering you just such an opportunity.

Cups & Carriage is an immersive afternoon tea experience, where you get to sit back, relax and enjoy mouth-watering delicacies in a refurbished railway carriage, which is one of the top exhibits at the museum.

The 1950-built carriage, which used to operate on express trains, has been fully restored and is on display in one of the museum's galleries. Although the coach does not move, you will feel as if you are travelling back in time.

The 1950's has never looked as glamorous as you step on board the period dining car which is reminiscent of the glorious age of steam train travel. Expect impressive interiors, comfortable seating and beautiful panelling, all lovingly restored by Railway Preservation Society of Ireland members, who paid close attention to the carriage's heritage status.

Waiting staff will bring out the best china to serve up a traditional afternoon tea complete with sandwiches, scones, pastries and petits fours, just for you. Sit back and dream of the glorious era of traditional rail travel as you enjoy a perfect blend of delicious treats, fragrant tea and great company.

#### **Operating hours:**

Available upon request for groups of up to 20 (please note minimum numbers of 10)

#### Cost:

From £28 per person

Group price:

From £25 per person

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 20

# How to book:

E: info@steamtrainsireland.com

Tel: +44 (0)28 9358 6200

#### For further information:

Contact: Lisa Adair

Visit: www.steamtrainsireland.com

#### Additional information:

Unfortunately as the dining car is a heritage vehicle, wheelchair access is not possible for the Cups and Carriage experience. Please indicate if coach parking is required.

# Experience at a Glance













# Home Grown Gold Farm Tour Broighter Gold Rapeseed Oil (Economusée)



In 2012 Broighter Gold opened their oil pressing room as part of a new and exciting tourism trail in Northern Ireland.

Experience Broglasco Farm, a working farm where depending on the time of year, you may see fields being worked, the oilseed rape in bloom or farmer Richard in the combine, harvesting some of the crops. You will also be guided through their process of harvesting the rapeseed oil, visit the pressing room and bottling room, and of course there will be plenty of Broighter Gold Rapeseed Oil for you to take home with you when you are ready to leave.

It's difficult to say what else you will see as you just never know what is going to be happening on the day until you arrive! But it's guaranteed that you will experience a farm walk, see machinery, visit the pressing room, bottling plant and the small gift shop where you can make a purchase.

You'll also receive a little bit of information about the Broighter Hoard and where it was discovered. Broighter Gold Oil and other goods can be purchased from the shop.

#### **Operating hours:**

All visits must be booked in advance via email or telephone. (This is a working farm, bottling plant, and not all days will suit).

#### Cost:

From £8 per person Lunch can be arranged at an additional cost.

**Group price / discount:**Reductions offered for group visits.
Email or phone for group pricing.

Based on: minimum 20 / maximum 30-40

# How to book:

E: info@broightergold.com
Tel: +44 (0)79120 76607

For further information:

Contact: **Leona Kane** Visit: **www.broightergold.com** 

#### Additional information:

No dogs or animals are permitted. Date, time and number of participants must be confirmed in advance by phone or email. No cameras/video cameras are allowed (unless authorised). Visitors should dress appropriately for a farm visit; it may be cold and wet.

















Savour a 'Taste Causeway' brunch of local produce served by the chef or owner of the establishment explaining the provenance of every item on menu.

Be transported to a fabulous farm for a tour and tastings and learn about the rearing/growing journey and how these farmers are custodians of the countryside for future generations.

Sip a specially created cocktail, followed by a three course sample plate lunch featuring the very best, seasonal, local produce and always showcasing produce from your farm visit.

End your experience with a visit to the world's oldest, licenced whiskey distillery. Alternatively, a Bushmills Whiskey guide is brought onsite to deliver a Bushmills three whiskey tasting to local venues, for example The Bushmills Inn, where you will receive a Bushmills Whiskey flight provided by the Bushmills Inn team.

Causeway Foodie Tours offers a wide range of bespoke group experiences including **The Spirit of the Bann**, an exquisite whiskey tasting boat tour on the River Bann. Contact Wendy to find the perfect experience for your group.

#### **Operating hours:**

Mid-week and Saturdays. Tour runs February to December.

#### Cost:

From £95 per person

#### Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 25

# How to book:

E: causewayfoodie@gmail.com

### Tel: **+44 (0)7912 408256**

#### For further information:

Contact: Wendy Gallagher
Visit: causewaycoastfoodietours.
com/coast-and-country

#### Additional information:

Over 18s only. Customers are asked to provide details of any dietary or special requirements at the time of booking. Sensible shoes are recommended as there is a farm stop. For some farm stops max 33 seater vehicle permitted.

# Experience at a Glance





















# Distil with Giants Giants Basalt Rock Gin



40 Causeway Road, Bushmills BT57 8SU

# •

#### **Gin Tasting Experience**

Enjoy a Giants French 75 upon arrival, before discovering the story of Giants Basalt Rock Gin with a Giants G&T in hand. For a unique gin tasting experience, you will be provided with a garnish board to create your own bespoke G&T. Then experience another gin created from Basalt Distillery, the home of Giants Basalt Rock Gin.

#### **Distil with Giants Experience**

Distil your own gin at the Causeway Hotel, adjacent to the world-renowned UNESCO Heritage Site, The Giant's Causeway.

This interactive, hands-on gin tasting experience gives you an in-depth introduction to the art and precision of distilling using iStill technology. Guided through the fundamentals of gin distillation and recipe development, you will pick and blend botanicals to create your own unique gin recipe.

Additionally, you will discover the history, production and botanicals behind Basalt Distillery's flagship product, Giants Basalt Rock Gin, as you are guided through the neat tasting experience.

Finally, you will fill, wax, and seal your own bottle before completing with your own personalised label. Giants Basalt Rock Gin will be available to order. Bespoke glassware range and coasters also available to purchase.

#### **Operating hours:** Flexible

#### Cost:

Gin Tasting: From £30 per person. Distil with Giants: From £75 per person. (£150 per ticket and each ticket covers 2 participants who will share a still to create their own gin.)

#### Based on:

Gin Tasting: Min 4 / max 40 Distil with Giants: Min 8 / max 12

# How to book:

Visit: www.giantsbasaltrockgin.com
Tel: +44 (0)7446 878498

#### For further information:

Contact: Martha Garbe
E: martha@basalt-distillery.com

#### Additional information:

18+ only. Discuss allergy information at time of booking.

# Experience at a Glance





















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Enjoy a creative foodie experience with Jam at the Doorstep.

Once you settle down with Amanda in her warm and homely farmhouse kitchen, your unique **Lemon Curd Making Experience** will begin. You will be given the recipe to make the curd and you'll take home what you make. You will sample farm shop food & drink, and tea, coffee and delectable homemade treats will be served to replenish you after all your hard work.

No experience is necessary; as this is a very relaxed, fun class and a great way to meet new people. Possible farm tours optional.

There is also the option of a Jam at the Doorstep **Chutney Making Experience** and tasting where again you'll be given a recipe to make the chutney and can take home what you make.

Participants will have the opportunity to buy local food and drink from the farm shop.

#### **Operating hours:**

Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11:00 - 17:00. Advance booking required.

#### Cost:

From £35 per person

Based on:

minimum 8 / maximum 15

# How to book:

Visit: www.thefarmfoodies.com Tel: +44 (0)7880 593492

For further information:

Contact: Amanda Hanna
E: jamatthedoorstep@gmail.com

#### Additional information:

If a farm tour is chosen as part of the experience, wellington boots will be required.





















A perfect culinary adventure for foodies and hobby cooks alike, fresh pasta making classes with The Lighthouse Bistro, will teach you the tips and secrets used in the kitchen of this award-winning restaurant.

Nestled near Whitehead's colourful promenade, this popular bistro is owned by Nordic chef Joni Lutzman and his local wife Erica, who run cooking classes throughout the year.

On arrival you will enjoy a glass of wine before taking part in a hands-on pasta master class. Joni will guide you through essential aspects of achieving the perfect balance of ingredients and flavours at each cooking stage, from making pasta shapes to adding locally foraged herbs to the accompanying sauce. Guests will eat the pasta they have cooked with complementary wine.

Master the authentic Italian recipe for this staple Italian cuisine and return home with a satisfied stomach and the best of memories. The bistro can also organise wine or whiskey tasting events plus wine paired dinner menus.

#### Opening hours:

Flexible dates and times for group bookings.

#### Cost:

From £55 per person

#### Based on:

minimum 8 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: Bskcaterinfo@gmail.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7769 274472** 

#### For further information:

Contact: Erica Lutzman
Visit: lighthousebistrowhitehead.
com

#### Additional information:

Any food allergies or special dietary requests are required to be notified in advance.







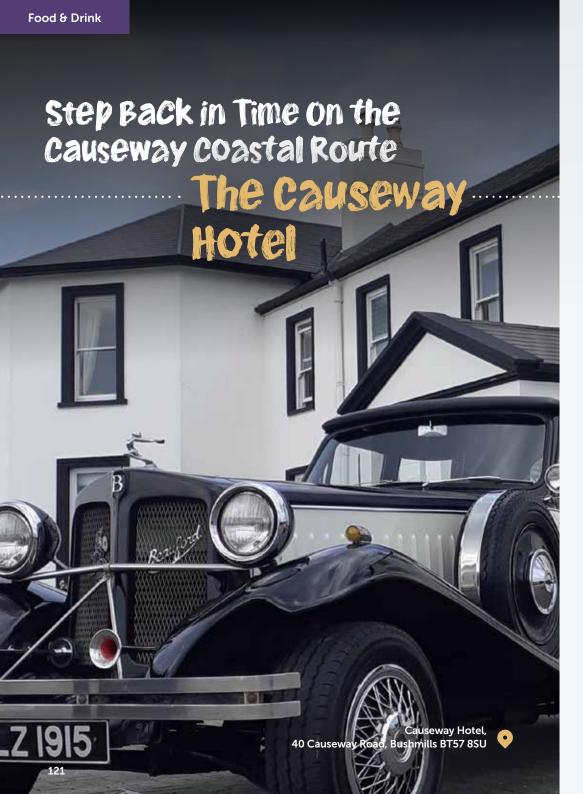
















Travel in style with your own personal driver in an elegant two-seater black and ivory vintage Beauford around the breath-taking Causeway Coastal Route. Then, stop off at a scenic picnic spot of your choice to relax and treat your taste buds with the Causeway Hotel's award-winning hand-prepared afternoon tea, including bubbles by the sea.

What better way to view some of the most photographed sights in the world than from the comfort and sophistication of a timeless Beaufort. Depart from the UNESCO World Heritage site location and head east past Dunseverick, White Park Bay, Ballintoy Harbour and Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge to Portaneevy Picnic Point.

The return trip will be via the main route (west) passing by the fairy-tale-worthy Dunluce Castle and magically located, Magheracross Viewing Point. Awaiting your return is the multi-award-winning hospitality of the beautiful Causeway Hotel, offering the perfect ambiance to wind down and reflect upon your exciting escapades as you enjoy a sumptuous meal in the Ballroom 1836 restaurant.

After a cosy and relaxing overnight stay in a sea-view room, enjoy a breakfast fit for a giant to set you up for another day of thrills and adventures on the Causeway Coast.

#### **Operating hours:**

Available Spring and Summer seasons

#### Cost:

From £270 per person

Based on:
minimum 1 / maximum 2

# How to book:

Visit: www.thecausewayhotel.com
Tel: +44 (0)7795 272243

#### For further information:

Contact: Kathleen Lavery-Boulouha E: kathleen@hmsireland.com

#### Additional information:

For dietary requirements and food allergies, please ask at time of booking. Non-alcoholic, vegan, vegetarian and gluten free alternatives are available. Walking is optional depending on the guests' choice of picnic spot.











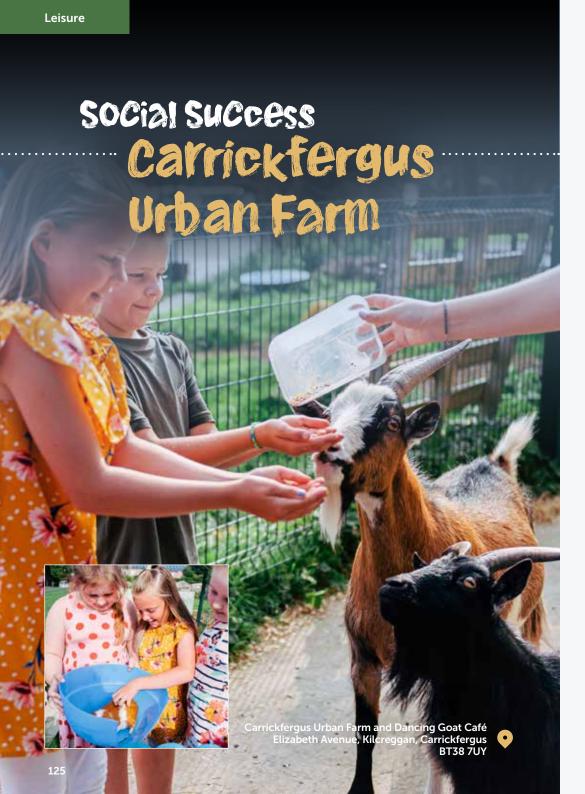




Causeway Coast alongside a fluffy new friend. If you'd like to practice mindfulness during your visit, a Go Wild Bushcraft or a Mindful Discovery Walk are the perfect activities and

will empower, rejuvenate, and ground you.

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The award-winning Carrickfergus Urban farm and Garden Centre is a successful social enterprise nestled on the edge of the historic town of Carrickfergus. It offers a unique hands-on experience with many animals, a flourishing garden centre and tasty café, all providing employment for adults with a learning disability.

Come along and meet their friendly staff or greet their beautiful animals featuring a hands-on feeding experience with their pony, goats, pigs, small animals and more.

Discover the story behind this unique social enterprise and how they support local people and provide a safe, free and relaxed space in the heart of the community.

What has emerged from the small seed of an idea planted 20 years ago is now a unique visitor attraction and a relaxed community space that operates as a social firm, engaging services users in all aspects of running a busy and successful garden centre and urban farm.

#### **Opening hours:**

Monday to Saturday 09:30 - 16:00 Closed Sunday

Cost:

Free

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 30

# How to book:

E: angela@kilcreggan.org.uk

Tel: **+44 (0)28 9336 4294 / +44 (0)7510 926182** 

#### For further information:

Contact: **Angela Brown** Visit: **www.kilcreggan.org.uk** 























Tour Northern Ireland in style with Exclusive NI Tours, where client comfort and enjoyment come first. Each tour includes spacious and secure travel in a Range Rover or Mercedes V Class people carrier, with a dedicated and knowledgeable driver, ready to provide a personalised service.

Get a taste of the 130 miles Causeway Coastal Route, taking in the stunning views over the coastline whilst learning about local history as you visit sights such as the Glens of Antrim, Glenarm, Carnlough and Carrickfergus Castle. Venture into Northern Ireland's remote corners and popular hotspots as you've never seen them before.

Refreshments or lunch are at the clients expense but can be arranged in the package so they can dine in style at some of the best pubs and restaurants in Northern Ireland.

Exclusive NI Tours take the hassle out of planning with a number of pre-planned itineraries exploring the sights and scenes Northern Ireland has to offer. Bespoke tour packages can also be organised, where tours are uniquely designed and every detail is arranged to meet the specific guest's desire.

#### **Operating hours:**

Available all year round

#### Cost per tour:

- 1-4 people in Range Rover from £380
- 1-6 people in Mercedes V Class from £500

#### Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 6

# How to book:

E: exclusivenitours@gmail.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7719 582172** 

#### For further information:

Contact: **Trevor Patterson**Visit: **www.exclusivenitours.com** 

# Experience at a Glance















Bring the serenity of nature to your mind and body as you enjoy a 60 minute bathing experience in one of Galgorm's award-winning riverside or serenity tubs.

Each riverside tub boasts a picturesque and tranquil location along the River Maine, with serenity tubs nestled among the orchard trees of the Thermal Spa Village. The tubs do not have jets, they are quiet and peaceful so you can enjoy the sound of the river or woods, connect with the person you're sharing the tub with or just relish some (me) time.

Feel restored from the stresses of modern-day living, cleansed of pollution and relieved from restlessness and agitation as you savour a signature forest bathing cocktail in the comfort of your tub before relaxing on the heated beds within your own secluded wooden cabin, followed by lunch in Elements.

You can then experience the world renowned Thermal Spa Village at your leisure.

#### **Operating hours:**

Daily from 08:00 – 14:00, subject to availability

#### Cost

From £95 per person

#### Based on:

minimum 2 / Subject to availability

# How to book:

Visit: www.galgorm.com
Tel: +44 (0)28 2588 1001

#### For further information:

Contact: Niamh Breen E: nbreen@galgorm.com





















Northern Ireland Survival School's highly trained instructors offer a range of outdoor bushcraft experiences in idyllic coastal and forest settings.

#### Go Wild in The Forest

Uncover the mysteries of the ancient woodlands with an afternoon of foraging, campfire craft and traditional storytelling around an open fire. This hands-on outdoor experience will awaken an appreciation for the natural beauty of the area and create lasting memories. It engages all your senses – inhale the smell of a traditional campfire, forage in nature, feast on local produce, learn ancient bushcraft skills of our ancestors including how to make flint arrow and spear heads then enjoy the traditional art of storytelling.

This experience is available for adults or as a family friendly version.

#### **Nature Connections by The Sea**

Connect with nature and reconnect with the self on a guided meditation and mindfulness experience. Forage for wild medicinal plants and immerse yourself in a seashore yoga session, designed to leave you feeling relaxed and energised. Chill out by the fire and enjoy some light refreshments.

Choose from one of these suggested experiences or contact NI Survival School to discuss your group's specific needs. Full details on all experiences are available online. (Experience duration is dependent on number of participants / type of experience.)

#### **Operating hours:**

By advance booking only

#### Cost:

From £65 - £95 per person

#### Group price / discount:

10% discount if 10 or more bookings are made. (On parents go primitive experience, a parent and child team counts as one booking)

#### Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 15

# How to book:

E: nisurvival@gmail.com
Tel: +44 (0)7980 656291

#### For further information:

Contact: Paul Moore Visit: www.nisurvival.co.uk

#### Additional information:

Booking form including kit list and meet up point will be sent when booking is confirmed. Some courses are for over 18's only.

# Experience at a Glance















Kilcoan Gardens is situated within the peninsula of Islandmagee, with beautiful views over Larne Lough. They have evolved over the past 25 years and extend to 5 acres with a further 20 acres of young woodland. The gardens include a series of rooms with a cottage garden, vegetable area and herb garden. There are also several meadows, established perennial beds, a prairie border and a pond. They offer:

#### **Guided Tours**

Private tours can be arranged for a minimum of 10 people for a morning, afternoon or evening from April – September.

#### Floral Demonstration

Relax in the barn whilst watching Cherry demonstrate how to arrange a seasonal hand tied bouquet, using flowers from the garden. The bouquet will then be raffled for someone to take home.

#### Refreshments

Light refreshments are served in the barn – tea, coffee and home baked treats can be ordered in advance for groups.

#### **Operating hours:**

June to August from Wednesday to Saturday 12:00 – 17:00

#### Guided tours of the garden:

(Lasting 1 - 1½ hours) From £5 per person

#### Floral Demonstrations:

Group size 10-20 from £2 per person

Groups over 20 from £1.50 per person

#### **Refreshments:**

From £4 per person

Based on:

minimum 10 / maximum 52

# How to book:

: cherry@kilcoangardens.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7703 519564** 

#### For further information:

Contact: **Cherry Townsend** Visit: **kilcoangardens.co.uk** 

#### Additional information:

If wet weather, suitable footwear / clothing advised.



















Meet Flip — your multi-award winning guide on the ultimate Game Of Thrones® locations tour. A man whose encyclopaedic knowledge of the show owes a lot to one crucial fact: he was actually in it!

Flip appeared in the series as a stand-in body double for House Stark's much-loved gentle giant Hodor. He was also a double for House Lannister's feared enforcer, the towering Ser Gregor Clegane. You can see Flip in three iconic episodes in Season 6, 'The Winds Of Winter', 'Oathbreaker' and 'The Door' - in which the origins of Hodor's name are revealed to amazing effect.

Make no mistake then - this is a man who knows what he's talking about. The locations are a thrill to experience in their own right. But if you're a seasoned Thronie, each one is alive with drama and excitement.

Between locations you'll be travelling in Flip's van. It's a good time to hear his behindthe-scenes stories of life on set and in the studio during the making of Game of Thrones®. He's a mine of information on the logistics of creating the biggest TV show worldwide right here in Northern Ireland.

Flip is a local man - another key ingredient in his expertise. You'll find his great love of the area is contagious.

#### **Operating hours:**

All year, daily.

#### Cost per tour:

Departing Ballycastle from £425 Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 7

# How to book:

Visit: www.gianttoursireland.com Tel: **+44 (0)7555 665900** 

For further information:

Contact: Flip Robinson E: flip@gianttoursireland.com

#### Additional information:

Wear layered clothing, strong shoes or boots and bring a waterproof coat.

# Experience at a Glance

















Experience HotBox, a wood burning Finnish sauna based on Benone Strand, and Hot Slots are HotBox's signature sauna session for you and your group to enjoy.

During the 90 minute session, you alternate between the hot sauna and a cold sea plunge several times. By the end you will feel simultaneously relaxed and refreshed.

Hot Slots also include scented sauna water to pour over the hot stones, birch whisks to stimulate your circulation, sauna hats and drinking water.

You can add a beauty box to your booking. This includes a body scrub and various Neals Yard Remedies, balms and oils to enhance that post sauna glow.

Visitors can drive onto Benone Beach right to the door of Hotbox. Sea Shed Coffee and Waves café are located nearby to purchase food and drink.

#### **Operating hours:**

Thursday & Friday 12:00 – 16:00 Saturday & Sunday 10:00 – 16:00

#### Cost:

From £150 per person

Based on:
minimum 3 / maximum 6

# How to book:

Visit: www.hotboxseasauna.com Tel: +44 (0)7760 757294

#### For further information:

Contact: **Anna Isaksson** E: hello@hotboxseasauna.com

#### Additional information:

The sauna has a small changing room. All you need to bring is your swimsuit and 2 towels (one to sit on in the sauna.)

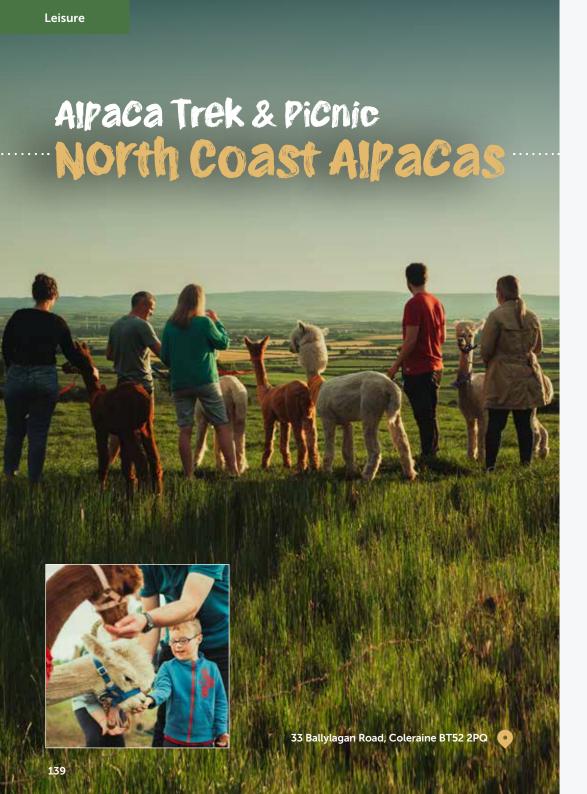












Visit the North Coast Alpaca paddock and experience an **Alpaca Trek** around a scenic path. Take a moment to stop and appreciate the breath-taking views and take a few snaps with your adorable new buddy.

Alternatively, bring a picnic and enjoy the **Alpaca Picnic Experience**. From the picnic tables you can see the mountains, sea, Donegal, Mussenden Temple and of course, the magnificent alpacas. After, it's time for the boys to eat. You will have the opportunity to feed them and get up close and personal for cuddles and pictures.

You can also experience the **Dusk Walk**. This is the most special of treks and for the more adventurous walker. Plan a most spectacular evening where you will walk the boys to the summit of the farm. There you will have panoramic views, from the Glens of Antrim to Scotland and Donegal to the Sperrins, with the backdrop of the most breath-taking sunsets.

Small souvenirs, snacks and drinks are available to purchase from The Alpaca Shack.

#### **Operating hours:**

Variable

#### Cost:

From £12.50 - £25 per adult depending on activity

Group price / discount:

Available upon request

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 25

# How to book:

Visit: www.northcoastalpacas.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7709 430517

#### For further information:

Contact: **Jonathan Lyons** E: **northcoastalpacas@gmail.com** 

#### Additional information:

Wear outdoor clothes and appropriate footwear.

Disabled access can be accommodated with notice.















# Mindful Discovery Walk Wildbay Retreats



Enjoy a 4-mile guided hike along the Causeway Coast, taking in the enchanting Giant's Causeway.

Discover the art of Vipanassa walking as you take in the natural scenery and learn to fully merge yourself into the present moment.

Through beach meditation open your heart on the first stop of this mindful adventure. Tune in and allow yourself to melt with the sounds of the wild coast as you are guided on a journey through sound.

With an introduction to conscious movement meditation you will leave your mind behind and find your inner flow as you dance your way to freedom. Utilising music and the elements to connect with the body - laugh, dance and breathe through the playful stages.

Optional cold water therapy can be included. Never have the benefits of cold water been so important as now, let the natural healing power of the Atlantic Ocean cleanse, inspire and empower.

Finally, detox with a warming herbal tea and organic snack to relax and rejuvenate as you take in the natural surroundings.

#### **Operating hours:**

Start Time: 07:00 End Time: 11:00 Available all year round.

#### Cost:

From £75 per person

Group price / discount:

10% discount for groups of 10 plus

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 12

# How to book:

Visit: www.wildbayretreats.com Tel: +44 (0)7707 070433

#### For further information:

Contact: **Daniel McKee** E: **daniel@wildbayretreats.com** 

#### Additional information:

Depending on fitness or ability, activity can be tailored. Bring walking shoes/boots - water bottle - small rucksack - warm clothing (waterproof coat/trousers/hat/gloves) -swim wear and towel (if wanting to join in an ocean dip,)

# Experience at a Glance







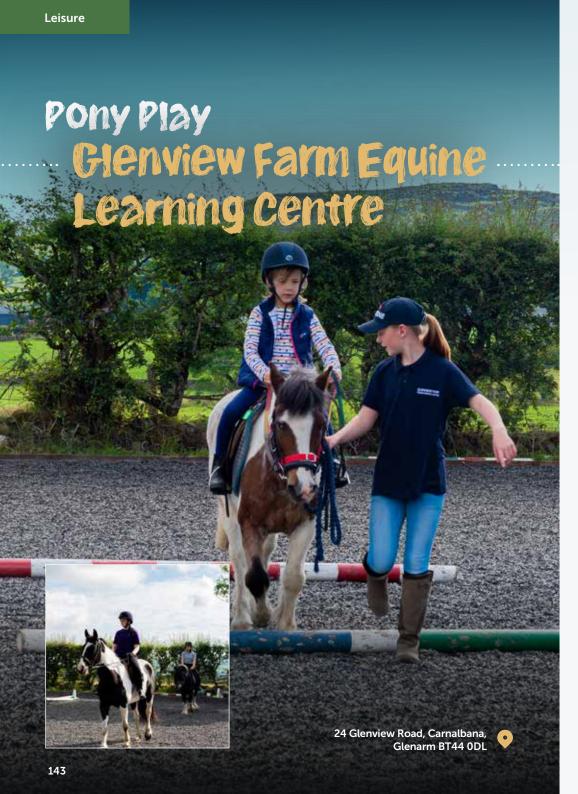




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Portballintrae Car Park,

71 Beach Road, Portballintrae BT57 8RT







Glenview Farm Equine Learning Centre is based between Slemish mountain and the historic coastal village of Glenarm. It offers a range of services including: pony parties and playdates, beginner children and adult riding lessons, family sessions, and specialist therapeutic riding on a sensory trail.

They also specialise in working with autistic children and those with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. Equine assisted learning is a unique service, which harnesses the sensitive and reactive nature of the horse to promote social and emotional growth.

On arrival, guests are met with a warm welcome from one of their volunteers, who are highly trained to accommodate any additional needs people may have, Once visitors have their hat and boots on, they are introduced to their horse and begin the experience they've chosen.

Glenview provides opportunities for people to connect with the horses and the natural environment, to connect with themselves, others, and the world they live in.

On-site facilities include a 30 x 40m all-weather outdoor arena, two indoor barns, ample car parking, washrooms and picnic benches, all set amidst 30 acres of idyllic countryside. A barn loft available if participants want to bring their own food/picnic. Tea/coffee making facilities available on site.

### **Operating hours:**

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Cost:
Depends on activity chosen
Based on:
minimum 1 / maximum 12

# How to book:

E: jane@glenviewfarm.org.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7711 835204

For further information:
Contact: Jane Magee
Visit: www.glenviewfarm.org.uk









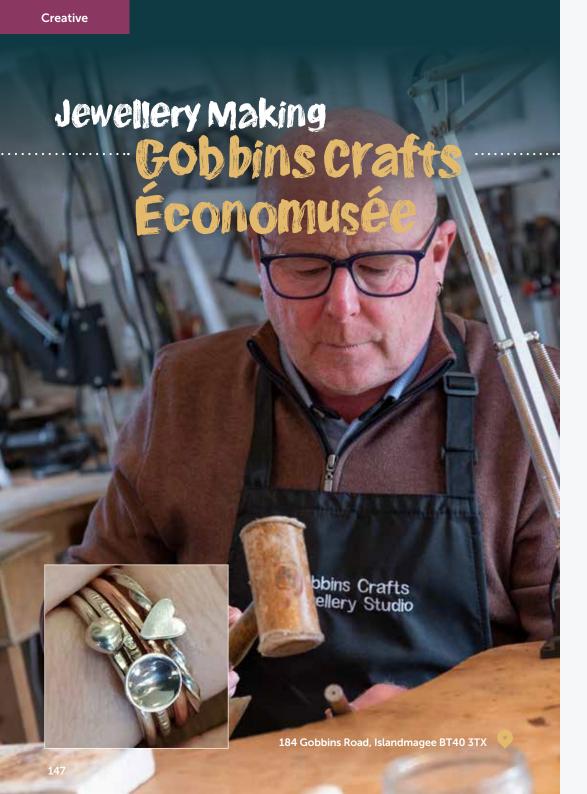






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inspirational insight into the area that simply cannot be missed. For the perfect souvenir, why not create a piece of unique jewellery or artwork that you can treasure forever? Or learn traditional techniques from blacksmiths or soap makers and make your very own keepsake? This way, you can ensure that your memento is one of a kind!



Settle in for your class with tutor Heather, an experienced goldsmith and designer. She has taught students of all abilities for more than 30 years and her classes are limited to four, allowing Heather to adjust the pace to each student's requirements and ensuring you get the most from the experience. You'll also be able to admire Heather's own works in progress, as well as completed artefacts.

Visitors are taken through the basic skills of jewellery making to enable them, under supervision, to make their own piece of silver jewellery to take away, be it a set of stacking rings, knot ring or pendant. It makes a wonderful souvenir of your time in this beautiful place.

The relaxed and peaceful surroundings at Gobbins Crafts are an important part of your experience. Heather's workshop is set in a restored, stone-built building, a former pig house. It dates from the early 1830s and the former residents have given way to goldsmiths' benches and a comprehensive range of metalworking equipment.

No prior experience is required. Jewellery options can be viewed on the Gobbins Crafts website prior to your visit. Experience includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Gobbins Crafts also offers an exciting interactive **Enamelling Experience**. Visitors can learn to safely apply and fire vividly coloured enamels to copper to produce truly original and unique pieces such as pendants and miniature plaques.

### **Opening hours:**

Workshops from 10:30 to 13:30 (other time slots on request), available weekdays and weekends.

Cost: From £75 per person Based on: minimum 2 / maximum 4

# How to book:

E: heather@gobbinscrafts.com
Tel: +44 (0)28 9338 2577

### For further information:

Contact: **Heather McFadden** Visit: **www.gobbinscrafts.com** 

### Additional information:

Comfortable clothes and covered shoes advised.















After this, you'll be encouraged to try your hand yourself. Never fear, you'll get all the guidance you need from fully qualified stone masons! You will discover plenty of inspiration for your creations as you also hear fascinating stories and legends behind specific crafts.

> Glenarm Castle Estate, 2 Castle Lane, Glenarm BT44 0DW



Fun group sessions include:

### Stone Cutters - V-Cut Lettering Experience (1 hour)

Stencil a number, initial or simple design then chisel a unique V cut letter from a piece of local stone.

### Ready to Rock - A Stone Art Experience (2 hours)

Use coloured rocks collected from throughout the Nine Glens of Antrim to create portraits, sculptures, or defeat gravity by creating a small ornamental stone stack from local pebbles to display at home.

### The Ancient Art of Flint Knapping (3 hours)

Fancy becoming a knapper? Scavenge for flint then make your own flint tool – be it a flint axe, knife or scrapper!

### Other courses

Find out how to maintain stone structures including dry stone walling. Or even how to apply lime mortars for pointing. You can play a part in the restoration of the historic Glenarm Estate. V cut lettering day classes are also available.

Onsite catering options include: Glenarm Castle Tea Rooms; The Potting Shed; The Milk Parlour and the Pizza Pavilion.

### **Opening hours:**

Available all year round. Advance booking essential

### Cost:

V Cut-Lettering from £20 per

Stone Art from £40 per person Flint Knapping from £45 per person Other courses also available online.

### Group price / discount:

10% discount for 4-8 group participants 20% discount for 9-14 group participants

### Based on:

minimum 4 / maximum 14

# How to book:

Visit: www.therockstonemasonry. co.uk/carved-at-the-castle Tel: +44 (0)7793 199306

# For further information:

Contact: Nathan Morrow E: therockstonemasonry @gmail.com

### Additional information:

Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear.







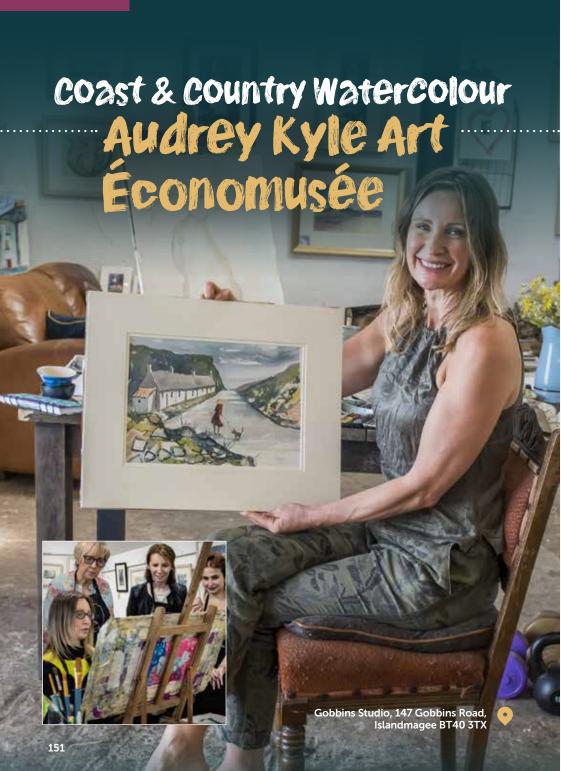












Living near the dramatic cliff tops of the stunning Gobbins, contemporary artist Audrey Kyle is inspired by the beauty of nature, changing seasons, and the stunning seascapes of Islandmagee.

Join Audrey to relax and explore your creativity as she shares her unique style to guide you in the art of watercolour painting.

Audrey will sketch for you a composition which you will work on together and you will also have an example of the finished piece to refer to throughout the class. She will show you how to apply watercolour and your finished piece will then be mounted for you to take home.

Suitable for beginners, this creative watercolour workshop lasts for 3 hours and groups are kept small so everyone receives attention. All materials are provided. Tea /coffee provided and sweet treat. Workshop lasts 3 hours or full day option available.

The workshop is held in either a purpose built outside area or alternatively in the art studio. This will be weather dependent but you will be in a beautiful and unique environment regardless of the choice and enjoy some down time in a relaxing location.

Audrey is also a professional storyteller so you can also expect to hear tales of folklore from the surrounding local area on smugglers, mermaids, fairies and witches. Alternatively you can book a studio tour to view the gallery showing examples of her work, inspired by the unique location she calls home.

Come and immerse yourself in the relaxing environment of a working farm and spark your creativity.

### **Operating hours:**

By appointment / pre-booking. All year except February and March.

### Cost:

From £45 per person

Based on:

minimum 4 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: audreykykeart@gmail.com
Tel: +44 (0)7702 464966

### For further information:

Contact: **Audrey Kyle**Visit: **www.audreykyleart.com** 

### Additional information:

Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear.





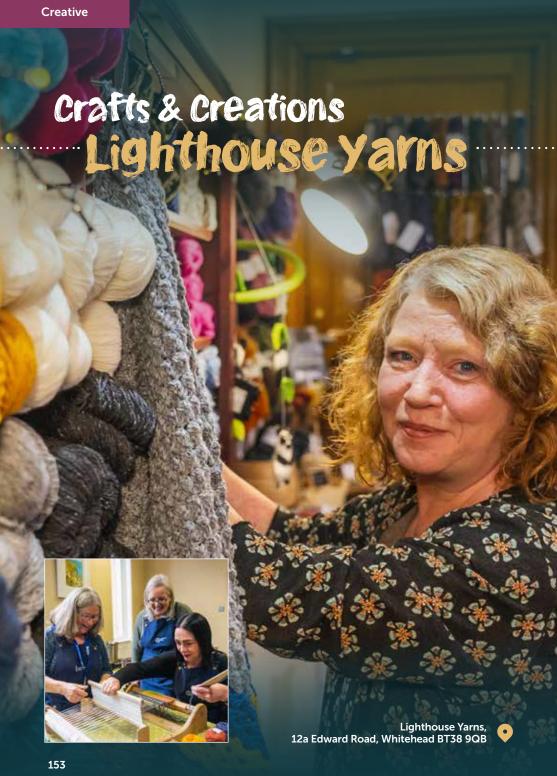












Embrace your creativity at Lighthouse Yarns in Whitehead, one of the best wool and yarn craft shops in Ireland today.

They offer a range of creative textile workshops or demonstrations for you to enjoy, from spinning, weaving, hand stitching, painting, making your own natural dyes and wood carving to name but a few.

They can cater for an individual student, family and friends or small groups, offering bespoke workshops depending on availability of tutor and venue.

Workshops can be organised in various locations throughout Whitehead and Islandmagee.

You will also have the chance to browse Lighthouse Yarn's treasure trove of crafts and colour and experience the social power of crafting and knitting in the heart of the Whitehead community.

The onsite Bank House cafe can offer a full menu or set menu eating options.

### **Operating hours:**

Flexible to meet needs of client and venue availability.

### Cost:

From £45 to £80 per person depending on specific workshop and duration. Lunch can be organised at additional cost. Demonstrations negotiable.

**Group price / discount:**Group reduction negotiable depending on package.

Based on: minimum 5 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: Lighthouseyarns@yahoo.com

Tel: +44 (0)28 9337 2888

### For further information:

Contact: Louise Williamson Visit: www.lighthouse-yarns.com

### Additional information:

Happy to discuss individual needs and offer a bespoke workshop or demonstration where possible, depending on availability of individual tutors and venue.

# Experience at a Glance























Sustainability is one of Antrim Rain Soap's driving forces and each bar of their soap is handmade using harvested rainwater from The Glens of Antrim to give a truly cleansing and natural product. They offer the following experiences:

### Soap Making Demo & Taster (30mins – 1 hour)

Watch while a batch of soap is made, using natural oils and butter mixed with essential oils and clays.

Owner Dawn will explain all the steps and processes and maybe inspire you to start your own homemade soaps. Have a go at some soap cutting and mixing some of the ingredients to see all the steps involved through to the finished product. You'll even get to take a bar of soap home with you!

### **Basic Soap Making Workshop (4 hours)**

Learn the basics of soap making and make your own 2lb loaf of your very own soap. Keep your own natural soap for yourself or give as a fabulous handmade gift. For ages 16+.

### Pamper Products Workshop (2 hours)

Make your very own natural bath bombs and sugar/salt scrubs. Use everyday natural ingredients to make beautiful pamper products for yourself or to gift. For ages 16+.

### **Operating hours:**

All year round by advance arrangement.

### Cost:

Soap Making Demo & Taster: From £20 per person Basic Soap Making Workshop: From £75 per person Pamper Products Workshop: From £55 per person

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: **antrimrain@gmail.com**Tel: **+44 (0)7834 543619** 

For further information:

Contact: **Dawn Demaine** Visit: **antrimrainsoap.co.uk** 

# Experience at a Glance









### Calling all golf enthusiasts!

Get ready for forging fun with leading blacksmith Aaron Leach of Swifts Forge in Islandmagee, who will share his decade of professional experience with you to help forge your own golf inspired items.

### Experience 1: Hand forge a golf putter designed to sink, built to last.

You will hand forge, shape, grind, mill and stamp your own carbon steel putter from a bar before you then shaft and grip it ready for play. A truly one of a kind vintage inspired putter!

### **Experience 2: Make Ball Markers and Whiskey Sours**

You will hand forge, texture, stamp, polish and paint fill your own bronze ball marker while enjoying a whiskey sour to keep you warm in the workshop. You will also get a chance to see and talk about Swifts Forges handmade wrought iron putters, head covers and accessories. Whiskey sour included.

This family run business is well-known in the golfing world for exceptional quality, craftsmanship and unique design of hand-forged putters so you are in safe hands when you head along to their forge workshop. Check website for full details of all classes.

Water, tea/coffee and biscuits provided, packed lunch required.

### **Opening hours:**

By appointment any day or time

### Cost:

Experience 1: From £320 per person Experience 2: From £60 per person

### Group price / discount:

Experience 1:

£300 per person for a group of 4

Experience 2:

£55 per person for 6 or more

### Based on:

Experience 1: 5-7hrs for 1-4 people Experience 2: 1.5hrs per 4 people minimum 4 / maximum 10

# How to book:

Visit: **www.swiftsforge.com**Tel: **+44 (0)7485 605612** 

### For further information:

Contact: **Aaron or Kathryn Leach** E: **info@swiftsforge.com** 

### Additional information:

Wear tough, older clothing you don't mind getting dirty. Aprons and PPE provided.

# Experience at a Glance















Ever pictured yourself moulding clay on a pottery wheel? Then this is the perfect group class for you.

In the first half of the experience you will cover the basic throwing technique, centring and pulling the clay up, as you aim to make a bowl. You will have unlimited amounts of clay but at the end of the lesson, you will choose the best three to be fired and glazed.

You will enjoy a tea and cake break and then return to decorate and handle a mug. If you have any ideas for things you would like to make, Blackheath are more than happy to help you with your project.

You will work with porcelain clay and all the tools and slips you need will be provided for you. All you need to bring is an apron and some ideas. Once you have finished your class, your pieces will be glazed and fired, they will be ready in two weeks for collection or can be posted at an additional cost.

### **Opening hours:**

Saturdays 16:00 - 19:00

### Cost:

1 person From £120

### Group price / discount:

2 people from £160

3 people from £180

4 people from £220

### Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 4

# How to book:

Visit: www.blackheathpottery.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7714 367890** 

### For further information:

Contact: Babs Belshaw

E: babs@blackheathpottery.com















Eleanor-Jane McCartney is an experienced artist and tutor who designs and makes small batch fused glass and vitreous enamel pieces.

Join E-J for one of her enjoyable glass workshops tailored to meet your needs and wishes. You can produce two flat  $10 \times 10$  cm glass pieces of your own design, which can become coasters. hanging objects, framed pieces or they can be placed in a stand which accommodates a candle - you can choose.

The workshop cost includes glass materials, use of equipment, a delicious break, tutoring and of course the kiln firing of your pieces, which will be available for collection one week after the workshop. Alternatively, posting of the final pieces is easily arranged at an additional cost.

You will soak up the beauty and artistic atmosphere of the venue for E-J's workshops at either The Boat House Gallery and Studio (very close to The Giant's Causeway) or her own studio. Walks on The Giant's Causeway paths are accessible from The Boat House Gallery.

Each workshop is tailored to meet the needs and aspirations of each group and can be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities.

### **Opening hours:**

10:30 - 12:30 or at an agreeable time arranged with the client. Advance booking is required.

### Cost:

From £52 per person

Group price / discount:

Email or phone for group discount details

### Based on:

minimum 3 / maximum 6

# How to book:

E: irishglassartist@outlook.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7752 315476** 

### For further information:

Contact: **Eleanor-Jane McCartney** Visit: **www.irishglassartist.com** 

### Additional information:

Comfortable clothes and covered shoes advised

# Experience at a Glance

















There are lots of opportunities to explore the water during your trip along the Causeway Coastal Route. Discover the Giant Shipwrecks of the Causeway Coast and hear tales of tragedy, treasure, battle and destruction, or opt to experience the Spirit of the Bann on a whiskey tasting tour along the river. A boat trip on the Atlantic waters offers the chance to see the Causeway Coast from a new perspective, and you can spot everything from seals to sea birds on an unforgettable wildlife safari. Alternatively, head inland on a boat trip along the River Bann and immerse yourself in the culture and heritage of Northern Ireland's longest river.

Whether you want to paddleboard, kayak, scuba dive, surf, snorkel or even waterbike you'll find a multitude of great experiences - all with enthusiastic instructors eager to show you what makes this area special.

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# Giant Shipwrecks of the North Coast Aquaholics







Experience a unique adventure exploring the maritime history of the many wrecks on the Giant's Causeway coastline.

Boarding one of the Aquaholics vessels for this fascinating adventure around Rathlin Island and the Causeway Coast, you will travel by sea to the sites of many of the famous wrecks. Your guides will enthral you with tales of treasure, tragedy, lost loves, battles and destruction. From the modern wrecks of the World Wars to the whiskey smuggling ships, and of course, the treasure and history of the Spanish Armada galleass Girona.

This is an incredible opportunity for keen historians, underwater archaeologists or wreck enthusiasts to experience the sheer size and scale of the vessel from the surface using state of the art digital technology whilst on board.

Other experiences available include:

- Discover scuba diving under Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge
- Luxury scallop experience with BBQ and whiskey
- Game of Thrones<sup>©</sup> Sea Safari
- Snorkel the hidden caves of the White Rocks and Dunluce castle

### **Operating hours:**

All year round (subject to weather)

### Cost:

From £65 per person

### Group price / discount:

Private charter up to 12 people from £700

### Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 12

# How to book:

Visit: www.aquaholics.co.uk Tel: +44 (0)28 7083 2584

### For further information:

Contact: Richard Lafferty E: info@aquaholics.co.uk













Experience the **Best of the Bann** onboard the stylish MV Kingfisher, a 75-year-old vintage vessel, restored and refurbished during the pandemic lockdown. Enjoy this wonderfully comfortable platform from which to view wildlife, learn about Northern Ireland's longest river and its culture and heritage.

You will enjoy complimentary refreshments (freshly brewed tea or coffee served with a home-baked treat) and relax with comfy cushions and fluffy blankets. The boat deck is covered with a bespoke canopy with optional drop-down sides so you will enjoy shelter and comfort whatever the weather. Personal audio equipment, binoculars, field guides and identification charts detailing river wildlife are provided. All tour commentary is delivered by highly experienced and friendly local guides.

Another experience available is **Meander and Dander**, an exclusive land and water-based experience which allows you to retrace the historical river journeys taken by prehistoric explorers and hunter gatherers. It brings the ancient site of Mountsandel into perspective and places both it and the river at its heart, across diverse timelines. Private charters are available which can incorporate a lunch package by prior arrangement.

### **Operating hours:**

From March to December

Best of the Bann scheduled tours 10:00 -12:00 and 14:00 -16:00

Group bookings available any time by arrangement.

### Cost:

From £45 per person

### Group price / discount:

Discount available for groups of 10 or more

### Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 12

# How to book:

Visit: www.whiterivercharters.com
Tel: +44 (0)7894 210527

### For further information:

Contact: Fiona Bryant

E: crew@whiterivercharters.com

### Additional information:

Bring suitable clothing for changeable weather (layers that can be added to or taken off, preferably waterproof) and sturdy footwear.

Due to the heritage nature of the boat there are restrictions in the type of access adaptations that can be made.

# Experience at a Glance



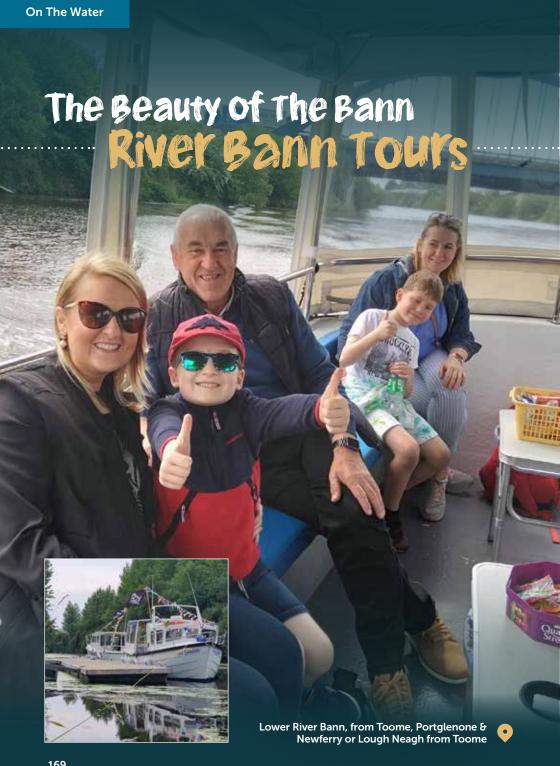












River Bann Tours offers a range of relaxing boat trips and tours on the River Bann and Lough Neagh from various locations with seasonal themes and of varying durations.

Their newly refurbished boats each have their own unique stories and staff will guide passengers on local history and wildlife with a basic tour lasting 45mins to 1 hour.

You can also enjoy a 2 hour sunset experience which includes complimentary Prosecco, chocolate dipped strawberries and snacks. Or why not join a 2 hour music night with a live musician on board, where you can sing along and enjoy the evening wildlife.

River Bann Tours have also teamed up with other providers to offer a full day of activity, cultural tours, food experiences and tasting sessions. Check their website for the full range of tours available.

You can bring your own food and drinks or they can arrange this for you. Basic or gourmet packed lunches can be provided plus passengers can get discounts in local restaurants.

### **Operating hours:**

Daylight hours Monday to Sunday

### Cost:

Standard tours from £15 per person Sunset tour from £39 per person Music trip from £30 per person All other trips – please contact to discuss.

Based on:

minimum 12 / maximum 45

# How to book:

Visit: www.bookeo.com/ riverbanntours Tel: +44 (0)7542 848843

For further information:

Contact: Jim Barr

Visit: www.riverbanntours.co.uk E: jbarr@riverbanntours.co.uk

### Additional information:

Passengers are advised to bring suitable clothing for the weather conditions, although all boats can be covered and have heaters.

# Experience at a Glance













Step aboard the Curiosity yellow converted lifeboat, where your skipper Davy Smyth will take you on a tour around the incredibly beautiful Carnlough and Glenarm coastline, part of the Glens of Antrim.

### Daily Carnlough Bay Boat Tours (45 mins)

As you leave Carnlough harbour, you can relax and listen to music while looking through the binoculars provided and have the opportunity to see seabirds, marine life, seals and possibly dolphins, if they're passing. Weather permitting the tour passes the Glenarm Organic Salmon farm, to observe the Atlantic salmon splashing in the Irish Sea.

### **Village Hopping Tours**

You can book to go village hopping by sea from Carnlough to Glenarm or vice versa. Once you reach Glenarm, why not take the opportunity to disembark and explore the village? You could either return by public bus or book a return trip aboard the Curiosity for another chance to experience the stunning scenery.

### **Private Bespoke Tours**

Longer trips are bookable with the option to travel northerly from the harbour passing Tommy's Port to Ringfad – the site of the demise of The Enterprise of Lynn, a West Indiaman craft, which was lost in 1827 carrying a cargo of gold and indigo dye. The indigo was lost in the tide but the gold has yet to be recovered.

Davy is waiting to welcome you aboard!

### **Operating hours:**

Can operate during daylight hours, 7 days per week

### Cost:

Adult from £8, child from £6

### Group price / discount

Private group from £56 (maximum of 12 passengers)

### Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 12

### Additional information:

Come dressed for the weather.

# How to book:

Visit: carnloughboattours.weebly. com

Tel: +44 (0)7720 464044

### For further information:

Contact: Davy Smyth

E: curiositytours@outlook.com

# Experience at a Glance









# Scenic RIB Boat Tours Abhainn Cruises







Experience private charter tours on Abhainn Cruises' fast RIB boats. Enjoy the vast local knowledge and passion for the history, folklore and wildlife of the Causeway Coast with skippers Tim and Ben, both qualified local tour guides.

The bespoke private charter boat tour offers you a unique experience at an UNESCO World Heritage Site, a chance to discover hidden gems, take photographs at inaccessible locations, watch wildlife and appreciate the beauty and history that is part of Northern Ireland's heritage. They can help create the perfect itinerary for your private charter.

Abhainn Cruises offers a wide range of experiences including:

**Sea Safari:** Discover The Giant's Causeway World Heritage Site from the sea **The Gobbins:** Bespoke Sea Safari to see the dramatic cliffs and bridges from the sea

River Boat Trips: Cruise the Bann

Game of Thrones® Tours: Coastal Film Locations

Check out their website for further details. Refreshments and lunch included on some tours.

### **Operating hours:**

09:00 - 18:00 all year round

### Cost:

From £35 per person

**Group price / discount:** Contact Lynn for details

Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 22

# How to book:

Visit: www.abhainncruises.com Tel: +44 (0)7845 370231

### For further information:

Contact: Lynn Gibson

E: abhainncruises@btinternet.com

### Additional information:

Please note that restrictions may apply according to tour and location. Toilets are available at marinas and harbours. Good mobility and fitness is required to be onboard.

# Experience at a Glance















Experience a vision of the Causeway Coast like never before with a **Causeway Sea Tour** and **Wildlife Safari Experience**. Explore the vast array of wildlife this stunning stretch of coastline has to offer.

Causeway Sea Tours offer a wide variety of thrilling experiences, including the **Wildlife Safari**, Lower Bann Estuary Wildlife Safari and longer experiences taking you by boat to marvel at the Giant's Causeway and Dunluce Castle from a different perspective than the norm. Check out their website for full details.

A gift shop is onboard to purchase a memento. A delicious 'Pirate's Picnic' can also be pre-booked.

### **Operating hours:**

July, August and September - Monday to Sunday

November - Lower Bann Estuary Wildlife Safaris, weekends only.

Sea Tours commence from Easter onwards.

### Cost:

From £5 per person

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 11

# How to book:

Visit: bookwhen.com/ causewayseatours

Tel: **+44 (0)7720 440117** 

### For further information:

Contact: Suzanne McCrellis
Visit: www.causewayseatours.com
E: Info@causewayseatours.com

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### Additional information:

Wheelchair users are welcome. Public toilets at the harbour.

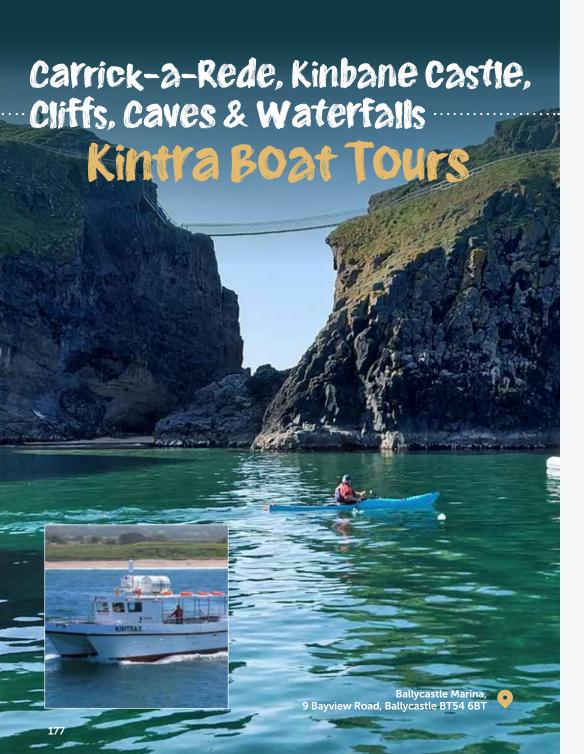












On departure from Ballycastle Harbour you are greeted with spectacular views of the cliffs at Fairhead, Rathlin Island and the Mull of Kintyre in Scotland.

You will proceed westward along the Causeway Coast, taking in the sights of Kinbane Castle, a McDonnell stronghold from 1547, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, The Salmon Fisherman's cottage on Carrick-a-Rede Island, spectacular sea caves, smugglers cave, and the mermaid's waterfall.

Experience the cliffs, alive with nesting sea birds from early spring, and wonder at the seals, dolphins, whales and basking sharks in late summer.

Kintra also offers a wide range of other experiences including:

- · Carrick-a-Rede Island Tour
- Dawn's Daybreak Adventure
- Evening Cruise
- Fairhead Tour
- Puffins, Seals and Lighthouses Tour
- Round Rathlin Tour

All tour experiences have a dedicated guide onboard as well as commentary from Kintra's skippers.

Refreshments are not included, however there is a range of excellent local eateries within Ballycastle.

### **Operating hours:**

All year round during daylight hours

### Cost:

Adult (16+ years) from £23 Child (5-15 years) from £17 Infant (1-4 years) from £3.50

### Based on:

minimum 6 / maximum 130 Please note to accommodate over 70 passengers, advanced notice must be given.

# How to book:

Visit: www.kintraboattours.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7848 473652
(For bookings over 30 passengers email bookings@kintraboattours.co.uk)

### For further information:

Contact: **Dawn Hynes** E: **bookings@kintraboattours.co.uk** 

### Additional information:

Things to bring: warm clothing, waterproof clothing and a blanket if you get cold.











# Learn to SUP on the East Coast Islandmagee SUP







Explore the wonderful natural beauty of the coastline around Islandmagee and Whitehead as you enjoy a stand up paddleboarding (SUP) group class for up to 6 people, covering all the basic safety and paddling techniques.

The standard 2 hour group session follows the ASI SUPwise "Learn to SUP" format. This is a proven international standard for learning how to stand up paddleboard in a safe and fun environment

You will learn about SUP safety, SUP equipment, basic control and turning strokes. After mastering how to paddle in the kneeling position you will learn the most effective ways to stand up and stay on your feet!

Group sessions can also be tailored to suit all levels and necessary equipment is provided. Tea, coffee and biscuits are available afterwards.

For more experienced paddleboarders (age 18+), guided SUP tours are available at Blackhead Lighthouse, The Gobbins, Portmuck and Browns Bay or there is even a Sunset SUP.

### **Operating hours:**

Weekends / evenings / holidays from May to September.

### Cost:

2 hour group session from £40 per person Guided SUP experience from £50-£60 per person

Based on: minimum 2 / maximum 6

# How to book:

Visit: www.lslandmageesup.com
Tel: +44 (0)7843 688725

### For further information:

Contact: Adam Livingstone
E: Info@islandmageesup.com

### Additional information:

What to bring: wetsuit (if possible), swimwear to wear under wetsuit, wetsuit boots or old shoes, towel / changing robe, sun protection water.











Stand up and splash out at WaveRides Paddleboarding, with experiences to suit all abilities, set on the picturesque harbour at Carrickfergus Castle.

With a blast of info and fun you will learn how to stand up paddleboard in the safe waters of Carrickfergus Harbour, as qualified instructors guide you on paddle safe top tips with a range of boards for all sizes of people. Suitable for complete beginners, these affordable, two-hour sessions include all equipment and are the perfect opportunity to get a feel for the sport.

They can also offer a group paddleboarding experience on 'The Mammoth' an 18ft board suitable for up to 12 people and perfect for team building days or parties.

WaveRides are formally recognised as a British Stand Up Paddleboard School and also offer structured training courses.

This activity is within walking distance of various restaurants and cafes within Carrickfergus.

### **Operating hours:**

Summer (April to October)

Sessions operate Monday to Friday from 16:30 to 22:00 and from 10:00 to 18:00 on Saturday and Sunday

Winter (November to March)

Sessions operate from 10:00 to 14:00 on Saturday and Sunday.

### Cost:

From £30 per person

Group price / discount: 10% discount for 10 persons

Based on:

minimum 4 / maximum 10

# How to book:

: Waveridesbelfast@gmail.com

Tel: **+44 (0)7428 771991** 

### For further information:

Contact: Robbie Richardson
E: Waveridesbelfast@gmail.com

### Additional information:

Wetsuits and buoyancy aids can be provided as required, subject to size availability. Bring a towel, sun protection, and wear shoes that can be worn in the water. Changing and shower facilities are available, by advance arrangement.

# Experience at a Glance



Carrickfergus Harbour,

Quayside, Carrickfergus BT38 8BJ















Based out of the picturesque Carnlough and Glenarm harbours, the skilled team at Eagle Divers NI are on hand to give you a unique watersports adventure.

Whether you grab a paddleboard, opt for a kayak or brave the waters for a snorkelling or scuba diving session, you will be looked after by their PADI qualified diving instructors and watersports coaches, who can deliver the highest level of accreditation or just help you enjoy safely one of the best diving and watersports areas in Europe.

Discover the art of scuba diving with their two hour introductory course to help you explore the local underwater world. Or maybe you want to earn your first level certification in scuba diving over four days where you will learn the skills and knowledge to dive at home, or abroad, and be an ambassador for the underwater world

If snorkelling is your preferred water activity of choice their two hour session will help you learn an easily accessible way of exploring the underwater world.

To experience the sheltered bays of Carnlough and Glenarm, why not hire one of their kayaks, perfect for individual or group experiences, or grab a paddleboard and let their experienced instructors introduce you to paddleboard touring, SUP surfing, SUP yoga and paddling around just for fun.

### **Operating hours:**

7 days a week from 10:00 – 18:00

### Cost:

Paddleboard hire from £25 an hour Kayak hire from £25 an hour Scuba diving from £125 for 2 hours

### Group price / discount:

10% discount

### Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 6

# How to book:

Visit: eaglediversni.com
Tel: +44 (0)7756 699880

### For further information:

Contact: **Zee Azab**E: **info@eaglediversni.com** 

### Additional information:

You are recommended to bring water bottle or hydration reservoir, snacks or lunch, cellphone in protective bag/case, waterproof case and towel.

# Experience at a Glance





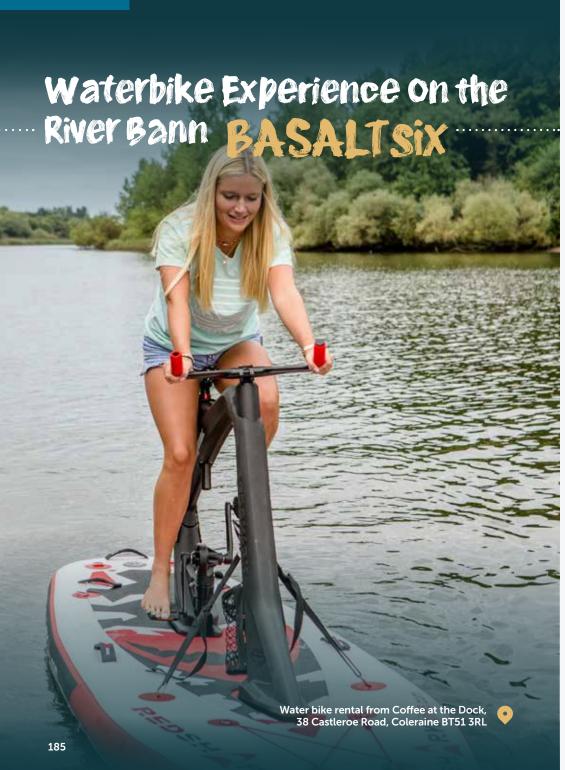
















Combine cycling with stand up paddleboarding for a unique water experience.

Explore the River Bann by water bike, utilising the strongest muscles in your body to travel further and faster than on a paddleboard. The quiet propeller maintains the tranquillity of the River Bann, its calming environment and wildlife.

You can rent up to 6 hydro bikes for a minimum of 1 hour. Group 15 minute taster sessions are also available.

Mobile catering options are available nearby.

### **Operating hours:**

May to October, Monday to Saturday

### Cost:

From £35 per hour per person **Group price / discount:** From £25 per hour per person **Based on:** 

minimum 1 / maximum 6

# How to book:

Visit: www.basaltsix.com
Tel: +44 (0)7485 405606

### For further information:

Contact: Nigel Armstrong
E: n.armstrong@basaltsix.com



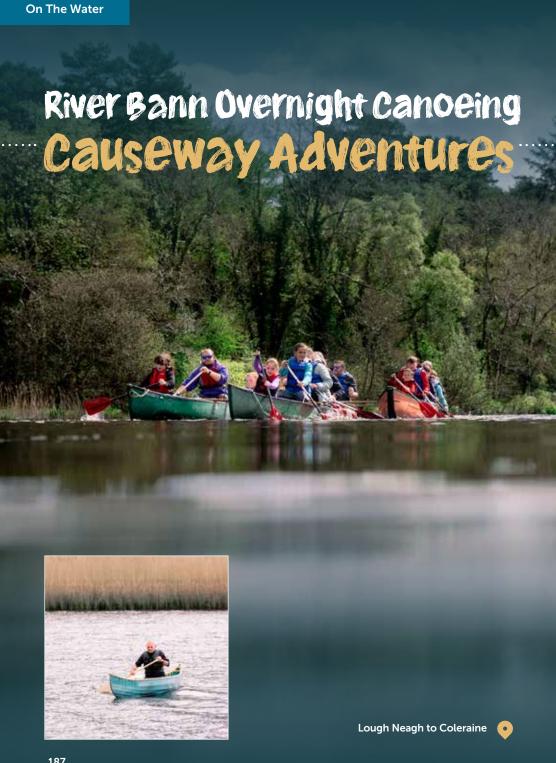
















Get away from the humdrum of daily life and come immerse yourself in the splendour of the River Bann in a handmade cedar wood canoe. Your guide will take you on a relaxing two day meander down river in this lush environment.

On day 1, you will stop to replenish with a buffet style lunch and after an afternoon of canoeing and absorbing the natural beauty of the river, a fabulous evening BBQ with steaks, lamb and wine will round off the day. You will bed down in bell tents and set yourself up for day 2 with a hearty al fresco breakfast. All the equipment you require is provided and you'll even be shuttled back to your car at the end of the 2 days. Your river guide can capture the excitement on camera, if you wish.

You can also chose the **Causeway Adventures Canoe Picnic Experience** or their half or full day **Wilderness Survival Experience**, where you will cover the basic skills required to survive, including fire lighting, cooking and shelter building.

### **Operating hours:**

Starts at 10:00, finishing at 16:00 the following day.

### Cost:

From £300 per person

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 8

# How to book:

E: Info@causewayadventures.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7713 081886

For further information:

Contact: Aubrey Beggs
Visit: www.causewayadventures.
co.uk

### Additional information:

Bring warm comfy clothes.

Minimum age 16 with a basic level of fitness required. Booking is subject to availability and weather on the chosen day. Toilets available at the campsite and lunch spot.

# Experience at a Glance





















Immerse yourself in a fully guided kayaking experience suitable for beginners along the Causeway Coast.

You will have the chance to experience the beauty of the Causeway Coast like never before, finding yourself surrounded by heritage and history, all from a totally unique perspective.

Your highly qualified and experienced local guides are motivated to make your experience as memorable as possible with their in-depth local knowledge of the region you are paddling. Your safety and enjoyment is their priority. 1 hour, 2 hour and half day experiences are available.

This experience can also be offered in Ballycastle and Cushendun.

Food and drink is available to purchase at the local café, open seasonally in Ballintoy.

### **Operating hours:**

Daily from 10:00 - 18:00

### Cost:

From £40 to £180 per person **Group price / discount:** 15% discount

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 15

# How to book:

Visit: www.causewaycoast kayakingtours.com/booking

Tel: +44 (0)7895 444237

### For further information:

Contact: Anne David

Visit: www.causewaycoast kayakingtours.com

anne@causewaycoast kayakingtours.com

















Experience an award-winning surf or paddleboarding session, suitable for beginners with no prior experience needed.

Immerse yourself in two hours of water time to gain confidence in your new skill, as well as the only complimentary hot showers and changing room facilities in Portrush after your session.

Group bookings can take advantage of 'add-on' packages including food and drinks, or you can book team meeting rooms and facilities with local partner the Portrush Yacht Club. Competitive group rates, unique team experiences (such as inflatable giant SUP), and a brilliant team of local instructors ensure the delivery of an unforgettable experience.

Price is inclusive of all equipment, wetsuits, accessories, and change room facilities.

Lessons can take place at East Strand Beach in Portrush if weather is preferable at this location.

### **Operating hours:**

Daily availability with flexible morning or afternoon sessions

### Cost:

£30 to £42.50 per person

Group price / discount:

Discount is staggered dependant on group size

Based on:

minimum 1 / maximum 90

# How to book:

info@portrushsurfschool.com

Tel: +44 (0)7894 854791

### For further information:

Contact: Martin Kelly
Visit: www.portrushsurfschool.com

### Additional information:

Coach drop-off and pick-up available, with parking options available throughout Portrush.



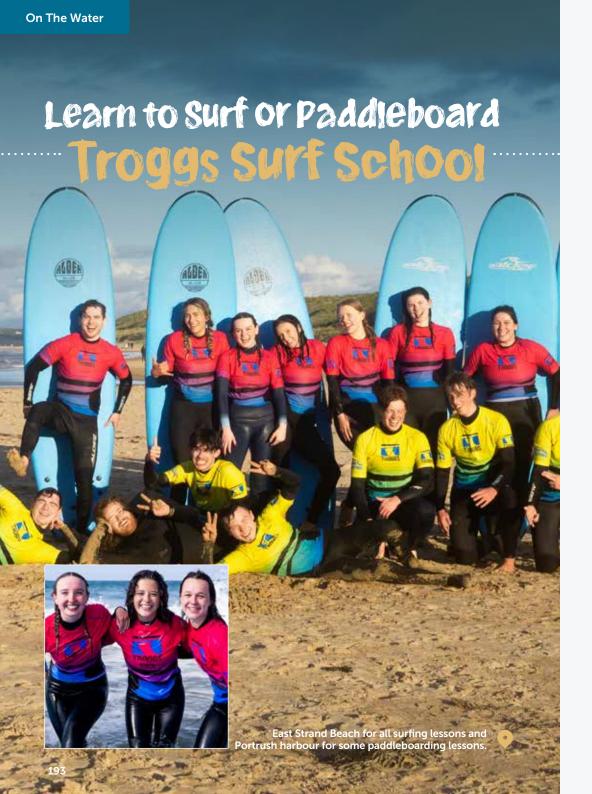












Troggs has been teaching the art of surfing since 1994. As the longest running surf school in Portrush, your experience with them will be one to remember as the team has a passion to share the thrill and pleasure that is connecting with the ocean. Whether you've never surfed or want to improve upon your skills, Troggs can tailor the lesson to suit your ability.

Firstly, you will meet the friendly coach, then get sized and suited up in their top-of-the-range wetsuits. Once you have a wetsuit and coloured rash vest on, you're good to go! Grab a surfboard and head down to the beach, Troggs is situated right on East Strand so you don't have a long walk. On the beach your group will be taken through a light warmup and then the teaching will begin on the sand. You will be taken through all the basics of prone surfing, then you'll head into the surf with your instructor to give it a try.

Once you've got the hang of the basics, the 'Pop up' which is how you get your feet on a surfboard, will be taught on the beach. You will get a full 2 hours in the water! By the end of the lesson most visitors to Troggs Surf School get to their feet, everyone leaves with a great knowledge of how to surf and a smile on their face. Paddleboarding experiences are also available.

### **Operating hours:**

09:00 – 21:00 (daylight hours only – summer sunset sessions)

### Cost:

From £35 per person for a group surf lesson (2 hours) From £55 per person for paddleboarding (2 hours) From £55 for a 1-1 lesson (1 hour)

**Group price / discount:**For large corporate groups please email for a quote.

Based on: minimum 1 / maximum 60

# How to book:

Visit: www.troggssurfschool.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7719 315372

For further information:

Contact: Ethan Hill & Albert Dallas
E: info@troggssurfschool.co.uk

### Additional information:

On street coach parking just 100m from location. During summer season disabled wheelchair access for the ocean is bookable. Portrush offers many amazing places for food all within a 5 minute walk from Troggs' building. 60+ participants can be accommodated - split into different groups whilst in the water.



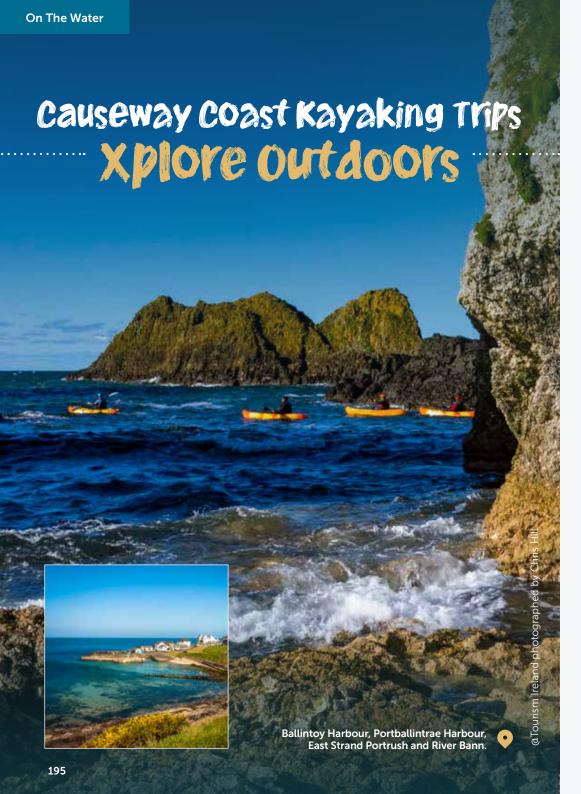
















Get comfortable on your sit on top kayak with a company 16 years established and highly experienced in local outdoor activity.

Xplore Outdoors only run small group kayaking trips in order to maximise your experience, so get ready to enjoy not only the most breath-taking of scenery as you paddle but the great company and undivided attention of your friendly and knowledgeable guide, Gareth.

You will find your sit on top kayak extremely user friendly. The experience is suitable for all abilities and for ages 10+. A double kayak is available for younger ages.

All the equipment you need, including wetsuits, is supplied. Other coastal locations can be offered if requested. Photos are taken each trip and shared with clients, at no extra charge.

### **Operating hours:**

All year round weather permitting

### Cost:

From £30 - £50 per person depending on trip

**Group price / discount:**Discount available on request

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 10

# How to book:

E: info@xploreoutdoors.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)7734 365321

### For further information:

Contact: **Gareth Moore** Visit: **www.xploreoutdoors.co.uk** 

### Additional information:

Each client will be contacted directly to discuss individual needs and requirements prior to the activity.



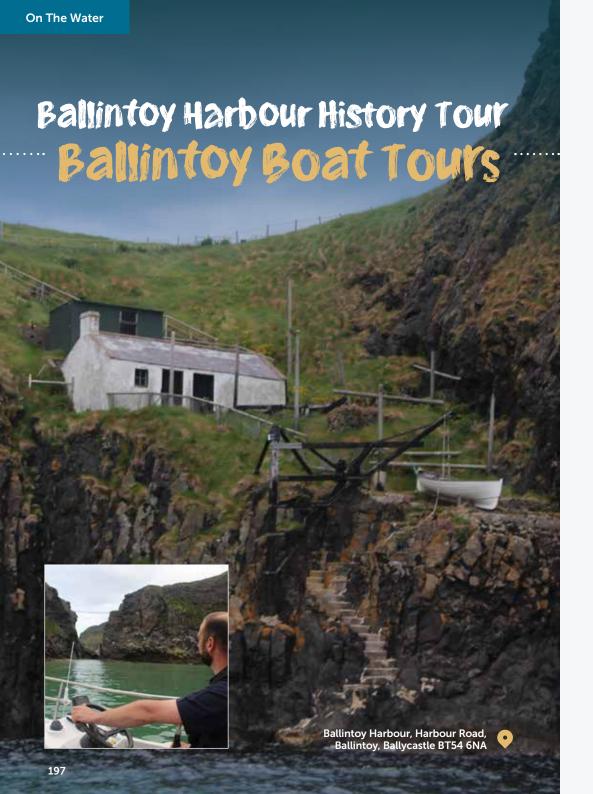
















Depart from Ballintoy harbour on board Stackaboy, a small agile vessel perfect for exploring this stretch of coast. Experience gems of the Causeway Coast from a new perspective; Larrybane Bay, Carrick-a-Rede, Sheep Island, the Giant's Cut, Kinbane Castle and White Park Bay. You will have the opportunity to discuss industrial heritage, geology and enthralling stories of local escapades. Along the way you may experience dolphins, seabirds, basking sharks and seals.

This is a fun, relaxed, trip with that personal feeling for smaller groups where you will learn lots of interesting facts and information from a friendly and knowledgeable local tour guide and skipper.

Shorter Carrick-a-Rede experiences, suitable for kids and families are available.

### **Operating hours:**

April to September

### Cost:

From £35 per person

Group price / discount:

Private group price £150

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 5

# How to book:

Visit: www.ballintoyboattours.com
Tel: +44 (0)7886 232718

### For further information:

Contact: Gordy Neill
E: booking@ballintoyboattours.com

### Additional information:

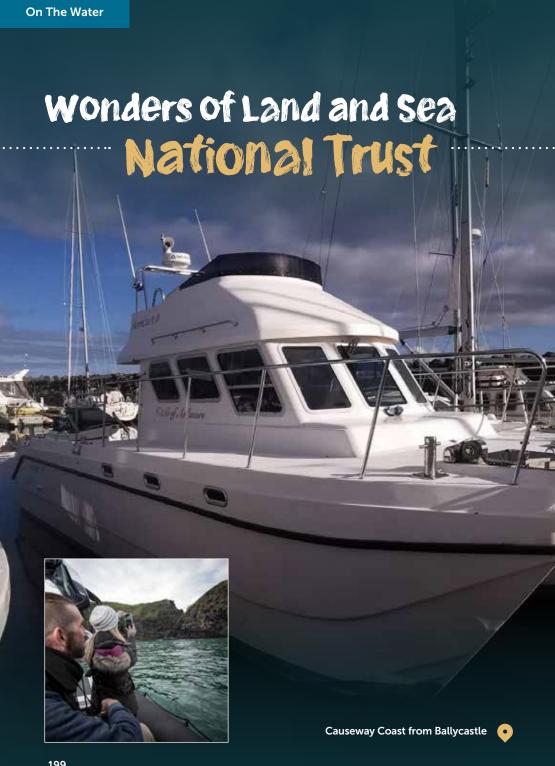
All trips are weather dependant. Cafés located nearby.















Experience the Causeway Coast from a completely different point of view, from onboard an 11 metre rib.

Take an exhilarating boat trip from the lovely town of Ballycastle and you will see well known landmarks such as Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge and the Giant's Causeway like never before. View the dramatic Causeway columns as they rise up from the sea to meet the cliff paths around the five-mile UNESCO World Heritage Site.

On this journey around the coast you will discover castle ruins, caves, hidden bays and secret waterfalls and be sure to keep your eyes peeled for basking sharks, dolphins, seals, porpoises, cormorants and guillemots as you navigate the seas. With the help of your National Trust guide, this rugged coastline is brought to life with tales of bravery, love and loss and you can disembark with a renewed sense of adventure.

### **Operating hours:**

Phone or email for availability

### Cost:

Price on request

**Group price / discount:** Price on request

Based on:

minimum 2 / maximum 12

# How to book:

E: Northcoastbookings@ nationaltrust.org.uk

Tel: **+44 (0)28 2073 1855** 

### For further information:

Contact: **Susan Smith**Visit: **www.nationaltrust.org.uk/** 

giants-causeway

# Experience at a Glance





















Experience the excitement of paddleboarding whilst exploring the pretty harbour of Portballintrae and the surrounding coastline.

Enjoy a healthy aquatic lifestyle and experience the sights, sounds and smells of nature. Your fully ASI qualified and experienced paddleboarder Deborah provides paddleboard tours, experiences and lessons where you will explore nature and have fun on the water, whilst taking in views of the magnificent coastline and marine life.

Choose sunrise, sunset or any time in between to enjoy this magical experience. Lessons are designed to give you the best information for getting onto the water safely, having fun and learning the best paddleboarding techniques.

Weather permitting, experience can be offered at Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge and Ballycastle.

### **Operating hours:**

Open all hours

### Cost:

From £45 per person

Group price / discount:

10% discount to youth groups

### Based on:

maximum 8

# How to book:

info@getup-geton.co.uk

Tel: **+44 (0)7767 443173** 

### For further information:

Contact: **Deborah Kinder** Visit: **getup-geton.co.uk** 

### Additional information:

Public toilets are available at the harbour. Local parking available for small coaches.













# Accommodation Hospitality A Foodie Destination of the Year runner up in 2019 and an accredited From rustic B&Bs and traditional cottages to modern hotels and super quirky options, there's plenty to choose from when it comes to finding Slow Food Destination, the Causeway Coastal Route certainly has its fair

accommodation along the Causeway Coastal Route.

Why not truly immerse yourself in nature with a stay at one of Burrenmore Nest's treetop lodges where you can get cosy while enjoying the peace of the surrounding forest, or opt for the centuries-old Bushmills Inn Hotel located at the heart of the Causeway Coastal Route. Alternatively, you could choose to book into the Manor House on Rathlin Island which offers breathtaking views, or decide that a wonderfully restored Quarryman's Cottage in Glenarm would be perfect for your trip. If you love castles, the charming Barbican Gate Lodge or impressive Ballygally Castle are fantastic accommodation choices, whereas those looking to unwind will love the luxurious Spa at Galgorm which offers both rooms and lodges alongside fabulous health and wellness facilities. share of amazing places to eat. Whether its fine dining, traditional pub grub, or you're open to a bit of everything, you'll be overjoyed with the edible delights just waiting to be discovered. Locally sourced ingredients are the heart and soul of food here, and there's lots of locally made products, too, such as crisps, coffees and oils that you can pack up to take home with you.

Known worldwide for great hospitality and excellent whiskey, there's never a dull moment when exploring the Causeway Coastal Route, and with an array of traditional pubs, many with live music a regular occurrence, you're guaranteed an experience to remember. Discover how some of the area's famous drinks are produced. For whiskey fans, a tour of Bushmills Distillery, the oldest licensed distillery in the world, is a must, and gin lovers should head to the Galgorm Gin Library for an experience you're guaranteed to enjoy.



Storytellers

Head off the beaten track and discover hidden gems with one of our amazing tour guides. Rather than sticking to the tourist trail, find a local tour guide for the best way to learn about the history and culture of the area. With unrivalled knowledge of the region, they'll be able to share their stories with you and answer your questions too. Smaller tours can often be tailored to suit your interests, or simply go with the flow to discover all that your chosen guide has to share with you. With tours available on foot, by boat, and even by e-bike, there's undoubtedly an option for everyone!

To find qualified local tour guides check out:

- Northern Ireland Tourist Guide Association (NITGA): nitga.co.uk or
- Tour Guides NI: tourguidesni.com

The Causeway Coastal Route is famed for its storytellers, and finding a great one will enable you to immerse yourself in the culture of the area and leave the present day behind. Traditional entertainment carried down through many generations, storytelling brings history and tradition alive and is guaranteed to capture your imagination. The Glens of Antrim and Causeway Coast have always been home to a tribe of storytellers and musicians with a repertoire of the best stories, both local and from further afield. Many storytellers come from families that have lived in the area for years, and they'll have their own tales to tell in addition to those of local myth and legend. There are plenty of locations where stories can be found too. From beaches and forests to castles and pubs, it's up to you to choose the location! For more information about storytellers on the Causeway Coastal Route:

E: tourism@midandeastantrim.gov.uk or visitor.information@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

# For further information on the Causeway Coastal Route

W: discovernorthernireland.com/destinations/causeway-coastal-route

W: visitcausewaycoastandglens.com

W: shapedbyseaandstone.com

E: tourism@midandeastantrim.gov.uk

**E:** visitor.information@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk







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