Northern Ireland
Visitor Guide
The variety of our small country is amazing—from rolling landscapes and hazy mountains, intriguing towns and villages to some of the most vibrant, cultural and history-rich cities.
Made for Golf
Northern Ireland is made for golf and our home-grown talent in Darren Clarke, Graeme McDowell and Rory McIlroy is testament to this. It really is the playground of champions. Perfect your technique on the superb world-class links of Royal Portrush and Royal County Down (which played host to the Irish Open in 2012 and 2013 respectively). Consistently ranked in the world’s top 20 courses or home your skills on a diverse range of parkland and links courses. We have over 90 great courses to choose from. Don’t miss the Irish Open first visit to Loug Erne Resort in County Fermanagh in 2027.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/golf

Historical Northern Ireland
Whether it’s St Patrick’s and Christian Heritage, HMS Titanic or our historic cities – there’s something for everyone. Our 900-mile St Patrick’s Trail allows you to follow Patrick’s footsteps and his legacy. Belfast has an impressive industrial heritage, not least its shipbuilding. Here is Londonderry (also known as Derry), a city with an eventful 1,400-year history and 400-year-old city walls, among the best preserved in Europe. Jews were in September during European Heritage Open Days, when our wonderful historic sites throw open their doors for the public – for free.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/history

Unmissable Music
Love music? Then check out a scene that is vibrant, exciting and cutting edge. Traditional sessions in local pubs, global superstars in concert, the next big thing in a local venue or great festivals in wonderful settings – you’ll feel it all in Northern Ireland. Unearth the rich music heritage that attracted MTV to stage the EMA here or take a musical bus tour of Belfast. We have over 90 great courses to choose from. Make sure you visit the world-class venues including the world-renowned poet Seamus Heaney.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/music

The Giant’s Causeway & Causeway Coastal Route
The Giant’s Causeway is a spectacular natural attraction and Northern Ireland’s only UNESCO World Heritage Site. Be sure to visit the world-class visitor centre and take a guided tour. Of the 10 sites in the world, its many attractions include: The Giant’s Causeway path, an exhilarating coastal path first enjoyed by the Edwardians and recently re-opened for the 21st century.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/causeway

Literature & Theatre
Northern Ireland is home to Nobel Laureates, and award-winning playwrights. Tour the country in Magna Charta and gain an insight into the landscape that inspired the late, world-renowned poet Seamus Heaney. Enjoy a new play by local writers including Marie Jones and Owen McCafferty. Classic works from internationally-acclaimed Brian Friel, or touring productions at world-class theatre venues including the MAC in Belfast. Maybe even take in one of our excellent literary festivals or summer schools.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/literature

Mountain Biking – Embrace the Mud
Widely regarded as one of the world’s fastest growing adventure activities, mountain biking has well and truly landed in Northern Ireland. We have over 100km of official purpose-built trails, with four new trail centres opened in 2013 at Bistrade, Dervock Forest, Castlerock and Barnett Demense (outside Belfast). These give enthusiasts additional cross-country and downhill routes making Northern Ireland a must visit mountain bike destination. Come and enjoy the full beauty of our landscape – two wheels and endless possibilities!

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/mountainbiking

Glorious Gardens & Houses
We aren’t afraid of a bit of rain here – it’s what makes our gardens grow – and we have plenty of exciting locations to choose from. There are grand gardens, walled gardens, woodland gardens – even Japanese gardens. The Antrim Garden Trail includes a mix of public and private gardens.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/gardens

Fabulous Food
Northern Ireland is a great destination for lovers of good food and drink. From sea-to-plate restaurants along the Causeway Coastal Route to seafood bars at the foot of the Mourne Mountains, contemporary city restaurants, and hearty pub grub in beautiful rural spots. The quality and authenticity of our local produce is underpinned too – with a number of recent world-wide accolades. Visit in 2016 during Northern Ireland’s Year of Food, with lots of great foodie events plus new trials and experiences.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/food

An Adventure Playground
We have activities for all skills and preferences. Paddle along canoe trails, surf or body board waves coming from the roiling North Atlantic or head to the Mourne Mountains, which you can walk, climb, mountain bike, horse ride in the foothills or even experience through the adrenaline-pumping world of wet bouldering at Ulysses Bridge. Fermanagh is perfect for cruising, canoeing and all things water-based. Multi-activity centres are a great way to pack in several activities in a day and try something new – caving, sailing, paragliding or white water kayaking. Less extreme, cycling is one of the best ways to take in Iconic areas like the Sperrins, with off-road family routes to more challenging mountain bike trails.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/adventure

TV & Film
Many locations across Northern Ireland have been used in TV & Film productions, showcasing our wonderful natural landscapes and hosting global production companies like HBO and Universal Studios. Northern Ireland is home to world-famous names – such as Liam Neeson, James Nesbitt, Sam Neill, Glenn Close, Pierce Brosnan, Gillian Anderson and Colin Farrell whilst filming here. Various productions have been filmed in Belfast including ‘BEN C’. More recently, Game of Thrones® and Derry Girls: BAFTA-awarded short film ‘Boogaloow and Graham’. Oscar-winning short film ‘The Red Prince’ was filmed in Dungiven, County Londonderry.

Learn more: www.discovernorthernireland.com/nifilm

The Legend of Titanic
Only in Belfast can you follow Titanic’s remarkable journey from the drawing board to the slipways, or stand on the vast floor of the dock where she was fitted out – her last footprint on land.

Learn more: Page 6 discovernorthernireland.com/titanic

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Learn more: discovernorthernireland.com/literature

Genealogy – Trace Your Roots
Northern Ireland’s rich migration history has created a diverse population and culture at home and an extended family the world-over, with millions of people boasting a direct family connection to the region. Visit Northern Ireland in search of your roots or trace the footsteps of your ancestors and gain a deeper insight into your own family history.

Learn more: discovernorthernireland.com/ancestry

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Learn more: discovernorthernireland.com/mountainbiking
Did you know?

- Birthplace of the famous ship, RMS Titanic, Belfast's style and design dominate to this very day. The Harland and Wolff Shipyards (fashionably known locally as "Samson and Goliath")

- St. George's Market in Belfast is the largest indoor market in the UK.

- Eight giant scupltures, or Maritime Masts, line the east side of Donegall Place each year as part of the Scottish Market Authorities. Market 2014 (National Association of British Market Authorities).

- The first Scottish settlers to Ireland arrived in North Down in 1606. Bangor has also had an Abbey for over 1500 years, founded in 558 AD. Find out more here.

- Harry Ferguson, the first Irishman to write Gulliver's Travels? Interested in this?

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- The Queen bestowed the title 'Baron and Baroness Carrickfergus' to Prince William and Catherine Middleton on July 29, 2011. See Part II: The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's visit to Northern Ireland.
Come face to face with dinosaurs, meet an Ancient Egyptian Mummy and see modern masterpieces with a visit to the Ulster Museum. As Northern Ireland’s treasure house of the past and present, the museum is home to a rich collection of art, history and natural sciences and free to all visitors. From Ireland to the South Pacific, ancient relics to hands-on activities, the museum offers something for everyone from the casually curious to the enthusiast. Closed Mondays (except Bank Holidays), Like This? Also Try: Northern Ireland War Memorial Museum, Museum of Orange Heritage.

In 1996 Crumlin Road Gaol closed its doors for what many thought would be the final time, but in 2012 HMP Belfast was reborn as a major visitor attraction. Today you can take a guided tour of the prison and hear about the history of the site from when women and children were held within its walls through to the more recent political segregation of prisoners. During the tour you will be taken to visit the underground tunnel that connected the jail to the Crumlin Road Courthouse, you can sit in the Governor’s chair, view all the wings from the circle and pay a visit to the condemned man’s cell before seeing the execution cell.

Step aboard the refurbished SS Nomadic. In 1911 Harland & Wolff built the Nomadic as the first and second class passenger tender to the Titanic. Now, over 100 years later, the last remaining White Star Line ship has been restored to her original glory and is back home in Belfast’s historic Hamilton Dock. Experience over 100 years of authentic maritime and social history with a guided tour.

Uncover the remarkable story of the Titanic, the world’s most famous ship, built with passion, determination and pride – right here in Belfast. Experience the Titanic story by boat, bus, car, bus, train and segway tour or a guided walk around the historic Titanic Quarter. Or see a different view of Belfast from an open-top bus, black taxi or bike tour. Enjoy some of the city’s most impressive and evocative sights, including its open air gallery of passionate and provocative wall murals. Themed tours include: Belfast Music Tour, food tours and self-guided George Best and Van Morrison Trails. Beyond Belfast don’t miss the Hidden Brewery and Hillborough Castle Tours, Carrickfergus Walking Tours and Bangor Fishing Trips and Short Sea Cruises.

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The cathedral was consecrated in 1804, its foundation stone having been laid in 1889. The transepts were added in the 1970s and the ‘Spire of Hope’ as recently as 2007. It has many beautiful stained glass windows, some stunning mosaics, and an interesting audio-visual displays and intriguing exhibits. Key artefacts on display include the Bronze Age Bellachroyian Swans, the Bangor Bell and the Raven Maps, the only complete folio of Manxation maps in Ireland. While in the Area also Visit: Bangor Walled Garden and Bangor Abbey.

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Learn the fascinating saga of the area in Northern Ireland’s most visited small museum, located around a screened courtyard at the rear of Bangor Castle. The story of the region’s history, archaeology and wildlife unfolds before you through a series of exciting audio-visual displays and intriguing exhibits. Key artefacts on display include the Bronze Age Bellachroyian Swans, the Bangor Bell and the Raven Maps, the only complete folio of Manxation maps in Ireland. While in the Area also Visit: Bangor Walled Garden and Bangor Abbey.

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**Coast & Glens**

**One of the World’s Great Scenic Road Journeys**

**Did you know?**

- Slemish Mountain near Ballymena, County Antrim, is said to be where Saint Patrick held as a slave and herded sheep for his master, Hilarus. In this story, it is said that St. Patrick created the beautiful landscape that you see today. Inland, near Ballymena, is the ancient volcano. Saint Patrick is said to have spent six years there as a slave, herding sheep.

- The iconic Mussenden Temple was inspired by the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, near Rome. It was built by The Earl Bishop of Derry, Antrim is said to be where Saint Patrick was refugee when driven from Scotland by the crown of Scotland. Many local families have Scottish names of saints, scholars, heroic deeds of daring, fairies, banshees and bogeymen. Learn more as part of a guided or self guided tour.

- Game of Thrones® has used much of the Causeway area, particularly the Glens, as a filming location for its historical costumes and settings. You will see why it is an awe-inspiring landscape of mostly hexagonal basalt columns. The road hugs the narrow strip of coastline between the sea and high cliffs. Around 60 million years ago, three great lava flows were laid down here, cooling the basaltic plateau of North Antrim. You can still see the different layers in the cliff face. At the end of the last Ice Age, ten thousand years ago, massive glaciers scorched the deep valleys that form the Glens. Time, weather and man have created the beautiful landscape that you see today. Ireland, near Ballymena, Slemish Mountains is all that’s left of an ancient volcano. Saint Patrick is said to have spent six years there as a slave, herding sheep.

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- Game of Thrones® has used much of this beautiful landscape for its filming locations, including Downhill Beach, Ballycastle. Many of the famous scenes are set in the Causeway area in a building which itself is an architectural masterpiece.

- Drive the stunning Causeway Coastal Route (CCR) Enjoy 120 miles of coastline or why not try Slemish foot on the Causeway Coastal Way which starts in Ballycastle and finishes at Portstewart.

- Tee off at the renowned Royal Portrush Golf Club Join the many famous golfers who have been enjoying this course over the years (inc open winner 1894). The club will host The Open Championship in 2019.

- Take the stretch of fine between Bushmills and the World Heritage Site at the Giant’s Causeway in style The Bushmills Railway has been built to the old narrow gauge of three feet, and runs for two miles along the track, between the famous Giant’s Causeway tram.

- Scullion’s Huts Watch the artisans at work at Scullion’s Hurling workshop, part of the Northern European Economic Artisans at Work tourist trail.

- Experience Northern Ireland’s only off-shore inhabited island Take a walk on the cycle route around Rathlin Island and don’t forget to visit the Boat House Visitor Centre. Immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of island life.

- After Dark: Enjoy the traditional music in one of the many pubs in Cushendall, Cushendun or Ballycastle.

- Soak up the culture with a range of events in the Blue Valley Arts and Cultural Centre. Alternatively, the Riverside Theatre in Coleraine or The Braid in Ballymena.

**The Causeway Coastal Route is rated as one of the Top Five Road Trips worldwide and when you drive it, you’ll see why.**

It’s an ever changing tapestry of scenery and culture, set against a dramatic coastal backbone that will take your breath away - the perfect place for a leisurely tour.

The journey starts in Belfast, follow the Causeway Coastal Route, the world-class Giant’s Causeway Visitor Centre. Be sure to experience the impressive, world-class Giant’s Causeway Visitor Centre. A round of golf at Royal Portrush is the perfect way to finish the day, before following the Causeway Coastal Route west, towards Londonderry, joining in the beautiful Mussenden Temple and Downhill Demesne at Castlerock.

**Experiences**

- Experience the world-class Glent’s Causeway Visitor Centre Go on a journey of discovery and learn about the history, geology, biodiversity, myths and legends of the Causeway area in a building which itself is an architectural masterpiece.

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**Images:** (opposite) The Giant’s Causeway; (clockwise) Overlooking Cushendun, Glens of Antrim, Ballintoy Harbour - Game of Thrones® filming location, Mussenden Temple.
On the west edge of the Irish Sea lies The Gobbins cliffpath, one of the best kept secrets of the Causeway Coastal Route. Recently reimagined for the 21st century, the unique coastal path at The Gobbins was first enjoyed in 1902 by the Edwardians. Today, The Gobbins will once again thrill those with a sense of adventure and delight. Parking is free, but limited. Visitors not wishing to walk the path can enjoy the Visitor Centre and its fascinating exhibition.

T: 028 9377 2388  W: www.thegobbinscliffpath.com  
(£) visitor experience charge includes path access, guided walk, parking, use of audio guide, guided walk, interpretation area and access to other centre facilities)

1. The Gobbins

The work of whiskey making has been carried out at Bushmills for over 400 years using the same traditional methods to create the finest Irish whiskies. Why not join us for a tour of the company of an experienced guide who will take you through the heart of the oldest working distillery in Ireland. Please call for opening times and age restrictions.

T: 028 2073 3228  W: www.bushmills.com  
• £ (stours)

2. Giant's Causeway (World Heritage Site) and Visitor Experience

Northern Ireland’s iconic only World Heritage Site and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is home to a wealth of local history and legend. The Giant’s Causeway, renowned for its polygonal columns of layered basalt resulted from a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago and is famously steeped in myth and legend. Some say it was carved from the coast by the mighty giant, Finn McCool who left behind an ancient home full of folklores. Have fun searching for distinctive stone formations fancifully named the Camel, the Wishing Chair, the Granny and the Organ. Unlock the secrets of the Causeway landscape with the interactive exhibition in the Visitor Experience and explore the great outdoors with our guided walk available in a range of languages or ask of a free walking tour with our qualified local guides.

T: 028 2076 1865  W: www.giantscausewaywaterfallstickets.com  
• £ (visitor experience charge includes parking, use of audio guide, guided walk, interpretation area and access to other centre facilities)

3. The Old Bushmills’ Distillery

Rathlin Island is known for its rich history and traditional culture, as well as its stunning landscapes, seascapes and diverse wildlife. An inspirational retreat for walkers, artists, writers, musicians, bird enthusiasts, divers, photographers or generally for those who just want to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the island. The popular RSPB Sealion Centre at the West Lighthouse is due to recover for the 2016 season. On the outskirts of Bushmills are the picturesque ruins of Honan Mary Flry, founded around 1500 by the Franciscans. It contains the remains of claireton Solley Boy McDonnell. In Ballycastle, there is a memorial to Guiseppe Manzini who carried out the first tests on radio signals here in 1898.

T: 028 2076 2024  W: www.rathlin.org.uk  
(£) visitor experience charge includes path access, guided walk, parking, use of audio guide, guided walk, interpretation area and access to other centre facilities)

4. Rathlin Island & Honan Mary Flry, Ballycastle

Take a leisurely coastal drive to Carnlough, where fishing boats nest in the harbour. Call for refreshment at The Londonderry Arms Hotel, an 1848 coaching inn once owned by Winston Churchill. Like this? Also Visit: Roe Valley Country Park.

T: 028 2955 6000  W: www.glenarmforestpark.com  
• £ (parking)

5. Cushendun & Tor Head

Enjoy the space and freedom of this beautiful forest park. It is aramblers’ paradise with woodpiles, small lakes, tumbling waterfalls and a seasonal café. Take a leisurely coastal drive to Carnlough, where fishing boats nest in the harbour.

T: 028 2076 2024  W: www.stfcg.com  
• FREE

6. Downhill Demense, Mussenden Temple and Helvetia House

The striking ruin of Dunluce Castle sits dramatically on the cliffs of the north Antrim coast. This Late Medieval fortress was built around 1500 by the local MacDonnell family, before the Scottish MacDonnell. In 1608 Dunluce was the seat of the MacDonnell earls of Antrim before being abandoned at the end of the 1600s. This iconic castle has inspired writers such as Lewis and was recently included in BBC Countryfile Magazine’s top 10 romantic ruins in Britain.

• FREE

7. Dunluce Castle

There cannot be a more wild and dramatic place in Northern Ireland than the landscape park of Downhill. The romantic vision of Frederick Hervey, Earl Bishop of Derry, he created an elegant mansion at Downhill, which now lies in ruins. On the nearby cliff-top, the Earl Bishop built the circular Mussenden Temple as his Library. As an extra treat you can learn about the reality of life in the rural 17th century thatched cottage of Helvetia House, told through people who once lived there in one of Northern Ireland’s oldest buildings

T: 028 7084 8738  W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ 
• downhill/demesne

8. Gracehill Village

Glenarm Castle was the ancestral home of the MccDonnells, Earl of Antrim, and the walled garden dates from the 18th century. Memorable on the ancestors of the present Earl of Antrim and was recently included in BBC Countryfile Magazine’s top 10 romantic ruins in Britain.

T: 028 2076 9839  W: www.suffolknewcastlecastle.com  
• £

9. Glenarm Forest Park Waterfalls & Carnlough Harbour

Glenarm Castle is the ancestral home of the MccDonnells, Earl of Antrim, and the walled garden dates from the 18th century. Memorable on the ancestors of the present Earl of Antrim are displayed on various occasions. A 19th century Mushroom House has also been converted to a charming tea-room. While visiting the castle and walled garden be sure to experience the signed heritage trail around the Conservation Village. Closed October – March.

T: 028 2884 1203  W: www.glenarmcastle.com  
• £

10. Glenarm Castle and The Walled Garden

The Old Bushmills’ Distillery

Visit Causeway Coast & Glens

T: 028 2073 1932  W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/causeway  
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/carrick-a-rede  
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/carrick-a-rede

11. Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge

Take the exhilarating rope bridge challenge to Carrick-a-Rede Island (a Site of Special Scientific Interest) and enjoy a truly cliff top experience. Near the North Antrim Coast road, and undiscovered coastal scenery, the 30-metre deep and 20-metre wide chasm is traversed by a rope bridge that was traditionally erected by salmon fishermen. Open all year (weather permitting excluding 24/25/26 December). Please telephone for details of opening times.

T: 028 2076 9839  W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/causeway  
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/carrick-a-rede

Tell me more

Please contact all attractions directly to confirm opening times, and prices.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/causeway

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/carrick-a-rede

www.ballycastlevisitorinformationcentre.com

www.midandeastantrim.gov.uk
**Londonderry**

**The Walled City of Derry**

Did you know?

- Londonderry is the only complete walled city in Ireland, and one of the finest examples in Europe. In fact the city walls are listed as one of the World’s 1001 Historic Sites You Must See Before You Die UNESCO, 2006.
- The city is home to the biggest Hallowe’en celebration in Ireland.
- Saint Columb’s Cathedral was the first cathedral to be built after the Reformation, until the city’s most historic building.
- The city has a unique association to the arts, history and culture, including the Tower Museum, Museum of Free Derry and Saint Columba Heritage Centre reveal different aspects of the city’s economic, social and more contemporary history, as well as its Christian heritage.
- Derry is one of the oldest continuously inhabited places in Ireland, dating back to the sixth century when Saint Columba established his first monastery.
- Ebrington Square can accommodate up to 12,000 people for events, and is larger in size than London’s Trafalgar Square.
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- Saint Columb’s Cathedral was the first cathedral to be built after the Reformation, until the city’s most historic building.
- The city has a unique association to the arts, history and culture, including the Tower Museum, Museum of Free Derry and Saint Columba Heritage Centre reveal different aspects of the city’s economic, social and more contemporary history, as well as its Christian heritage.
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1. City Walls

Built four hundred years ago, the walls protected the new Plantation town from attack by the Irish clans. Never breached, they remain completely intact, making this Ireland’s only remaining walled city - and 24 of the original cannons continue to hold pride of place. Stroll along this historic walkway, then descend to the old town and explore its atmospheric streets, shops and pubs.

T: 028 7126 7284
W: www.visitderry.com
FREE

2. St. Columb’s Cathedral

The cathedral was the first of its kind to be built after the Reformation. A core of the city’s most historic buildings, its Chapter House contains artefacts from the Siege of 1661 as well as information on famous personalities; Cecil Frances Alexander (the hymn writer), the Earl Bishop and world-famous philosopher, George Berkeley. Audio visual display. While In The Area Visit; Saint Augustine’s Church, the monastic site of Saint Columba.

T: 028 7126 7133
W: www.stcolumbscathedral.org
£ (donations appreciated, £2 suggested; tours)

3. First Derry Presbyterian Church and Blue Coat School Visitor Centre

First Derry Presbyterian Church re-opened in May 2011 following extensive restoration which totally renovated the church whilst retaining many of the original features. Having been closed for 9 years the Church is once again being used as a place of worship. Adjoining the Church is the Blue Coat School Visitor Centre which tells the story of how Presbyterianism arrived in Ireland, the role Presbyterian had in commerce, education and in the defence of the city during the Great Siege. Closed October to April. Please call for more details.

T: 028 7126 1550
W: www.visitderry.com
FREE (£ - guided/group tours)

4. The Tower Museum

The Tower Museum immerses you in Londonderry’s potent history with two engrossing exhibitions: The Story of Derry Exhibition, which narrates the city’s development from monastic times to present day and An Armada Shipwreck – La Trinidad Valencera, the story of a Spanish galleon that sank off the Donegal coast in 1588. Opening times vary during summer months.

T: 028 7137 2411
W: www.derrycity.gov.uk/museums
£

5. Walking and Taxi Tours

Learn about the city’s past and present by going on a guided walking tour. Or go it alone with the My Tour Talk MP3 player. Alternatively, take a more intimate taxi tour and explore the stories of this historic city. Details of all tours available from the Visitor Information Centre.

T: 028 7126 7284
W: www.visitderry.com
£

6. The Guildhall

Built in 1887 by The Honourable The Irish Society, the Guildhall is steeped in unique history. With its stunning stained glass windows and neo-gothic style it is one of the most striking buildings in the North West. See the staircase, main hall organ and corridors within this distinctive building. After internal refurbishments (which have won numerous architectural awards) new facilities include a Visitor Information Point, an exhibition area, tours as well as a café with outdoor space onto Harbour Square.

T: 028 7136 7900
W: www.guildhall.org
W: www.visitderry.com
£

7. Riverwatch Aquarium & Visitor Centre

Riverwatch Aquarium & Visitor Centre is a must for all ages. Learn about the incredible fish life in our loughs, rivers, sea and shore through interactive exhibitions and activities. Eight aquariums hold freshwater and saltwater species from different eco-systems. If you’re lucky, you might just arrive at feeding time. Also open Saturdays during July and August.

T: 028 734 4200
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/visitderry
FREE
Tyrone & Sperrins

Did you know?

- Strabane is home to some much-loved public art: “The Tennes”. 36 small, porcupines, one of Ireland’s largest and oldest of its kind, was created around 100 BCE.
- The Sperrins are one of Northern Ireland’s premier eco-tourism destinations, with rivers, waterfalls, lakes, and outdoor pursuits.
- The ancient bog gives the Sperrins landscape its character and it has yielded age-old secrets in recent decades. Most notably the Baughbrannan Stone Circles, created around 3000 BCE. The 34 primeval stones, plus 11 destroyed, 7.5m in diameter, is the largest in Ireland.
- The Gortin Glen Forest Park or marvelling at “The Tinnies” in the grounds of the Alley Theatre takes its name from a character created by the town’s most famous literary son, Flann O’Brien.
- Ambrose the Pig in the grounds of the Alley Theatre is said to be the ‘wishing pig’ who can bestow good fortune.
- The O’Neill & Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor’s Centre, Omagh, boasts a number of internationally renowned Irish designers, while Moy Antiques offers an excellent range of quality Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and decorative furniture.
- The Gortin Glen Forest Park and Bolaght Mountain Circuit and the Robber’s Table near Gortin, which passes the site where supposed 17th century highwaymen met to divide their spoils after raiding postal carriages.
- Join Norah Brown, one of Rick Stein’s ‘Food Heroes’, and learn how to make ‘Food Heroes’, and learn how to make 'Food Heroes', and learn how to make gold’ though.
- The O’Neill dynasty ruled Gaelic Ireland for over 300 years. With commanding 360 degree views, it is perfect for morning walks, family outings and special picnics.
- Whether you enjoy electrifying, adrenaline-based pursuits at Todd’s Leap, relaxing with a holistic treatment at Angel Sanctuary, walking in Drum Manor Forest Park, or marvelling at ‘The Tenines’ in Strabane, the Sperrins and Tyrone make for an unforgettable experience for all.

Experiences

- Wander around historic Sion Mills. Founded around a spinning mill in 1813, this beautiful model village has 43 listed buildings. Features include a watermill, treasure trail and the popular ‘Sewing Bridge’.
- Indulge in unique retail therapy Island Surf Crafts in Coalisland offers hand-crafted gifts including Celtic crosses, harps and jewellery made from 3,000-year-old turf. The Linen Green, based in the historic linen mill of Hoggshill, boasts a number of internationally renowned Irish designers, while Moy Antiques offers an excellent range of quality Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and decorative furniture.
- Pan for gold in the Sperrins. Gold can be found in this upland landscapes and guides can arrange mineral prospecting in local streams — watch out for ‘fool’s gold’ through.
- Cook traditional Irish fayre with Norah at Geoghe Lodge. Join Norah Brown, one of Rick Stein’s ‘Food Heroes’, and learn how to make gold’ though.
- Enjoy a performance at Streeps Arts Centre, Omagh. Explore the Ulster American Folk Park, offers an excellent range of quality linen products. The Linen Green, based in the historic linen mill of Hoggshill, boasts a number of internationally renowned Irish designers, while Moy Antiques offers an excellent range of quality Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and decorative furniture.
- Visit the region’s newest attraction, Hill of Whitestone. 
- Enjoy their multi-disciplinary offering in this upland landscapes and guides can arrange mineral prospecting in local streams — watch out for ‘fool’s gold’ through.
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- Enjoy traditional music in Tomney’s Bar, Moy. Enjoy a performance at Streeps Arts Centre, Omagh. Explore the Ulster American Folk Park, offers an excellent range of quality linen products. The Linen Green, based in the historic linen mill of Hoggshill, boasts a number of internationally renowned Irish designers, while Moy Antiques offers an excellent range of quality Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and decorative furniture.
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Cultural Heritage Centre, Omagh.

Tyrone & Sperrins

Discover, Explore, Enjoy

The largely rural counties of Tyrone and Londonderry are dominated by the heather clad slopes of the Sperrin Mountains, Northern Ireland’s largest and least explored mountain range.

Tyrone & Sperrins are one of Northern Ireland’s premier eco-tourism destinations, with rivers, waterfalls, lakes, and outdoor pursuits. The ancient bog gives the Sperrins landscape its character and it has yielded age-old secrets in recent decades. Most notably the Baughbrannan Stone Circles, created around 3000 BCE. The 34 primeval stones, plus 11 destroyed, 7.5m in diameter, is the largest in Ireland.

The Gortin Glen Forest Park and Bolaght Mountain Circuit and the Robber’s Table near Gortin, which passes the site where supposed 17th century highwaymen met to divide their spoils after raiding postal carriages.

Visit the region’s newest attraction, Hill of Whitestone. Like this? You will love: Strabane or the Craic Theatre & Arts Centre, Omagh, Alley Arts Centre, Coalisland.

Did you know?

- The Caistribean Trail, in the Gortin Valley is a 20-mile, scenic cycling route started after the reclaimed peat and now used by William Carleton (1812-84) who spent his childhood there.
- The Sperrins region is an angler’s paradise. The impervious system (including the Mourne and Owenkillew Rivers), offers some of the best game fishing in Europe.
- James Wilson, grandfather of Woodrow Wilson, 28th President of the United States, was born at Dergalt, outside Strabane. Wilson is reputed to cure toothache.
- The National Geographic’s prestigious list of the world’s top 101 scenic drives for 2012. This is a region rich in history, with many important sites of interest, from Cloughry Wedge Tomb and Tomney’s Bar, and the popular ‘Swinging Bridge’. No visit would be complete without some time spent at the Ulster American Folk Park, an outdoor museum which chronicles the story of emigration during the 18th and 19th centuries, bringing to life the various aspects of the emigrant’s life on both sides of the Atlantic.
- Whether you enjoy electrifying, adrenaline-based pursuits at Todd’s Leap, relaxing with a holistic treatment at Angel Sanctuary, walking in Drum Manor Forest Park, or marvelling at ‘The Tenines’ in Strabane, the Sperrins and Tyrone make for an unforgettable experience for all.

After Dark:

- Enjoy a performance at Streeps Arts Centre, Omagh. Explore the Ulster American Folk Park, offers an excellent range of quality linen products. The Linen Green, based in the historic linen mill of Hoggshill, boasts a number of internationally renowned Irish designers, while Moy Antiques offers an excellent range of quality Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and decorative furniture.
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offer a variety of adrenaline-pumping activities. These include archery, paintballing, off-road driving, canoeing and zip lining.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.outdoorni.com

A number of outdoor adventure operators, including Blessingbourne Estate and Davagh Forest, can take you on a guided tour of their facilities with exhilarating mountain bike trails at the foot of the Sperrin Mountains.

www.discovernorthernireland.com

Folk Park

Immerse yourself in the story of Irish emigration at the museum that brings it to life. At the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh, you’ll experience an adventure that takes you from the thatched cottages of Ulster, on board a full-scale emigrant sailing ship, to the log cabins of the American Frontier. Meet an array of costumed characters with traditional crafts to show, tales to tell and food to share.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.nmni.com

T: 028 8224 3292

Sion Stables

Sion Stables is the focal point for discovering the fascinating, historic linen village of Sion Mills and its unique architecture. The village was founded by the Herdman brothers in 1835 around the imposing Herdman’s Mill. Following a major renovation, the stables building has been restored to its original glory for use as a museum, heritage centre, gift shop and café. You will be transported back to a bygone era through innovative digital and visual interpretation techniques exploring the many facets of village life. Visitors can delve deeper into the history of Sion Mills and its key sites with the free Sion Stables smartphone heritage trail app. Alternatively, groups of 10 can pre-book a guided walking tour; some of the guides worked the mill until its closure and have family links to the mill going back generations.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.sionstables.com

T: 028 8165 9772

This Bronze Age site, discovered during turf cutting in the 1940s, consists of three parts of stone circles and associated stone rows, a single circle with many stones within, burial cairns and earthen field boundaries. There are several theories as to why this enigmatic site was built, why not visit and decide for yourself? There are many more stone circles and megalithic tombs to visit in the surrounding area which form part of this impressive historic landscape.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.nidirect.gov.uk/forests

This visitor centre unveils the rich heritage at the foot of the Sperrin Mountains, and is located within the designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Learn about the area’s culture and traditions through the centre’s interactive exhibitions and guided tours (must be pre-booked). Explore this wild, unspoilt area on foot or bike. Stay in one of the An Creagán cottages and discover the past, with all the comforts of the present.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.outdoorni.com

T: 028 8076 1112
W: www.sionstables.com
W: www.sionstables.com
FREE (£ - guided tours)

Visitor Centre has a beguiling spirit that captures the heart of every visitor. Described as ‘one of the prettiest houses in Ulster’, its welcoming charm reveals a family home with portraits, furniture and decorative arts that bring to life the many generations of Lenox-Conynghams who lived here from 1680. The old laundry house is one of Springhill’s most popular attractions, the Costume Collection with some exceptionally fine 18th to 20th century pieces. Visit the natural play area where there is endless fun for the family. The Visitor Centre has self-service refreshments and retail area offering locally made crafts and souvenirs. Enjoy short walks around the charming estate, relax in the herb garden with a chamomile lawn and browse the second-hand bookshop.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.springhill.org.uk
www.wellbrook-beetling-mill

T: 028 8676 8220
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/springhill

FREE

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.springhill.org.uk

T: 028 8677 8600
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/asperrins

A unique experience that takes you from the thatched cottages of Ulster, on board a full-scale emigrant sailing ship, to the log cabins of the American Frontier. Meet an array of costumed characters with traditional crafts to show, tales to tell and food to share.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wellbrook-beetling-mill

T: 028 8766 3312
W: www.lissanhouse.com

FREE

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/asperrins

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www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wellbrook-beetling-mill

T: 028 8766 3312
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FREE
Fermanagh Lakelands

An Enchanted Landscape

Did you know?

• The Enniskillen Canoe Tour provides a water trail of up to 50 kilometres, linking to the Shannon and covering both Upper and Lower Lough Erne.

• Fermanagh’s Lakelands are famous for both coarse and game angling — these diverse waters include salmon, wild brown trout and also the famous idols of Boa Island. The figure on Boa Island was the inspiration for Seamus Heaney’s poem, ‘January God’, with the Celts believing that the head was the seat of the soul and the centre of man’s life force.

• The county derives its name from ‘Firmonach’, the men of Monach, a Celtic tribe that settled around the shores of the loughs in the early Christian era.

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The twin lakes of Lough Erne, Upper and Lower, cover one-third of Fermanagh. With such an abundance of water including lakes, rivers and canals there are many opportunities to island-hop your way through the waves and currents, or you can join a cruise through the waters of Upper and Lower Lough Erne taking in breathtaking scenery and landscapes.

Local folklore says that a graceful woman glides across Lower Lough Erne through the mists of May, clad in flowing garments and glides across Lower Lough Erne through the mists of May, clad in flowing garments and the Celts believing that the head was the seat of the soul and the centre of man’s life force.

Evidence of the Celts abounds here, particularly in the enigmatic paper stone idols of Boa Island. The two-headed Janus figure on Boa Island was the inspiration for Seamus Heaney’s poem, ‘January God’, with the Celts believing that the head was the seat of the soul and the centre of man’s life force.

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Take a boat tour across to Devenish Island, one of the most important monastic sites in Northern Ireland. Founded by Saint Molaise in the sixth century, it includes a round tower, bell tower and a refuge for the monks. Devenish Island is a round tower, bell tower and a refuge for the monks. Devenish Island is a round tower, bell tower and a refuge for the monks. Devenish Island is a round tower, bell tower and a refuge for the monks.

Portora Royal School in Enniskillen, founded by James I in 1608, includes such literary alumni as Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett.

Fermanagh is also home to three National Trust properties — Castle Coole, Crom Estate and Florence Court. As one of Ireland’s greatest neo-classical houses, Castle Coole is an 18th-century mansion with beautifully landscaped gardens and stunning interiors including a State Bedroom prepared for George IV. The grounds are perfect for a leisurely walk in picturesque surroundings.

Crom Estate is considered to be one of the National Trust’s most important nature reserves as the largest surviving area of woodland in Northern Ireland. With a combination of historical ruins, islands and woodland, it also offers tranquil landscapes and beautiful surroundings. The Old Castle Garden is also home to the ancient Yew Tree, named among the 50 greatest British trees.

Florence Court is one of our most important 18th-century houses, noted for its rococo plasterwork and a fine collection of Irish furniture — explore in detail with an organised tour.

Fought over and captured many times, Enniskillen Castle dates back to the early fifteenth century and houses the museum of the Inniskilling Fusiliers. The Duke of Wellington acknowledged that this regiment saved the centre of the line at the Battle of Waterloo. The town’s Portora Royal School, founded by James I in 1608, includes such literary alumni as Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett.

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Crom Estate is considered to be one of the National Trust’s most important nature reserves as the largest surviving area of woodland in Northern Ireland. With a combination of historical ruins, islands and woodland, it also offers tranquil landscapes and beautiful surroundings. The Old Castle Garden is also home to the ancient Yew Tree, named among the 50 greatest British trees.

Florence Court is one of our most important 18th-century houses, noted for its rococo plasterwork and a fine collection of Irish furniture — explore in detail with an organised tour.

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1. Florence Court

Florence Court is one of the most beautiful Georgian houses in Ulster, nestled against the wild mountain backdrop of Benahullin and the Cullagh Mountains. Outside there are scenic and restful gardens, a play and picnic area with water-level walks, across the demesne, and inside enjoy a fascinating upstairs-downstairs tour. The house is too answer the story of the Cole family and their working Irish estate. Home-baking is a specialty in the tearoom and courtyard cafe, where a snack or meal can be enjoyed.

T: 028 6634 8249
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/florencecourt

2. Castle Coole

This neo-classical masterpiece, completed in 1798, captures the elegance and opulence of its era. The mansion is set in a beautiful, ancient woodland, freshwater habitats, rare butterflies and the largest heronry in Ireland. The visitor centre houses an exhibition on the history of the site and the exceptional 19th-century architecture. The Cast}
Did you know?

Armagh
The Ancient Cathedral City of Ireland

Did you know?

Armagh is Armagh, Ecclesiastical Capital of Ireland and a place of significance to stimulate and satisfy the soul.

It may be the smallest of Northern Ireland’s six counties but it certainly has no shortage of history, culture and scenic landscapes. The elegant City of Armagh with its Georgian houses and featured Mall is best known for its rich Christian heritage. The City is a main destination on the Saint Patrick’s Trail and has been known as the spiritual capital of Ireland since the Saint founded his great church in 446 AD on the hill-top where presently the Church of Ireland cathedral is situated.

Stroll through this dignified city, enjoying the elegant Georgian streets and tree-lined Mall. Explore the many sites of interest, including two cathedrals named after our patron saint – one Catholic, one Church of Ireland. The City has many sights to be explored and enjoyed.

Re-live the battle of Barassie, part of the Napoleonic wars at the Royal Ulster Fusiliers Museum. Discover the coin and art collections on display at No. 5 Vicars’ Hill or visit nearby Armagh Public Library and see the many hidden treasures such as an original copy of ‘Gulliver’s Travels’ and Sir Walter Raleigh’s ‘History of the World’.

Each May the county comes alive with colour and pink flowers in the apple trees and an annual Apple Blossom Festival celebrates this event. The wider area is also home to a rich linen heritage, historic villages and acres of apple orchards centred around Loughgall and satisfying sports passed down from generations and a host of activities in a beautiful natural environment.

Enjoy daytime cafe culture at a number of restaurants in the city centre. The wider area is also home to a rich linen heritage, historic villages and acres of apple orchards centred around Loughgall and an annual Apple Blossom Festival celebrates the start of the season.

The rest of the county also has much to offer to visitors of all interests. The pretty National Trust properties of Ardress House, the Argyll and Derrymore House are fine country estates worth exploring.

Armagh is full of surprises. Both city and the wider rural surroundings enjoy a gentle pace of life, unmatched Georgian architecture, the amazing green space of the Mall, stunning National Trust properties, surprising sports passed down from generations and a host of activities in a beautiful natural environment. Enjoy daytime café culture at a number of restaurants in the city centre.

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1. Armagh Planetarium and Observatory

Travel to the International Space Station, visit a Mars in our domed digital theatre or not design, build and launch your own rocket? Visitors can use interactive displays to learn about the cosmos and watch the latest space news in real-time.

T: 028 3752 3689  
W: www.armaghplanet.com  
£  

2. Navan Centre and Fort

The centre offers an appreciation of the history of the area through a stimulating multi-lingual exhibition, which showcases the facts and findings of Emain Macha (Navan Fort) while providing engaging activities for all the family. Visitors can learn about mystical and mythical characters such as Cu Chulainn and King Connor. Walk and talk with heroes of these tales through living history interpretation. Experience the remaining mounds, ditches and banks of Navan Fort. Learn about the massive circular rituals temple on our walking tours and piece together myth and reality.

T: 028 3752 3644  
W: www.navan.com  
£  

3. St. Patrick’s Catholic Cathedral

This twin-spired, imposing cathedral, on an elevated site, was started in 1840, but work was suspended during the Irish Famine of 1845-48. Work recommenced in 1854 when J J McCarthy was appointed architect. It was dedicated for worship in 1873 but the cathedral stands on the site of St. Patrick’s first church of 445 AD. Frequently destroyed and re-built, the cathedral of today is a 19th century restoration of Archbishop O’Scannell’s building of 1266 – of which the crypt, new open to visitors, remains. It contains some important artefacts, and is the burial place of Brian Boru, the first High King of Ireland, who was killed at Clontarf in 1014.

T: 028 8788 4753  
W: www.stpatricks-cathedral.org  
£  

4. St. Patrick’s Church of Ireland Cathedral

In the centre of the city, on the Hill of Armagh, the cathedral stands on the site of St. Patrick’s first church of 445 AD. Frequent destroyed and re-built, the cathedral of today is a 19th century restoration of Archbishop O’Scannell’s building of 1266 – of which the crypt, new open to visitors, remains. It contains some important artefacts, and is the burial place of Brian Boru, the first High King of Ireland, who was killed at Clontarf in 1014.

T: 028 3752 2683  
W: www.armaghpriach.net  
FREE (generalentry) / £ (guidedtour)  

5. The Archery

Built in the 1820s, this handsome Irish gentry house is surrounded by its 130 hectare wooded riverside estate. The former home of the MacGeough Bond family, a tour of this neo-classical masterpiece, provided by local guides, reveals stories of its hero and hidden treasures which remain unchanged since the 1900s. Enjoy garden, woodland and riverside walks, and explore the children’s adventure playground, complete with rope swing and zip line. Visit the Courtyard Coffee Shop for some home baked produce, then browse the gift shop and second-hand bookshop. Blackwater Books. Like this? You might also like: Ardress House.

T: 028 8778 4753  
W: www.armaghplanet.com  
£  

6. Armagh County Museum

Armagh County Museum is Ireland’s oldest county museum with five displays and collections which reflect the rich and varied lives of the people who lived, worked and had connections with this famous city and county over the centuries.

T: 028 3752 3070  
W: www.nmni.ac.uk/acm  
FREE  

7. Armagh Public Library

One of the oldest libraries in Ireland, Armagh Public Library was established in 1771 by Archbishop Robinson. In addition to the Archibishop’s personal library which contains 17th and 18th century books on a wide range of subjects, there are many rare and valuable books such as incunabula, first editions, and illuminated manuscripts. The library is also a registered museum and holds prints, ancient Irish artefacts, gems, coins, as well as other objects. The collections are kept alive and current by acquisitions of items on the following subjects: local history (Armagh City and county), church history, St. Patrick, and Jonathan Swift.

T: 028 3752 3142  
W: armaghpubliclibrary.arm.ac.uk/  
FREE  

8. No. 5 Vicars’ Hill

Built in 1772 as the Diocesan Registry to hold records for the Church of Ireland Diocese, its octagonal rooms contained many public as well as church records. While the records are no longer retained in the building, some examples use on display, with ancient coins, gems, significant prints, early Christian artefacts and other collections and curiosities from Armagh Public Library. There is an opportunity to explore the collections in more detail through the use of touch screens. Copies of old maps of Armagh are on display and provide a good overview of settlement patterns from 1600 onwards.

T: 028 3752 3142  
W: armaghpubliclibrary.arm.ac.uk/  
£  

9. Gosford Forest Park

Situated six miles from Armagh, Gosford Forest Park is perfect for families. Enjoy a picnic, barbecue, feed the ducks, or look at the variety of poultry and red deer and other animals. Eco-trail on-site.

T: 028 3755 2154  
W: www.nidirect.gov.uk/forests  
£  

Tell me more

Please contact all attractions directly to confirm opening times and prices.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/
www.armagh.co.uk
Mountains

The outdoor capital with a rich cultural history and a million stories to tell

**Did you know?**

- The Mourne Mountains were the inspiration for CS Lewis’ Kingdom of Narnia. Explore the magical world of the Narnia Trail within Kilbroney Park, Rostrevor.
- The Mourne Mountains are rich with an abundance of myths and legends. Find out more about the origins of Maggie’s Leap, The Brandy Pad and Bloody Bridge.
- Rathfriland, in the fertile land of County Down, was the birthplace of Harold Brocket, father of Maggie’s Leap, The Brandy Pad and Bloody Bridge.
- If you turn off your car at Gravity Hill at Spelga Dam you can experience your car moving forward.
- Rathfriland, in the fertile land of County Down, was the birthplace of Harrold Brocket, father of Maggie’s Leap, The Brandy Pad and Bloody Bridge.
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1. Ring of Gullion

The Ring of Gullion Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty offers a wealth of things to do and places to see. Explore the unique heritage and mythology of the area and enjoy the excellent walking, cycling, angling or drinking trails. The area is home to a host of impressive prehistoric tombs, Kilmuiggart Inscribed Stone and nearby Mooy Castle built in 1600 to secure the historic mountain pass known as the ‘Gap of the North’.

The flagstaff events during the year are the Spring Fair in March and the Winter Solstice Festival in December, see the website for full details. Slieve Gullion Forest Park is the gem in South Armagh’s crown. Its counterparts, renovated farm buildings from around 1820, have a café, bar, and visitor information centre. The perfect start to any family trip to the forest park is a visit to the action-packed Adventure Park followed by a magical walk around the Giant’s Lair - a children’s storybook. Round off your day out with a spin around the mountain’s 30km scenic drive.

T: 028 3031 3070
W: www.ringofgullion.org
- FREE

2. The Mourne Mountains and Silent Valley Reservoir

The author C.S. Lewis loved the Mournes and reportedly based his depiction of Narnia on the peaks, valleys and forests of these ancient granite mountains. The Silent Valley reservoir is circled by the range and houses beautiful granite mountains. The Silent Valley reservoir is a reservoir during the months of May, June and September (weekends) and July and August (daily).

T: 028 4372 2222
W: www.visitmournemountains.com
- (Newcastle Visitor Information Centre)

3. Mourne Mountains Bike Trails

Castlemilen Forest Park offers gentle green and blue trails as well as a long-distance singletrack red trail which includes some hair-raising black options thrown in for good measure. These after a more challenging ride should head to the Rostrevor trails, where your effort will be rewarded with stunning panoramic views of Carlingford Lough. A key exhibition, ‘R. Border-Town’s Experience of the 20th Century’, examines local attitudes to major political and economic events of recent times. There are also permanent exhibitions on farming, fishing and folklore in the museum and South Armagh and two temporary exhibitions each year.

T: 028 3031 3833 / 028 3031 3176
W: www.mountrainbikeni.com
- FREE

4. Bagenal’s Castle (Newry and Mourne Museum)

Bagenal’s Castle is a 16th century fortified house and adjoining 18th century warehouse, housing Newry and Mourne Museum. During restoration work, many original features were uncovered, which have been interpreted for the visitor. The museum’s diverse collections include material relating to pre-history, Newry’s Cistercian foundations, Ulster’s Gaelic Order, the building of a merchant town and the first summit level canal in the British Isles. A key exhibition, ‘R. Border-Town’s Experience of the 20th Century’, examines local attitudes to major political and economic events of recent times. There are also permanent exhibitions on farming, fishing and folklore in the museum and South Armagh and two temporary exhibitions each year.

T: 028 3031 3578 / 028 3031 3176
W: www.bagenalcastle.com
- FREE

5. Royal County Down Golf Club

Royal County Down is located in the naturally beautiful links setting in the Hurtough Nature Reserve where the links stretch along the shores of Dundrum Bay. Narrow ribbons of Fairways thread their way through sand dunes surrounded by heather and gorse – so beautiful but also punishing. ‘The famous ‘bearded’ bunkers feature overhanging lips of red focus and heather. The pows are fast and many are domed, rejecting any shot lacking conviction. Golf writer Bernard Darwin described the course as one of “big and glorious carries, nestling greens, entertaining blind shots, local knowledge and beautiful turf – the kind of golf that people play in their most ecstatic dreams. Royal County Down hosted the Irish Open in May 2015.

T: 028 4372 3134
W:www.royalcountydown.org
- £

6. F.E. McWilliam Gallery and Studio

The F.E. McWilliam Gallery and Studio is dedicated to the memory of Banbridge-born sculptor F. E. McWilliam, one of Ireland’s most influential and successful artists. Following his death in London in 1992, the executors of his estate donated the sculptor’s studio and its contents to the town of his birth. The gallery and studio house the collection in a superb exhibition facility of gallery, garden and reconstructed studio. It also provides a café, craft shop and visitor information point. Regular exhibitions of Irish and international art. Lecture and workshop programmes also available.

T: 028 4062 3322
W: www.museumsofni.com
- FREE

7. Royal County Down Golf Club

Royal County Down is located in the naturally beautiful links setting in the Hurtough Nature Reserve where the links stretch along the shores of Dundrum Bay. Narrow ribbons of Fairways thread their way through sand dunes surrounded by heather and gorse – so beautiful but also punishing. ‘The famous ‘bearded’ bunkers feature overhanging lips of red focus and heather. The pows are fast and many are domed, rejecting any shot lacking conviction. Golf writer Bernard Darwin described the course as one of “big and glorious carries, nestling greens, entertaining blind shots, local knowledge and beautiful turf – the kind of golf that people play in their most ecstatic dreams. Royal County Down hosted the Irish Open in May 2015.

T: 028 4372 3134
W:www.royalcountydown.org
- £

8. Scarva Visitor Centre

Scarva Visitor Centre is located on the banks of the Newry Canal adjacent to the original basin, where vast quantities of coal were loaded for use in the local linen industry. Interpretive boards within the centre help to explain the building of the canal, its trade and Scarva’s role within this. The highly acclaimed tea-rooms are located within the centre and serve as a place to relax after a walk or cycle along the canal towpath or simply to enjoy the tranquillity of the canal-side setting. During the summer, Sunday afternoon band concerts take place making the centre an ideal place to spend an enjoyable afternoon. Bike hire available on-site.

T: 028 3883 2563
W: www.bawnbridge.com
- FREE

9. Greencastle Royal Castle and Dundrum Castle

The strategic importance of the South Down coastline in the 18th century can be seen in the impressive fortifications which survive in the area. Overlooking the entrance to Carlingford Lough is Greencastle Royal Castle, built in the mid-17th century as part of the coastal chain guaranteeing a safe passage between Dublin and the north. Today’s castle is a tour of 18th century structure and offers excellent views of the area. Dundrum Castle is situated on a rocky outcrop high above the town and bay of the same name and was a central fortification in the late 13th century Anglo-Norman conquest of Ulster. The castle is dominated by a tall circular keep, the remnants of its role as a watchtower.

T: 028 4373 8844
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/attraction/greencastle-royal-castle
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/attraction/dundrum-castle
- FREE

Tell me more

Please contact all attractions directly to confirm opening times and prices.

W: www.discovernorthernireland.com/visit
W: www.visitmournemountains.co.uk
Strangford Lough

Play, Pause, Rewind

Did you know?

- Strangford Lough in County Down is the largest sea lough within the United Kingdom and is home to 2000 species of marine and plant life. It is Northern Ireland’s first Marine Nature Reserve.
- The Strangford Lough area is home to several Game of Thrones® filming locations, including Castle Ward (Quoile River, Audley’s Field, Inch Abbey and Quintin Bay).
- Thomas Andrews Jr, designer of the Titanic, was born in Comber.
- Saul Church was the first Ecclesiastical site in Ireland. Built from 47 tonnes of Mourne granite, it took 1,000 children 3 days in Ireland. Built from 47 tonnes of Mourne granite, it took 1,000 children 3 days.
- Louis MacNeice, celebrated author of the poem ‘Carrickfergus’ is buried at the Church of Ireland in Carrowdore.
- Saint Patrick’s Country due to its close links with the saint and is known the world over as the burial place of Saint Patrick. Saint Patrick was born in Comber.

Experiences

- Step back in time aboard the Downpatrick and County Down Railway.
- Enjoy a ride from Downpatrick to Inch Abbey on this full-size, heritage railway (various dates throughout the year).
- While you’re there, visit the exhibition room and gallery of restored, vintage carriages.
- Tour the stunning Ards Peninsula.
- Be sure to also experience the crafts, the local area has to offer with a visit to Ards Crafts (Newtownards), Eden Pottery (Millisle), Discovery Glass (Comber) and the Lightning Tree (Comber).
- Enjoy the viewpoints along the lough on the Portaferry Road.
- Take a historical, evening walking tour of Newtownards.
- Motorbike and motor sports enthusiasts will love racing these high speed circuits.
- Enjoy a bike trip to the Copeland Islands.
- Take a short boat trip to the main island and enjoy a spot of bird watching while you’re there.

After Dark:

- Enjoy a performance at the West Theatre, Newtownards.
- Take a Historical, evening walking tour of Newtownards.

Designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Strangford Lough is Northern Ireland’s first marine nature reserve and is the British Isles’ largest sea inlet, internationally renowned for its marine, plant and wildlife.

Tour along the Ards Peninsula and enjoy the combination of stunning scenery and picturesque villages and towns. Newtownards, at the northern tip of the Lough, Portaferry and Strangford, which is separated by a short ferry crossing at its southern end, are notable examples. Seafood is the specialty of the region and the fishery fleet of Portaferry keeps many of the local seafood restaurants well supplied with the very best quality of trout, sole, (large-tailed and small), providing a real taste of the region.

The area is also associated with two great Scots, James Hamilton and Hugh Montgomery, who led the settlement of the Ards and North Down, laying the foundations for the Plantation of Ulster by Scottish people whose descendants came to be known as the Ulster-Scots. Activities such as kayaking, fishing and sailing are popular on the Lough, and for the more adventurous the sea safety or canoe trails are a real treat. Activities on land include walking and cycle trails, golf, bird watching and horseriding. The summer is also a great time of year to enjoy the viewpoints along the lough on the Portaferry Road.

Tour the stunning Ards Peninsula.

Be sure to also experience the crafts, the local area has to offer with a visit to Ards Crafts (Newtownards), Eden Pottery (Millisle), Discovery Glass (Comber) and the Lightning Tree (Comber).

Enjoy the viewpoints along the lough on the Portaferry Road.


Take a historical, evening walking tour of Newtownards.

After Dark:

Enjoy a performance at the West Theatre, Newtownards.

Take a Historical, evening walking tour of Newtownards.

Images: (opposite) Strangford Lough; (clockwise) Donaghadee Lighthouse and Pier, Inch Abbey, Castle Espie Wetlands Centre.
1. Castle Ward
Take the car over to Castle Ward, an 830-acre walled demesne, with an intriguing 18th century mansion. Adventure playground, tea-room, gift and second hand book-shop, three cycling trails, selection of walking trails and ‘Hofl’ trail horse-riding all on-site. The estate’s 12th century farmyard was temporarily transformed into a ‘Game of Thrones®’ filming location, ‘Winterfell’. Immersive experiences can be enjoyed at ‘Winterfell’ including archery, filming location cycle tour and much more. Like this? Also Visit: Aik Open Farm and Seaforde Butterfly House.

T: 028 4488 1204  
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com

2. Saint Patrick Centre & Down County Museum
The story of Ireland’s patron saint is told at the Saint Patrick Centre: illuminate festival arts festival, IMAX presentation and virtual flight. Gift shop, calla and heritage garden - site located in the historic buildings of the 18th century Gaol of Down, Down County Museum has fascinating exhibitions, lively events and hands-on activities. Like this? Also Visit: The Somme Heritage Centre.

T: 028 4461 9000  
W: www.saintpatrickcentre.com

e  
W: www.downcountymuseum.com

3. Strangford Lough Top Tours and Trails
There is something in the area for everyone – why not tour Strangford Lough with a unique sea safari, canoe-trail, or an aerial tour from the skies. For those who like a slower pace, you can also enjoy sailing, cruising, walking, cycling or horse-riding.

W: www.visitstrangfordlough.co.uk

• £

4. Down Cathedral and Saint Patrick’s Grave
Saint Patrick was buried here around 432 AD. The Memorial Stone, placed in 1911, marks the supposed grave of Patrick. The present building was built in 1283 as a Benedictine Monastery. It has been restored many times and became a Church of Ireland/ Anglican Cathedral in 1609. The edifice contains beautiful stained glass, rare stone carvings and became a Church of Ireland/ Anglican Cathedral in 1609. The edifice contains beautiful stained glass, rare stone carvings

W: www.vwlt.org.uk/castles

• £

5. Castle Espie Wetland Centre
Castle Espie, situated on the shores of Strangford Lough near Comber, is the Wildfowl & Wetland Trust’s first visitor centre in Ireland. "Winterfell" including archery, filming location cycle tour and much more. Like this? Also Visit: Aik Open Farm and Seaforde Butterfly House.

T: 028 9187 4146  
W: www.wvltrust.org

• £

6. Delamont Country Park
Situated on the shores of Strangford Lough in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, this 200 acre country park offers a variety of attractions. These include woodland and countryside walks ranging from one to seven kilometres, stunning views across the lough and the Mourne Mountains, an outdoor adventure playground, animal sanctuary on the site and the Strangford Stone – the tallest megalith in Ireland. The park also provides access to the Strangford Lough Canoe Trail. A full programme of events takes place during the summer months.

T: 028 4462 8333  
W: www.downdc.gov.uk

• £ (parking / caravan and camping)

FREE (pedestrian access)

7. Mount Stewart
Mount Stewart, located on the shores of Strangford Lough, is Northern Ireland’s much loved family home and garden. Following a three-year restoration programme it has opened its doors to reveal an amazing transformation. Filled with the spirit and character of Edith, Lady Londonderry, the house and gardens reveal the history, grandeur and enchantment of Mount Stewart, bringing it to life in a glorious celebration of people, power and plants. Housing collections of national and international importance, Mount Stewart gives visitors a chance to view treasured objects ranging from the grandest art to the most personal family mementos. The gardens, voted one of the top ten gardens in the world, combine bold planting schemes and a rich tapestry of design to create a haven of colour and smells.

T: 028 4278 8387  
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com

• £

Tell me more
Please contact all attractions directly to confirm opening times and prices. www.discovernorthernireland.com

www.discovernorthernireland.com/mount-stewart

8. Scrabo Tower and Country Park
Scrabo Tower is one of Northern Ireland’s best-known landmarks, built in 1837 in memory of the third Marquess of Londonderry. Overlooking Strangford Lough and the whole of North Down, The Tower provides visitors with some of the finest views in the country. The paths through Kilflynn Crystal Wood and the disused sandstone quarries all offer the opportunity for quiet countryside enjoyment. It is possible to climb the tower on weekends during the summer months.

T: 028 9185 1491  
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com

FREE

9. Nendrum Monastery
Nendrum Monastery was founded with the blessing of St. Patrick and was at its prime in the year 1000. It is a magical and beautiful island accessible by bridges with dry stone walls, heavenly views and a guide and site display. The remains of this important pre-Norman monastery include three concentric enclosures (stone walls). Check website for visitor centre opening hours. 

Like this? Also Visit: Grey Abbey, Inch Abbey, Rahoy Church and Bundrum Castle.

T: 028 9055 3254  
W: www.discovernorthernireland.com

FREE
Lough Neagh & its Waterways

Discover it for yourself

Bordering five of Northern Ireland’s six counties, Lough Neagh is the largest freshwater lake in the British Isles at 18 miles long and 7 miles wide and the third biggest in Europe.

Lough Neagh captivates visitors with its tranquil atmosphere, unspoilt scenery, secluded bays and panoramic views. A haven for wildlife and home to a wealth of flora and fauna, the lough also has an archetypal hallstattian heritage, with the remnants of three round towers and one of the finest high crosses in the whole of Ireland, Ardboe Cross. Local legend has it that the cross was built with the help of a ‘magic cow’ (the Gaelic Ard bó meaning ‘height of the cow’) which stepped out of the lough and provided workers with lashings of cream, milk and butter whilst constructing it.

There are a number of canals linked to the lough including the Lagan Canal, the Ulster Canal, the Newry Canal and Coalisland Canal. These have heritage and ecological sites of interest both on their shores and on islands within the Lough. The surroundings of the lough can be explored on foot, on a quiet country lanes with the help of a ‘magic cow’ (the Gaelic Ard bó meaning ‘height of the cow’) which stepped out of the lough and provided workers with lashings of cream, milk and butter whilst constructing it.

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The richness of the wildflower meadows, woodlands, shoreline and open water means that there is always something special to see. The lough has two major islands, Ram’s Island and Coey Island, both of which have significant historic interest. Visitors can explore Lough Neagh on a day trip on The Maid of Antrim or the Islands of Lough Neagh on the Conwy Explorer or the Island Warrior. Lough Neagh is also growing as a major boating and sailing destination and has four main marinas at Kinnego, Ballyman, The Blarney and Sandy Bay.

Whether it is the mythical story of Finn McCool or the more scientific explanation that you choose to believe about Lough Neagh’s history, the largest natural resource in Northern Ireland is undoubtedly an ‘eco-treasure’. There is so much to admire from history and heritage, visitor attractions to land and water-based activities including a cycle trail, Peatlands Park and the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre & Oxford Island Nature Reserve.

The Loughshore Cycling Trail is well known to both racing and leisure cyclists. A unique cycleway, not only because of its location, but because it uses quiet country lanes and consists of mainly flat terrain. As well as providing breathtaking views the trail also incorporates over 25 major sites of interest including marinas, nature reserves, parks and sites of archaeological interest.

Indulge in a shopper’s delight by viewing the Potters at work at Ballydougan Pottery and have a slice of cake at The Farm Shop before venturing to The Crosskeys Inn, near Toome – an atmospheric thatched pub thought to date from around 1740.

After Dark:

• Enjoy a regular traditional music session at The Crosskeys Inn, near Toome – an atmospheric thatched pub thought to date from around 1740.
• Watch live performances and film screenings in the historic surroundings of The Old Courthouse, Antrim.
• Enjoy a play or performance in an intimate local venue such as the Bardic Theatre, Donaghmore or Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown.

• Get a feel for the countryside at Lurgan Park. Be sure to stop off for afternoon tea. After Dark:

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Experiences

• Cycle the Loughshore Trail

This long-distance cycle route encircles the lough, mostly following quiet country roads, and includes most of the area’s main attractions. It can be broken into shorter sections on the more ambitious can take on the Lough challenge cycle each August.

• Explore Lough Neagh by canoe

Paddle the lough’s bays and inlets along the Lough Neagh canoe Trail – there are over 90 miles to explore plus the adjoining Blackwater and lower Bann Trails.

• Walk the grounds of the grand estate of Brownlow House

Enjoy the setting of Brownlow House, a 19th century mansion located next to Lurgan Park. Be sure to stop off for afternoon tea.

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After Dark:
Nature lovers can wander four miles of footpaths through woodland and wildflower meadows or observe birds from watching hides at this nature reserve. At the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, see panoramic views across the lough and visit the café and gift shop. The centre also runs a programme of conservation and environmental events and exhibitions. The adjacent Kinneil Marina is the largest on Lough Neagh and offers seasonal boat trips on the Master McGall.

Like this? Also Visit: World of Owls at Randalstown Forest.

1. Oxford Island National Nature Reserve
2. Bellaghy Barn
3. Downhill Demesne
4. Antrim Castle Gardens and Cooleworthy House
5. Ardboe High Cross
6. Kinneil Lough Shore Park
7. U.S. Grant Ancestral Homestead
8. Ardboe High Cross
9. Activities in the Lough Neagh Area

Tell me more

Please contact all attractions directly to confirm opening times and prices.

www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.discoverloughneagh.com
www.discovercraigavon.com
www.discoverlondonderry.com
www.discovercavan.com
www.discoverlondonderry.com
www.discoverderry.com
www.discoverleitrim.com
www.discoverefr.com
www.discoverleitrim.com
www.discoverleitrim.com

LOUGH NEAGH & ITS WATERWAYS
Find a place to stay

Northern Ireland isn’t just awash with picturesque panoramas, exciting happenings and delectable places to eat – there are endless wonderful places to sleep over too.

Whether you love the seaside, cityscapes or rural countryside, there’s a place to stay that will suit you.

Countless venues, lodgings, rooms and crash-pads.

With spectacular views, charming owners and a real sense of Northern Irish hospitality.

The range is varied from bunkhouses and campus accommodation to hotels, bed and breakfasts and self-catering. We have included a few types to get you started.

Hotels

For pampering or passing through, splurging or saving, Northern Ireland has a hotel to suit your perfect holiday. Pick and choose from cool city escapes, coastal hideaways and country retreats – budget-friendly and budget-blowers. Visit chic venues with luxurious spas, boutique settings with world-famous cocktail lists or cool creations with great cuisine and things-to-do. Enjoy fantastic views, the buzz of local cafés and pubs, shopping hotspots, wonderful restaurants and plenty of craic.

Depending on your type of Northern Ireland holiday, peruse our wonderful hotel offerings – the family-run, unique one-off destinations.

Bed and Breakfast

The beauty of our B&Bs and Guesthouses is in the service. A friendly and relaxed ‘home from home’ that’s snug and personal. Homespun touches make them a wonderful stayover choice – pots of tea, home-made wheaten bread on arrival, lovely local produce and an owner with unbeatable local knowledge. There is something for everyone though, so for those weary travellers who just want a room for the night our Guest Accommodation offers modern-en-suite bedrooms with a simple continental breakfast. Properties may showcase local arts and crafts, celebrate our literary giants, or include all the latest technological gadgets – welcoming extras and attention to detail which make for a complete getaway experience.
Campus Accommodation

Campus accommodation is provided by educational establishments for their students and is made available to individuals, families or groups at certain times of the year, typically Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays. Accommodation may be comprised of dormitories, serviced by separate bathrooms or en-suite facilities.

Hostels

Our hostels offer so much more than a comfy, cleaned bed for the night. Found in our cities, towns, coastlines and rural hotspots, local hostels are a wonderful way of meeting great people and experiencing Northern Irish hospitality.

In Northern Ireland, hostels and hostels of the quirkier and most spirited places to stay. From luxury, boutique hostels with en-suite bedrooms to traditional backpacker accommodation, where the emphasis is on meeting people—Northern Ireland has it all. Some of the best are in the most unique old buildings. Dorms certainly aren’t always the norm.

Glamping

Glamping or ‘glamorous camping’ combines all the fun of camping with some of the amenities of home so you can enjoy the tranquillity of the outdoors with the added bonus of staying dry. Options include tepees, yurts and camping pods and there’s a great choice of locations too. Whether you fancy some time away from the busy city life with a peaceful romantic break along the stunning North Coast, an action-packed family adventure in the Fermanagh Lakelands or simply be at one with nature and get back to basics whilst enjoying home comforts—scenic beaches and stunning mountain landscapes await you on your glamping adventure. It’s a great way to get away from it all without breaking the bank.

Please note that Tourism NI does not inspect types of accommodation which fall under the designation of glamping.

Learn more...

Camping and Caravan Parks are only inspected by Tourism NI if they choose to be a member of the British Graded Holiday Parks Scheme.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/camping

Provides information on all parks in Northern Ireland which are part of this scheme, plus all other local council licensed sites.

If you prefer to tour a place at your own pace, you’ll love a camping or caravanning getaway in Northern Ireland. This part of the world is brimming with glorious places to pitch a tent, put your caravan or rent a pocket-sized place to snuggle. Pretty camping spots are dotted all over the place, with a whole range of activities and facilities on offer. There are also a number of Aire de Service points/motorhome service points on offer.

Choose a destination to match your dream holiday. A spot at the foot of the majestic Mourne Mountains or close by the grassy Sperrins, somewhere picturesque amidst the lovely Fermanagh Lakelands or along the beloved Causeway Coastal Route. From cycling to sandcastle building, jewellery making to sky-diving, you’ll never be stuck for something fantastical to do nearby.

Learn more...

Camping and Caravan Parks are only inspected by Tourism NI if they choose to be a member of the British Graded Holiday Parks Scheme.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/camping

Provides information on all parks in Northern Ireland which are part of this scheme, plus all other local council licensed sites.
Information on the go
Networked Visitor Information Centres

BELFAST
Belfast City Centre
Visit Belfast Welcome Centre
Visitor Information (Belfast & NI)
8-9 Donegall Square North,
BT1 5GJ
T: (028) 9024 6609
E: info@visit-belfast.com

AIRPORTS
George Best Belfast City Airport
Sydenham Bypass, BT3 9JH
T: (028) 9093 5372
E: info@visit-belfast.com
Belfast International Airport
Arrivals Hall, BT29 4AB
T: (028) 9448 4677
E: info@visit-belfast.com

COUNTY ANTRIM
Antrim
The Old Courthouse
Market Square, BT41 4AW
T: (028) 9442 8331

Ballycastle
Portnagree House Harbour & Marina Visitor Centre,
14 Bayview Road, BTP4687T
T: (028) 2076 2024

Ballymena
The Braid
1-29 Bridge Street, BT43 5EJ
T: (028) 2563 5010

Ballymoney
Ballymoney Town Hall
1 Townhead Street, BT53 6BE
T: (028) 2766 0230

Bushmills (seasonal)
Main Street, BT57 8QA
T: (028) 2073 0390

Carrickfergus Visitor Information Centre
and Museum
1 Antrim Street, BT38 7DG
T: (028) 9335 8241

Glent’s Causeway Visitor Centre
44 Causeway Road,
Bushmills, BT57 8S1
T: (028) 2073 1855

Larne
Larne Gaug Road, BT40 1DB
T: (028) 8266 0038

Portrush (seasonal)
T: (028) 7082 3333

COUNTY ARMAGH
Armagh
40 English Street, BT61 7BA
T: (028) 3752 1800

COUNTY DOWN
Banbridge
The Old Town Hall,
1 Scarva Street, BT32 3DA
T: (028) 4061 0232

Bangor
34 Quay Street, BT20 5ED
T: (028) 9127 0069

COUNTY FERMANAGH
Enniskillen
Wellington Road, BT74 7EF
T: (028) 6632 3130

COUNTY LONDONDERRY
Coleraine
Coleraine Town Hall,
35 The Diamond, BT51 1DP
T: (028) 7034 4723

Londonderry
Visit Derry, 44 Foyle Street,
BT48 6AT
T: (028) 7126 7284

Magherafelt
The Bridewell
6 Church Street, BT45 6AN
T: (028) 7963 1510

COUNTY TYRONE
Cookstown
The Burnavon
Burn Road, BT80 8DN
T: (028) 8676 9949

Dungannon
Hill of The O’Neill, 26 Market Square,
Dungannon, BT70 1AB
T: (028) 8772 8600

Omagh
Strule Arts Centre
Townhall Square, BT78 1BL
T: (028) 8224 7831

Strabane
The Alley Arts & Conference Centre
1a Railway Street, BT82 8EF
T: (028) 7138 4444

FROM REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
CallSave: 1850 230 230 (ROI only)
E: infodublin@tourismni.com
T: +353 (0) 1 889 3956

www.discovernorthernireland.com
#northernireland

TELL ME MORE
Events: www.culturenorthernireland.org, www.whatsonni.com;
Food: www.nigoodfood.com;
Craft: www.craftni.org

#northernireland
Northern Ireland is easy to get to, easy to get around. Excellent fast ferry links from England and Scotland to Belfast and Larnach, three airports with frequent, low-cost flights from the UK and beyond, plus good roads, buses and trains to take you where you want to go.

You can fly to Northern Ireland directly from a number of European and International destinations. Check with the airport details for directly of cars and the most up-to-date scheduled and chartered flights:

**Travel Information**

**GETTING TO NORTHERN IRELAND**

Translink Bus and Train Services

T: +44 (0) 28 9066 6630, W: www.translink.co.uk

When you arrive at Belfast, this Metro bus service offers unlimited travel on Bus and rail for £10 per day. See website for good value Day Tickets and link card purchasing bus and rail ticket in NI.

Goldline X2 Express Coach travels frequently between Dublin Airport / City Centre and Belfast.

Enterprise Train Dublin – Belfast: several journeys daily in each direction (2hrs 15mins).

Driving and Speed Limits: Drive on the left and overtake on the right. The speed limit in towns and villages is 30mph, in all other areas the maximum speed is 60mph. Some rural roads in the countryside show otherwise. 50mph single carriageways. Some rural roads may operate 60mph. Some roads are also dual carriageways. Seats belts are mandatory for drivers and all passengers. Some ambulances and pilot cars must wear overhead helmets.

Visit www.ridernet.gov.uk for current travel details.

**PASSPORT/Visa Requirements**

**Post Office Box**

T: +44 (0) 28 9066 6630, W: www.postoffice.com

**Medical Insurance**

T: 0845 606 2030, W: www.nidirect.gov.uk/motoring

**Car Rental**

Please note: Taxi prices are estimates. Check Translink website for up-to-date bus and train fares and timetables. Bus services available from all airports.

**Taxi**

A 60% surcharge is added to the final fare. Service charges are then added, typically 10-15%. Check your bill to see if a service charge has been added.

**Train**

Children under 5 years old travel free. Children between the ages of 5 and 16 years travel at half price. If you are travelling with a standard adult ticket (left luggage) is the only place that can offer all services. Late night shopping until 22:00 on Friday and Saturday. Night bus services are available. Check your bill to see if a service charge has been added.

**Accessibility**


**Emergency Services**

If you are lost or stolen, contact the local police, the police station, embassy or consulate.

**Shopping**

Visit www.discovernorthernireland.com

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Photographs: Brian Morrison, Tony Images, Christopher Heydon, Alden Heydon and Dara Quinn.

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Golfing Giants and MTV Concerts 2005 (©) Donall是以

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Page 08 – Ulster Museum, Ulster Folk and Transport Museum (Both courtesy of BATB) – County Road Care

Page 09 – Irish Centre, Cumbria Museum (Tourism of Ireland)

Page 10 – Clonard Monastery (County of Kerry)

Page 11 – Grant’s Caernarfon Visitor Centre

Page 12 – Gower Village (North of England), Camber Hall (Alan Glover)

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Page 09 – Castle Centre, Clonard Visitor Centre (County of Kerry)

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