

THE BEST OF IRELAND Series

# Limerick

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INCLUDES  
MAP

*Discover a Vibrant  
City and County!*



**A homecoming  
like no other...**

THE BEST OF IRELAND Series



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LIMERICK  
INSIDER TIPS



# Limerick: Past Master...

**S**et on the mighty River Shannon, Limerick tells a compelling story from Viking settlement to cosmopolitan city...

It is thought that Luimneach (the Irish name for Limerick) initially referred to the general area along the banks of the Shannon Estuary, then known as 'Loch Luimnigh.' The earliest provable settlement in Limerick dates back to 812 AD but most likely there were people living here for centuries before that. The Vikings sailed up the Shannon and took charge of the land, settling on an island - later known as 'King's Island.' The Vikings and the Irish fought over the site and it was eventually taken over by Brian Ború's forces in the late 10th century.

In the 1170s, the Normans ousted the Irish. Limerick was granted its first charter and mayor by the then Lord of Ireland, later English King John I, in

1197 - a full decade before London! King John ordered a castle to be built and that was finished by around 1210. By this time, the city was divided into an 'Irishtown' and an 'Englishtown' around which strong walls were built. Those ruins still exist.

“Limerick tells a compelling story from Viking settlement to cosmopolitan city

Limerick's motto is a quote from Virgil's Aeneid and translates as "an ancient city well versed in the arts of war." The city was under siege at least three times in the 17th century alone - the last siege a bitter battle between the forces of William of Orange and James II, which ended with the signing of the

Treaty of Limerick in 1691. The historic treaty granted Catholic rights. Limerick flourished as a port and trading centre.

The Georgian era is responsible for some of Limerick's finest buildings, many still standing today, and the city had several booming industries such as lace, flour milling, clothing and bacon (one of Limerick's nicknames is 'Pigtown'). Limerick played a big part in the War of Independence with several notable incidents - especially those in the latter months of the war before a truce was called.

In 1919, the Limerick Trades and Labour Council organised a general strike which became known as the 'Limerick Soviet.' A radical challenge to society and to British rule; the Soviet even went so far as printing its own money!

Highlights for the local economy were the founding of nearby Shannon Airport and the growth of the manufacturing

# Great Presence

sector in the city, both of which still have a strong presence. Limerick still has many small independent businesses too and a reputation for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Limerick is investing over €1 billion in enterprise and investment infrastructure as part of the Limerick 2030 Vision: An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick, a 20 year action plan, which aims to transform Limerick through the economic, social and physical renaissance of Limerick City centre and the wider mid-west region.

In recent years, important heritage sites like King John's Castle have been developed. There have been massive changes to the industrial landscape and Limerick's outward appearance. Several main city thoroughfares have been made over in recent years and the newest addition is a riverside boardwalk. The revamp of older buildings as well as the construction of new structures

like the iconic Riverpoint and Thomond Park Stadium has added new vibrancy. Schemes to regenerate residential and commercial areas are also currently in motion.

Local artists, media figures and business people have broken new ground in various disciplines. Some of these natives have brought Limerick to prominence on an international stage like acclaimed actor Richard Harris, BBC presenter, Terry Wogan, businessman and philanthropist, JP McManus and technology entrepreneurs, John and Patrick Collison.

Limerick is renowned as a sporting county. The success of the Munster Rugby team internationally and Limerick's hosting of the Special Olympic Ireland Games in 2010 and 2014 are two highlights in this sphere. Limerick was Ireland's National City of Culture in 2014, hosting a huge number of events and attracting thousands of

visitors and was a shortlisted candidate city for European Capital of Culture 2020.

Limerick today has a reputation as a modern city with the friendly feel of a town. It now has a growing multicultural population and a youthful feel thanks to a large student population. The city and its people still have the energy of those that founded it hundreds of years ago.

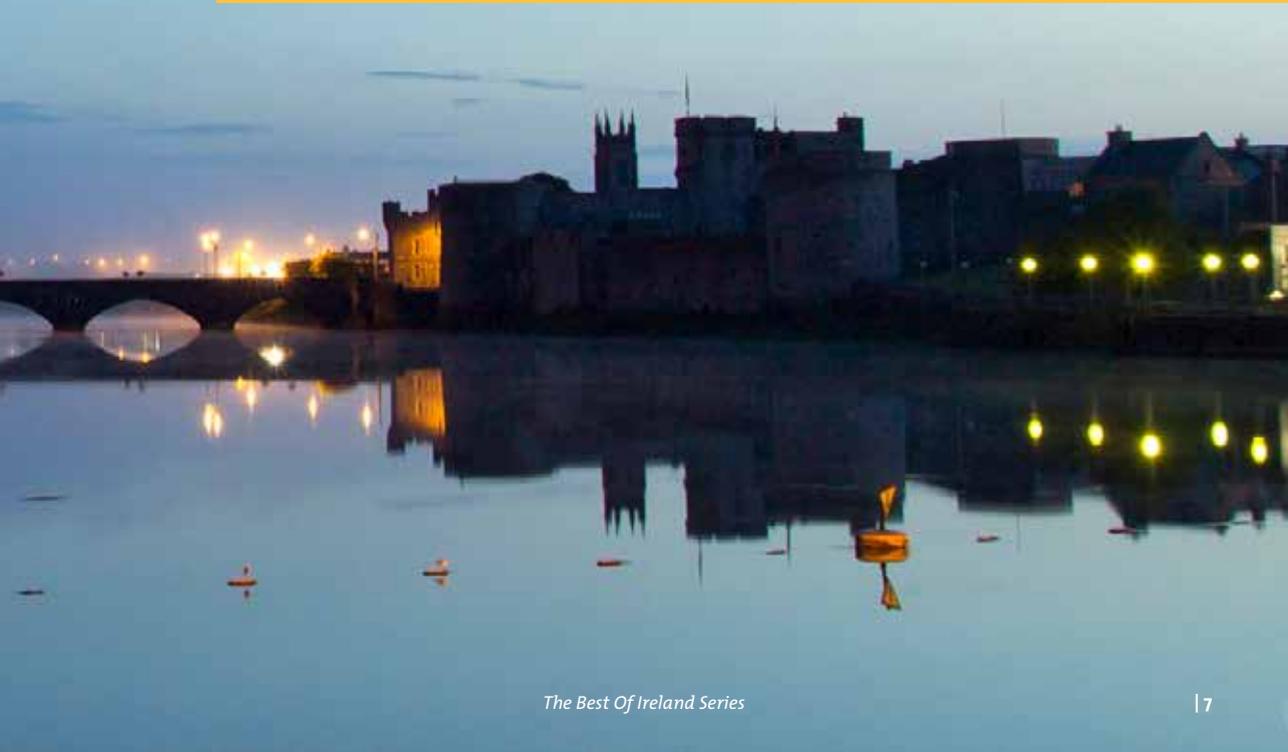
Limerick is known by natives and visitors alike as a destination for culture, heritage, sports, shopping and leisure. Like the resilient River Shannon, Limerick has not stood still but is constantly moving and changing. This is a destination just waiting to be discovered.



# 1

*Limerick has a rich history and strong heritage, which remains ever present in its structures, its streets and its people.*

# History & Heritage



## Don't Miss!

- \* Taking a time machine back to medieval splendour in majestic King John's Castle.
- \* Marvelling at the architecture and interior of landmark Limerick buildings.
- \* Basking in the reverent atmosphere of Limerick's cathedrals, abbeys and churches.
- \* Visiting The Treaty Stone, which played a vital role in ending conflict in the city.
- \* Tracing the footsteps of an ancient people on a prehistoric site.

### St. Mary's Cathedral

Bridge Street

061-310293

[www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org](http://www.cathedral.limerick.anglican.org)

The Cathedral of St. Mary Blessed Virgin is not only Limerick's oldest building still in regular use but also one of its most historical and beautiful.

It is located in the medieval quarter, adjacent to City Hall and a stone's throw from King John's Castle. It was founded in 1168 on the site of a palace donated

by Donal Mór O'Brien, King of Munster. Further back again, the site held a Viking meeting house. It is believed that parts of the palace were incorporated into the current structure such as the west door, which was the palace's main entrance.

Stories about former uses abound. Legend has it that during the many sieges, defenders used to sharpen their swords on the stonework and when Cromwellian forces captured the city, St. Mary's was used as a stable!

Today, the Church of Ireland cathedral is open to the public subject to church

services. Its grand exterior is impressive but the inside is also full of character. Each of its skillfully appointed stained glass windows has a background story as colourful as the panes. The chandeliers, statues and wooden decorations are all striking.

One trait of St. Mary's is music. The choir sings on Sundays and instrumental recitals are often held there. The tower is home to the famous bells and their distinctive sound has resounded through Limerick life for centuries.

## St. John's Cathedral

Cathedral Place

061-414624

[www.limerickdiocese.org/st-john-s-cathedral](http://www.limerickdiocese.org/st-john-s-cathedral)

One of the most iconic sights on the Limerick skyline is the magnificent spire of St. John's Cathedral.

The foundation stone was laid in 1856 and its crowning glory, the magnificent tower, was completed in 1882. The Catholic cathedral—which replaced a church founded in the 1753—was designed by English architect of note, Thomas Hardwick.



St. John's Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, to give it its full name, has many interesting features. The exterior, in Victorian Gothic style, was influenced by Salisbury Cathedral and was built by local builders, Wallace & Sons, out of Limerick limestone.

The altar table is of Limerick marble and there are numerous fine examples of stained glass windows, statues and ecclesiastical art within. Six bishops are interred here.

The tower, designed by local firm, Messrs. Hennessey, measures around 81 metres (including a cross atop it) and is one of the tallest church spires in Ireland. The bell was carried from Dublin via canal at the time.

Although it has undergone restoration over the years, the cathedral has been in continuous use since it opened in 1861. Mass times are available on the website.

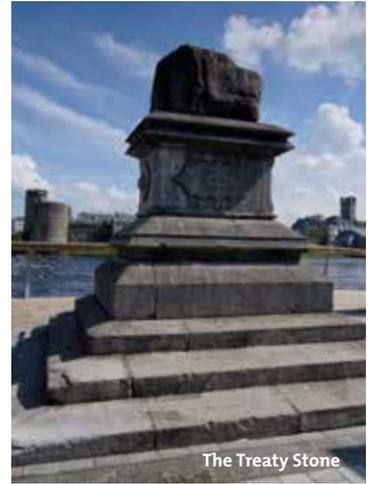
## The Treaty Stone

Thomond Bridge

No visit would be complete without seeing Limerick's most famous landmark, the Treaty Stone. According to lore, the Treaty of Limerick was signed on this very stone on 3 October 1691 within sight of two opposing armies on Thomond Bridge. The treaty ended the second Siege of Limerick and a bitter war between William III and his father-in-law, King James II.

The Jacobites sheltered in Limerick and were besieged by the opposition.

**“No visit would be complete without seeing Limerick's most famous landmark, the Treaty Stone**



The Treaty Stone

Jacobite commander, Patrick Sarsfield, sued for peace. The treaty agreed terms including tolerance of the Catholic religion in Ireland.

The Treaty Stone is thought to be a stone step used to mount a horse and has had several resting places over the years. It currently resides directly across the river from the castle.

## Bishop's Palace

Church Street

061-313399

[www.limerickcivictrust.ie](http://www.limerickcivictrust.ie)

Bishop's Palace was painstakingly restored by Limerick Civic Trust and now stands as a testament to their great work in the city as the organisation's headquarters.

When the trust acquired the building in 1986, it had been vacant for two decades and was condemned, but LCT would not let such a prominent part of the city's history go to ruin. The corner site, just across from the castle on which the building rests, is a fixture on early maps. The building today is an early 18th century reproduction in the Palladian style - the only example of its kind in Limerick and one of the oldest buildings in 'Englishtown.'

The massive building has a classical facade and doorway; it also has a unique balcony window on its gable end. The interior is lavishly decorated with period features like fireplaces and a stained glass window bearing the trust crest. It incorporates items salvaged by the trust such as a mill wheel, a gothic entryway and an iron gate.

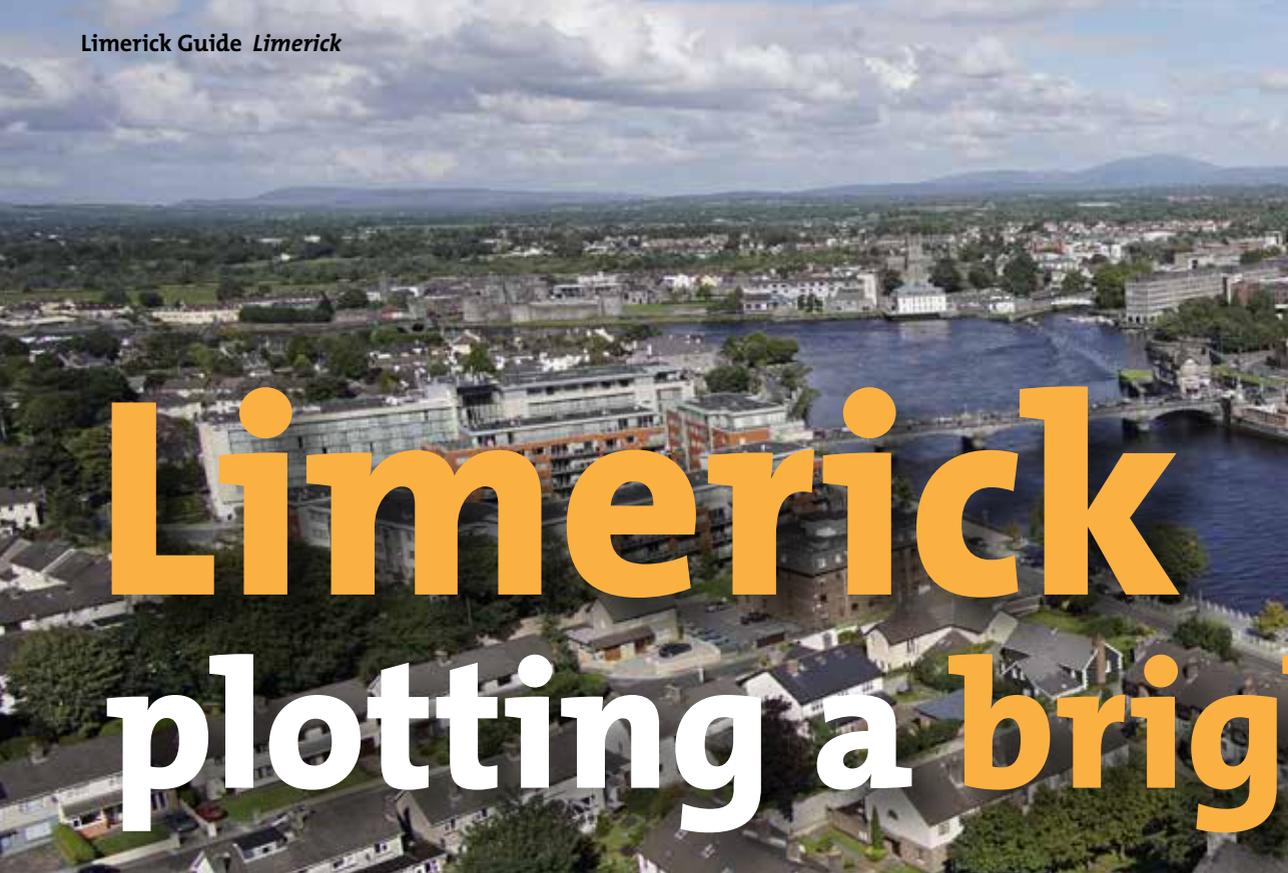
Under the Acts of Settlement after the Cromwellian Wars from 1649-51, it was granted to the Church of Ireland bishops. The bishops are believed to have occupied the building until 1784 and then it was privately owned.

The trust's HQ is the starting point for many projects for its mission: "Improvement of our environment through positive action."

Limerick Civic Trust runs walking tours and other events.



Bishop's Palace



# Limerick plotting a bright

**W**hile Limerick is a long established and proven location for international business, it is also Ireland's most future-focused city, committed to innovation and economic growth.

The beating heart of Ireland's mid-west is investing over €1 billion in enterprise and investment infrastructure as part of the Limerick 2030 Vision: An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick, a 20 year action plan, which aims to transform Limerick through the economic, social and physical renaissance of Limerick City centre and the wider mid-west region.

A central plank of Limerick's renaissance is down to Limerick City and County Council's establishment of Limerick Twenty Thirty DAC, a special purpose vehicle that is transforming key sites in Limerick through mixed-developments, including three iconic city centre locations in an estimated €500m plus capital investment.

Since its inception Limerick Twenty Thirty DAC has made seismic progress including the redevelopment of the Gardens International project on Henry

Street, which opened in March following a €17.6m investment in March.

The 112,000 sq. ft, €17.6million development, has been built to LEED Gold standards, which is among the top international benchmarks for sustainability.

Planning has also been submitted for the 1.62hectare Opera Site, the largest project in the programme and one that will be developed over a six-year period at a total cost of around €180 million. It will provide workspace for up to 3,000 people across a 450,000 sq ft development.

**“ There are few places in Europe that can rival it**

It will be the biggest single mixed-development ever undertaken by an Irish local authority and will have a transformative effect on the economic and social fabric of Limerick and the wider region.

Education and upskilling programmes are another key feature of 'Limerick 2030: An Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick.' The plan envisages

the University of Limerick relocating certain programmes, in redesigned and redeveloped locations and centres in the city. Again, progress achieved here with the announcement that UL is to develop a new city centre campus on the old Dunnes Stores site at Sarsfield's Street.

Limerick Institute of Technology is also expanding its programme offering into medical technology as part of a new 'Medical Village' and continuing apace with plans to develop another campus at the Coonagh Round about.

In addition, the 2030 plan has supported future-proofing education and skill programmes in IT and engineering that Limerick City and County Council has located in bespoke, dedicated, education centres in the city centre (at the Granary and proposed new Digital Academy).

While other Irish cities, not least the capital Dublin, are losing their competitiveness due to cost and lack of housing, congestion, rates, creaking infrastructure, Limerick, on the other hand, is affordable, has plenty of capacity and is very much open for business.

There are other key ingredients that add to Limerick's seemingly winning

# ht future

mix. It has three third level entities, including a world-class university, and an international airport – Shannon Airport – just 20 minutes away with daily services to the US, UK and mainland Europe. It also has a port authority managing some of the deepest waters in Europe on the Shannon Estuary and currently facilitating €7.6bn of trade annually.

Already, the floodgates are starting to prise open. In the last five years alone some 15,000 jobs have been created – 6,000 of them across cutting edge sectors including financial services, retail, med-tech, IT, while the remainder are construction jobs.

When you consider all that Limerick has going for it today, there are few places in Europe that can rival it. It's a hugely competitive and affordable English-speaking city. It has a young population and is at the heart of a region of 400,000 people. Limerick has excellent international access through an uncongested airport and a superb road infrastructure. It's got a strong housing supply – something that other Irish cities can't boast – and an excellent graduate supply.

Its culture, across all aspects of the arts, is flourishing and it is also home to Munster rugby and has a huge tradition in Gaelic Games – currently the All-Ireland hurling champions after 45 years in the wilderness. It's also a gateway to the Atlantic seaboard, with some of the world's most amazing scenery, golf-courses and attractions.

**“A gateway to the Atlantic seaboard, with some of the world's most amazing scenery, golf-courses and attractions**

The city also has fantastic bars, hotels and restaurants. In fact, one of the most positive elements of the Limerick Twenty Thirty programme is that the vast bulk of the property is in the city centre, within walking distance of all

the amenities. That's what foreign direct investors are looking for today; staff predominantly want to live and work in vibrant cities and Limerick ticks all those boxes.

US President, Lyndon B Johnson, once famously said “yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.” Limerick, at a time when others are caught in the post-Brexit headlights, is certainly putting itself in the game.

### WALK THE THREE BRIDGES

Starting at Arthur's Quay Park. Follow a stunning route along the banks of the Shannon crossing Matthew Bridge, passing St Mary's Cathedral and the historic King John's Castle before crossing Thomond Bridge and passing the Treaty Stone on Clancy's Strand.



# Rock Solid *Heritage*

From ancient settlements to medieval splendour, abbeys to castles, the structural heritage of Limerick has endured through the ages and there are lots of sites to explore.

## **Ireland's Prettiest Village Adare**

With its thatched cottages and grand manor house, Adare is a picturesque village with a rich history. The shell of Desmond Castle, which shadows the banks of the River Maigue outside the village, and the Franciscan, Trinitarian and Augustinian Abbeys suggest a long-term settlement. But Adare really sprang up in the 18th century when the Earl of Dunraven built a huge house and estate. The 19th century rebuild of Adare Manor is now a spectacular hotel and golf resort. The Adare Heritage Centre can inform visitors about the history as well as point them towards a wealth of shops, fine bars and restaurants and local activities like golf and angling.

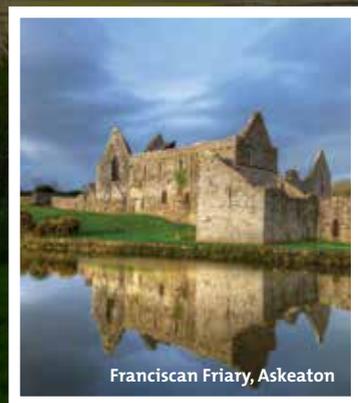
## **The Medieval Village of Askeaton**

The medieval village of Askeaton was once a stronghold of the Munster Geraldines, the Anglo-Norman Earls of Desmond. Today, the impressive ruins of Askeaton Castle are an imposing sight in the town. It has a fascinating history. The building, which hosted Askeaton's Hellfire Club dates back to the 17th century. 'Hellfire clubs' were gentlemen's clubs where men would gather to drink and make merry but there are various spooky, occult associations with them too. The ruins of the well-preserved 14th century Franciscan Friary are also in the village. Tours are available from a local guide. The village has many modern conveniences too, including a well-equipped leisure complex.

## **Kilmallock History Trail**

063-91300

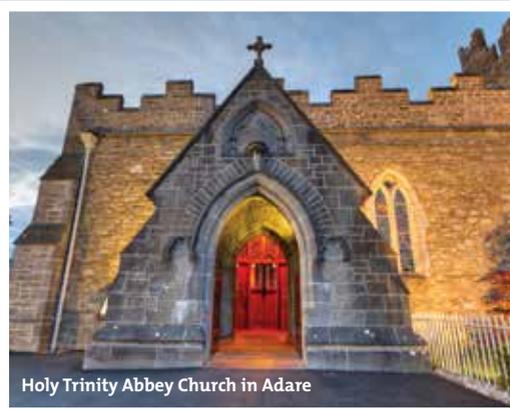
Kilmallock, known as the 'crossroads of Munster,' was an important Norman town and was at the centre of Ireland's political development from the 13th through to the 17th century. This history is evident through the rich architectural heritage of the town's monuments. Along



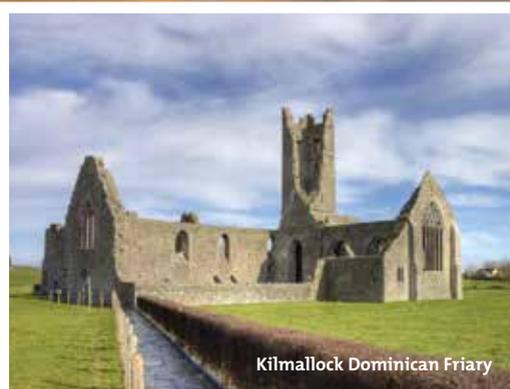
Franciscan Friary, Askeaton



Glenstal Abbey



Holy Trinity Abbey Church in Adare



Kilmallock Dominican Friary

## “The impressive ruins of Askeaton Castle are an imposing sight in the town

with the well-preserved ruins of the Dominican Friary, there are the remains of medieval walls with a huge castle gate type entrance when entering the town from the Limerick City direction. There is also an interesting museum and history trail to enjoy.

### Glenstal Abbey

061-621000

Glenstal Abbey is a Benedictine monastery in Murroe in east Limerick and on its impressive 500 acre grounds, it has a secondary school and a farm. The current Abbott is Brendan Coffey OSB and the community itself has just under 40 monks. The abbey itself—dedicated to St Joseph and St Columba—is based

in and adjacent to a Normanesque castle built by the Barrington family. The grounds are ideal for exploring and walking and include lakes, woodland and a walled, terraced garden containing a unique ‘Bible Garden.’ Visitors are welcome, especially those seeking spiritual respite.

### Mungret Abbey

Just to the south of the road from Limerick to Askeaton on the R859 road, Mungret Abbey reportedly dates back to 551 AD when a monastery was founded here by Saint Nessan. It grew into a thriving community with six churches and 1,500 inhabitants but declined after many Viking raids.

The site was reputedly given over to the Bishop of Limerick in the 11th century and one church later became a parish church. Three churches, one with a 15th century tower, and a graveyard survive now.

### Desmond Hall

069-77408

Outside of the city, Limerick county abounds with many more sites of historical interest, and The Desmond Banqueting Hall in Newcastlewest is among the most impressive of these. Built in the 15th century, the two-story hall was used by the Earls of Desmond for banqueting and entertainment, and features magnificently restored medieval features such as an oak musicians’ gallery and a limestone hooded fireplace. A unique piece of heritage not to be missed, admission to Desmond Hall is free and by guided tour only.

These are just a small selection of the heritage sites around Limerick, which also includes Limerick Masonic Centre, Killaghohane Cemetery & Church, Carrigunnell Castle, Glenquin Castle and more.

Image: Lough Gur



# Neolithic Wonder

## Lough Gur Heritage Centre

Lough Gur, Co. Limerick  
061-385186  
[www.loughgur.com](http://www.loughgur.com)

Lying just 21 km south east of Limerick city, the “magical and mysterious” Lough Gur is one of Ireland’s most important archaeological sites.

The story of the first settlers in the area stretches back 6,000 years—beginning in the Stone Age and continuing right up to modern times. You will be captivated by the beauty, charm and tranquility of this ancient place, its glassy lake and undulating hills.

Along with history, there is a wealth of folklore associated with Lough Gur. There are ancient dwellings, megalithic tombs, crannogs and castles to see here. The heritage centre is also located 5 km from the Great Grange Stone Circle, which is Ireland’s largest stone circle.

Guided tours and walking tours are available. Schools and groups are catered for, as is anyone who requires a personalised guided tour.

The newly refurbished visitor centre tells the story of pre-Celtic Ireland with the help of audio-visual features, interactive elements and displays of artifacts and replicas.

**“You will be captivated by the beauty, charm and tranquility of this ancient place**

The Honey Fitz Theatre here hosts regular events and is a venue for festivals such as the annual storytelling festival.

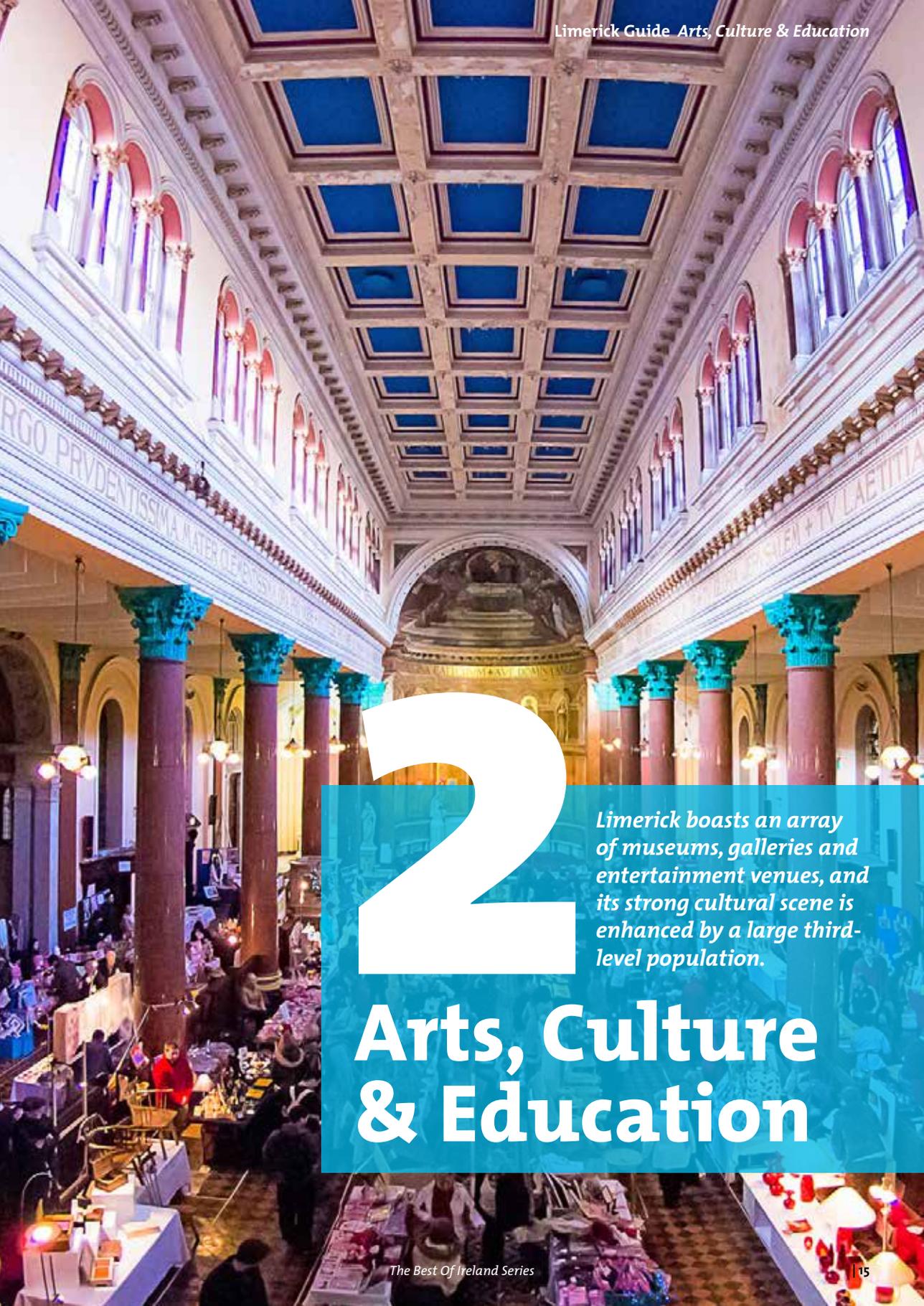
Visitors can also engage in natural pursuits like bird-watching, walking and cycling on a variety of trails.

Opening times are Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm and 12 noon-6pm on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays. Please note that opening times are reduced during the winter.

Admission rates: Adults, €5, senior citizen/student, €4, children, €3 and a family ticket is €15. No fee to walk the grounds.



Lough Gur Heritage Centre



# 2

*Limerick boasts an array of museums, galleries and entertainment venues, and its strong cultural scene is enhanced by a large third-level population.*

## Arts, Culture & Education



© Alan Place

**I**f as writer, Thomas Merton, said that “art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time,” then Limerick is the ultimate lost and found collection.

The Treaty City and wider Shannonside has had a passionate connection with its own rich heritage, culture and the arts.

Limerick remains the most vibrant cultural hub in the mid-west today and has a great deal to offer whatever your interest.

It is teeming with heritage sites, museums, galleries and performance venues. Limerick has been immortalised in several famous texts by those “bred and buttered” here.

In Frank McCourt’s memoir, *Angela’s Ashes*, the lanes, life and local characters of 1930s and 1940s Limerick are vividly drawn.

In Mike Finn’s play, *Pigtown*, the protagonist, Tommy Clocks, illustrates a century of vibrant Limerick history from the ‘Limerick Soviet’ to ‘The Emergency.’ Most recently, ‘Bread Not Profits,’ also by Mike Finn, focussed on the Soviet – in what is its Centenary year – in a spectacular and emotional production which took over the historic Cleeves Condensed Milk factory.

In John Breen’s *Alone It Stands*, the

momentous rugby victory of Munster over the All Blacks in 1978 is recounted in all its mud-soaked, bone-crunching glory.

From award-winning fiction writer, Kevin Barry to wildly successful children’s writer, Darren Shan to our adopted son Donal Ryan and Irish language writer, Críostóir Ó Floinn, Limerick residents have proven they have the ‘write’ stuff. Limerick Writers’ Centre holds regular events and workshops as does the group for emerging writers, Stanzas, and Narrative 4, a collective seeking to “improve the world through the exchange of personal narratives.”

“It remains the most vibrant cultural hub in the mid-west today

Limerick has produced its fair share of stars of stage and screen too. Oscar nominated actor, Richard Harris, of *Gladiator* and *Harry Potter* fame, and most recently, Ruth Negga (*Loving,*

*Shirley*, *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*) both honed their craft in Limerick and brought it to international acclaim. They are in good company with broadcasters Terry Wogan, Geri Maye and Emma O’Driscoll and Jon Kenny and Pat Shortt of comedy duo, D’Unbelievables as well as Liam O’Brien who starred in the UK soap, *Emmerdale*. Film director, David Gleeson, hails from Limerick. Theatre—amateur and professional— and musical theatre has a massive presence here.

Local companies include Bottom Dog Theatre Company, Limerick Youth Theatre, Amalgamation Theatre Company, Magic Roundabout Theatre Company, Wildebeest Theatre Company, Beyond the Bark and Honest Arts, the Cecilian Musical Society, Limerick Musical Society, Quarry Players, College Players and Torch Players.

These are in addition to many individual practitioners and groups working here currently, and a constant stream of touring productions in local venues.

Local band, The Cranberries, and the late, lamented superstar Dolores O’Riordan have wowed stadiums across the globe but other musical artists like Tuesday Blue, Hermitage Green, Windings and Fox Jaw have enjoyed success also.



Brad Pitt Light Orchestra, Niamh Dunne of Beoga and Andreas Varady, to name but a few, have carved out niches in the music industry too. Limerick's music scene is as vibrant as ever with such acts as Rusangano Family, a trio that have been steadily building their own unique brand of dynamic bass-led music. The group recently won the RTE Choice Music Prize. Bill Whelan's *Riverdance*, forged an iconic legacy as the soundtrack accompanying the skill of traditional Irish dance in the acclaimed stage show and continues to tour the world today.

Classical music is popular here too. The Irish Chamber Orchestra is based at the University of Limerick. The choral tradition is continued by Limerick Choral Union, Ancór Chamber Choir and Limerick Gospel Choir and festivals that celebrate the choral tradition with the Limerick Choral Festival and Limerick Sings.

Artists like John Shinnors and Sean Keating, along with Ireland's only biennial art exhibition, Eva International, have put Limerick on the wider visual art map. Limerick City Gallery of Art holds work by both these artists in their permanent collection.

Limerick boasts a wealth of working artists, art collectives and galleries

including Ormston House, a cultural resource centre in the heart of the city, which runs a programme of exhibitions and events.

Limerick School of Art and Design has an excellent reputation, not alone for fine art but its fashion department is ranked as one of the world's top 50 fashion colleges too. Limerick now has the Irish Fashion Incubator which is building on the International reputation of LSAD fashion and will provide the space and supports to foster enterprise and creativity in the field of fashion through research and development, commercial enterprise and training for industry needs.

**“Honed their craft in Limerick and brought it to international fame**

The University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College have established themselves among the best third level colleges in Ireland—cultivating

creativity in all areas of local life, from business to architecture and from technology to sport.

The diverse offering in everything from practitioners to performances was one of the reasons why Limerick was chosen as the first National City of Culture in 2014 and a shortlisted candidate city for European Capital of Culture 2020; the legacy is expected to continue for many years. It would be impossible to sum up Limerick's plentiful cultural offering in its entirety except to say that city and county have it down to a fine art.



## Don't Miss!

- \* Experiencing tradition and history through interacting with it in Limerick's museums and heritage centres.
- \* Beholding the visual art and sculpture on display in Limerick City Gallery of Art and other local galleries.
- \* Joining the audience for a vibrant live performance in a nearby venue.
- \* Getting out in the air to see some of the many examples of public art and monuments.
- \* Exploring the campuses and facilities of some of Limerick's third level institutions.

### Limerick Museum

061-417826  
museum.limerick.ie

Limerick's exciting past never gets old and the municipal museum aims to showcase the city in its full glory.

In recent years, part of the museum's huge collection was temporarily housed in City Hall on Merchants Quay but has now moved to its new permanent home at the former Franciscan Church on Henry Street.

The museum has thousands of interesting objects, which span centuries

of local and regional history. From the Bronze Age to Georgian times to the 20th century, there is something to help you step back in time including photographs, old money, letters, documents and many more artefacts.

Important events like the War of Independence take prominence. Many personal collections have been bequeathed to the museum so there are genuine local touches and the museum is leading a project to conserve the city's ancient walls.

Limerick's commercial pursuits are represented in memorabilia such as a tin for Spillane's 'Garryowen' tobacco, old

tools, a printer's block and a collection of Limerick silver and lace. Sports collectables are a prominent element including items like books, medals and match tickets/programmes such as those from Munster's historic win against the New Zealand All Blacks in 1978.

The museum was founded in 1906 and was opened to the public in 1916. It has had several homes since then. Coupled with the City Archives (housed in the city library at the Granary on nearby Michael Street), the museum is a valuable resource. Its extensive online catalogue is well worth a look.



## The Hunt Museum

Rutland Street

061-312833

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

Located in the grand surroundings of Limerick's former Customs House, The Hunt Museum is a private collection turned public wonder.

The museum, set over three floors with many rooms, contains over 2,000 antiquities and works of art, which were acquired by John and Gertrude Hunt. As professional antique dealers, they also gathered interesting objects that appealed to them so the collection is unique and eclectic.

Rooms have artefacts from Greece, Rome, Egypt, and pieces from early Ireland, like Neolithic flints, a Bronze Age shield and cauldron. There are dedicated displays on Christian objects such as a unique 9th century Antrim Cross, jewellery like the Mary Queen of Scots cross and 18th/19th century decorative arts with fine examples of silver, glass, and ceramics.

Browse works by leading artists such as Picasso, Yeats, Moore and Renoir, imagine what battles the fearsome weapons saw and in the treasury section, see what is reputed to be one of the 30 pieces of silver paid to Judas for the betrayal of Christ. Everything from pottery to chalices, sculptures to tapestries, brooches to spears are on display.

The Museum runs a wonderful Education Programme which offers great tours and workshops for children and

adults of all ages. In addition to this the museum is very conscious of its social responsibility at the heart of the city and region and actively reaches out to as broad an audience as possible through educational activities, public engagement programmes and outreach. The museum hosts many private and public meetings, events and a lecture series.

“ The museum contains over 2,000 antiquities and works of art

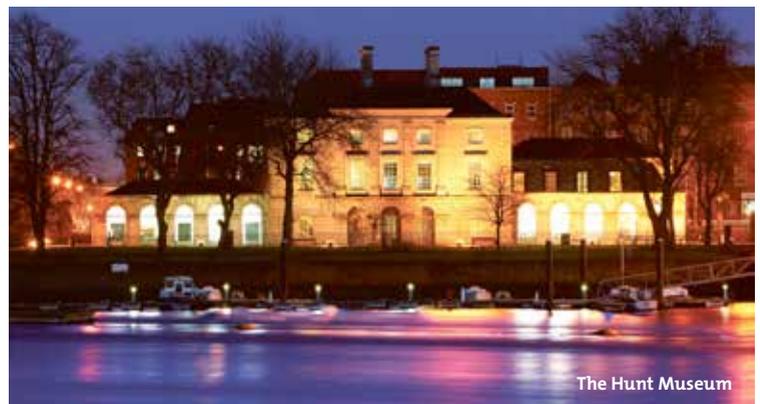
A few steps down from the gift shop is the café which overlooks the river Shannon where you can enjoy a snack or meal. The temporary exhibition gallery on the lower ground floor showcases many visiting exhibitions throughout the year.

Admission prices: adults €7.50 (concession €5.50), children €5.50, family ticket is €22. Membership of the Hunt Museum €50 annual. The Hunt Museum offers guided tours on request (booking required).

Opening times:  
Monday to Saturday 10am-5pm;  
Thursdays from May-September open until 8pm; Sundays and Bank Holidays 2-5pm. Closed on Good Friday, New Year's Day, Christmas Day & St. Stephen's Day.



Horse Aquamanile, German, 15th Century AD



The Hunt Museum

# Museums Galore

The past is ever present with Limerick's fantastic museum and heritage centre offering.

Frank McCourt is one of Limerick's most famous sons having won a Pulitzer Prize for his childhood memoir, *Angela's Ashes*. **The Frank McCourt Museum** in Hartstonge Street (061-319710) in his former school is a tribute to the writer and an era. The 1930s schoolroom is recreated in detail, with memorabilia on display including an antique bicycle, schoolbooks, paintings and photographs. Upstairs from the schoolroom, there is a recreation of the McCourt family's flat.

**The Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum** in county Limerick

(069-65416) explores the golden age of aviation when dignitaries like John F. Kennedy, Humphrey Bogart and Ernest Hemingway passed through here on Atlantic crossovers. The award-winning facility is the only aviation museum in Ireland and the only museum in the world dedicated to flying boats and passenger travel. The amazing story of how Foynes became a fixture in the aviation world from 1937-1945 is told through interactive exhibits in the original terminal building. You can even hop on board a full-sized replica of the plane in question - the only existing full sized replica Boeing B314 flying boat in the world.



Frank McCourt Museum

## DID YOU KNOW?

### JKF

Former US President, John F. Kennedy, has Limerick roots. President Kennedy's great-grandfather, Thomas Fitzgerald (the man who gave the family the 'F' in their name), hails from the east Limerick village of Bruff. He was born in Bruff in 1823 but emigrated to Boston in 1852. In June 2013, the president's daughter, Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg, and her family visited the village to trace their roots there.



### Richard Harris

Actor, singer, film director, theatrical producer and writer, Richard Harris, was born in Limerick in 1930. The Oscar nominated actor is known for film roles as King Arthur in *Camelot*, Bull McCabe in *The Field*, Marcus Aurelius in *Gladiator* and Professor Dumbledore in two *Harry Potter* films. He also released numerous music singles and albums. There is a statue depicting Harris as King Arthur on Bedford Row in the city.

“The 1930s schoolroom is recreated in detail

**The De Valera Museum and Bruree Heritage Centre** (086-3949230/087-3116008) is dedicated to Ireland's former president and renowned statesman, Eamon De Valera. Born in 1882, De Valera spent his early years in Bruree and there is a unique collection of his personal belongings here in his former school as well as artefacts and displays recording village life at the time. The cottage in which he lived is also preserved.

**The Irish Palatine Heritage Centre** (069-63511) in Rathkeale, Co. Limerick houses an exhibition charting the Palatine experience in the 'Emerald

Isle.' The Palatines came from Germany and after a period of persecution, came to settle in Ireland and all over the world. The heritage centre outlines their historical origins, their contribution to Irish farming life and their formative role in the development of world Methodism through displays of articles, photographs and more.

When you take a step through the doors of the **Old Irish Ways Museum** (086-154 1078) in Bruff, Co. Limerick you take a step back through various periods of Irish life. Old Irish Ways is a collection of various artefacts and collectibles which were used as part of everyday life down through the years in an Ireland long past. From the kitchen to the farmyard the collection built up over a number of years represents an Ireland of bygone days. Visit [www.facebook.com/oldirishways](http://www.facebook.com/oldirishways) for more information.



© Tourism Ireland

Foynes Flying Boat Museum



Limerick City Gallery of Art

## Limerick City Gallery of Art

Pery Square

061-310633

[www.gallery.limerick.ie](http://www.gallery.limerick.ie)

Picasso once said that “art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life” and the best place in Limerick for a ‘cleansing’ visit is the Limerick City Gallery of Art.

“Limerick’s municipal art collection is one of the finest in the country

Limerick’s municipal art collection is one of the finest in the country outside Dublin. The gallery is based in the two-storey Carnegie Building, originally built in 1906. In 1985, the entire space was given over to the gallery. It has been refurbished over time; the most recent revamp was completed in 2011.

LCGA is home to an important collection of Irish 18th to 21st century art in all media, a total of 831 works with artists including Camille Souter, Evie Hone, Jack B Yeats, Sean Keating and Paul Henry. It also holds the National Collection of Contemporary Drawing and the Michael O’Connor International Poster Collection.

Some of the permanent collection is always on display and that is a diverse mix of classic and contemporary in a range of media. The gallery also holds exhibitions several times a year so the art is always changing so every visit unique. One exhibition of note is the acclaimed biennial of visual art, *eva International*.

The Carnegie Building is a strange hybrid of old and new. It has some charming features like sash windows and the original wooden floor. The freshest works added an extension including a delightful café and a new wing. There is a striking wall of windows looking out onto an oasis in the city - the People’s Park. Upstairs, the ultramodern, white space is a blank canvas with several rooms coming off a balcony overlooking the ground floor.

After an amble around the gallery, the airy café is an ideal place to watch the world go by with a coffee.



## Smaller Galleries

In Limerick, art is everywhere but not least in the fine collection of smaller galleries and artistic spaces.

With over 50 members, the skill of printmaking is kept alive at **Limerick Printmakers** (061-311806) at its studios and gallery at 3 John’s Square. Exhibitions cover printmaking, painting, drawing, mixed media, sculpture and installation work and it also runs classes for adults and children.

**Ormston House** in Patrick Street ([www.ormstonhouse.com](http://www.ormstonhouse.com)) is a cultural resource centre and gallery space, which runs a year round programme of contemporary art exhibitions.

**Normoyle Frawley Gallery** (061-315401) in John Street aims to support the work of both established and emerging artists, particularly those resident in Ireland. It also does framing and sells art supplies.

“Fine collection of smaller galleries and artistic spaces

Two other galleries regularly exhibiting new and established artists are the **Bourn-Vincent Gallery** in the University of Limerick in Castletroy (061-213052) and **LSAD Gallery** in Limerick School of Art & Design, Clare Street.

County Limerick has several venues displaying art in assorted media. **Friars’ Gate Theatre** in Kilmallock (063-98727) and the **Red Door Gallery** in Newcastle West ([www.facebook.com/pages/Newcastle-West-Arts](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Newcastle-West-Arts)) both hold regular art exhibitions.

**Draíocht Gallery and Shop** (061-395539) in Adare displays contemporary Irish art and crafts from paintings to ceramics, sculpture to furniture. The **Lucy Erridge Craft Shop and Art Gallery** (061-396898) in Adare displays the work of many talented artists and craftspeople.

## Ballymorris Pottery & Pottery School

Ballymorris, Cratloe, Co. Clare  
061-357118  
[www.ballymorrispottery.ie](http://www.ballymorrispottery.ie)

Ballymorris Pottery and Pottery School, established in 1994, on a 17th century farm, create a beautiful selection of handmade stoneware pottery, specialising in bespoke personalised pieces that are made to order. The pottery is classic and contemporary in style, often using spiral sgraffito decoration. Besides its distinctive range, Ballymorris Pottery produces baby and family prints in clay, which make very personal and highly treasured gifts.



Ballymorris Pottery

“Hands on pottery parties for families, children, hen parties, friends

If you fancy having a go, Ballymorris Pottery School offers hands on pottery parties for families, children, hen parties, friends and work colleagues where you can experience making your very own piece of pottery. Events are held in a spacious refurbished class room. Regular classes are also proving very popular and fun.

Ballymorris Pottery workshops are open to the public, where work in progress can be seen, as well as the full range of beautiful pottery. Opening times: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm. Weekends by appointment.

For further information, email [hannah@ballymorrispottery.ie](mailto:hannah@ballymorrispottery.ie) or visit [facebook.com/Ballymorris-Pottery](https://facebook.com/Ballymorris-Pottery)

# Local Urban Art

In recent years, Limerick boasts some spectacular urban art by graffiti artists from Limerick and further afield.



The annual Make a Move Festival in July, which celebrates hip hop culture, began inviting urban artists to demonstrate their skills and that led to the ambitious project Draw Out – Urban Exhibitionists ([www.drawout.ie](http://www.drawout.ie)). When Limerick was Ireland’s National City of Culture, Draw Out was responsible for vibrant and unique works of art springing up across the city—bringing a burst of colour to buildings and derelict sites alike.

Prominent works around the city include ‘The Fisherman’ by artist, Fintan Magee, in Roches Street (left) eye-popping mural ‘Smug’ by the artist of the same name adjacent to King John’s Castle and ‘Love Me So’ by DMC, which adorns the urban garden site on Thomas Street.

On Bridge Street, a striking mural pays tribute to Sionna, the Goddess of the River Shannon. Commissioned



by the local authority and Limerick Civic Trust, the piece was designed and painted by Bold Details - the street art duo of LSAD students Cormac Dillon and Jonathan Noonan - adding a splash of colour and modernity to the historic King’s Island.



# Formidable Fortress

## King John's Castle

King's Island

061-360788

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

King John's Castle has been an imposing fixture on the banks of the River Shannon since the 13th century. With a 21st century makeover to all its facilities, it is now a landmark you can't miss.

With the help of an interactive visitor experience, a trip to the castle is an exercise in time-travel—illustrating its history with over 800 years of stories.

After Limerick was awarded its first Charter and Mayor in 1197, the Anglo-Normans wanted to make their mark on the city and fortify its defenses. King John ordered a castle to be built and work started around 1200. The castle was built on an existing fortification in the oldest part of Limerick with a good vantage point up and down the river. Though it was attacked many times, its high outer walls, corner towers, battlements and gate towers remain intact.

The many events in the castle's fascinating history are illustrated in the interpretative centre. It has everything from touch screen technology, 3D models, discovery drawers to computer-

generated imagery, animations and projections.

There are games designed for kids and they can try on historic costumes like chainmail tunics or 18th century dresses. There is a spectacular, panoramic 360 degree view from the tallest turret.

“The castle courtyard bustles with activities as costumed characters interact with visitors

In peak season, the castle courtyard bustles with activities as costumed characters interact with visitors.

An archaeological dig in the grounds has been opened for viewing and is now connected with an archway into the bowels of the castle so people can see the great medieval hall excavated in the 1990s. For history buffs, some of the 1,000 items discovered during digs here are on display—some for the first time!



The castle towers have been dressed to recreate the daily operation of a military castle and new additions include a special education room and a new café.

Open year round - check website for exact times. Reservations are not necessary, except for groups. Lower rates are available by booking online.

# Art All Around

Limerick has lots of fine examples of public art, monuments and memorials. From the county's roadside sculptures to celebrated figures immortalised in bronze in the city, there is a wonderful selection to wander about and see.

In the Georgian Quarter, several monuments are scattered among the greenery of People's Park. These include the high column honouring Limerick MP, Thomas Spring Rice, a restored Victorian drinking fountain and bandstand and the Children's Remembrance Plaque. In Pery Square, there are two memorials to military personnel. A short walk away, the 19th century Tait's Clock stands over Baker Place.



Outside Leamy House on Hartstonge Street is a bust of the author, Frank McCourt. Part of the building, the writer's former schoolhouse, is now a museum in his honour. On the upper end of O'Connell Street, there is a tall statue of the thoroughfare's namesake, political leader Daniel O'Connell. Further down O'Connell Street, between Cecil Street and Shannon Street is 'Players,' a statue depicting a hurler and a rugby player—twin passions in Limerick. On Bedford Row stands a sculpture of renowned Limerick actor, Richard Harris, in his portrayal of King Arthur in the film, *Camelot*.

Outside Limerick City Hotel on Lower Mallow Street, the Broken Heart Memorial commemorates victims of the Great Famine. Along the quays, there is also a memorial to merchant seamen and another to Limerick's hard-working dockers.

In Cruises Street, 'The Singer from Quimper' by Rowan Gillespie is permanently entertaining. In the Medieval Quarter, there are a host of landmarks including a statue of 'The Bard of Thomond,' Michael Hogan, outside King John's Castle. Behind City Hall on the riverside walk, there



is a sculpture of a group of 'Wild Geese' set amid a fountain pool. On George's Quay, there is an unusual 'Anti-War Memorial' featuring two figurative metal busts.

Further afield on the UL campus, there are many pieces of art including Antony Gormley's 'Together and Apart' and the only sculpture by international Irish artist Sean Scully, Crann Saoirse (Wall of Light).

These items are just a taste of Limerick's public art offering. When exploring, make sure to be on the lookout for interesting pieces.

## Lime Tree Theatre

Mary Immaculate College,  
Courtbrack Avenue

## Belltable

69 O'Connell Street

Box Office: 061-953400  
www.limetreetheatre.ie

Limerick boasts two great theatre and performing arts venues in the Lime Tree Theatre and Belltable, two iconic venues in the city.

The 510 seat Lime Tree Theatre is located on the campus of Mary Immaculate College, only five minutes from the city centre. As one of the largest additions in the recent development project in the third level institution, the Lime Tree Theatre is both versatile and state-of-the-art.

The Lime Tree Theatre organisation also took over the programming and management of a second, smaller (220 capacity) venue, Belltable, which is located at 69 O'Connell Street.

Both venues host a wide range of live performances and film screenings,



Lime Tree Theatre



Belltable

as well as other events including theatre, music, comedy, traditional arts, children's shows and conferences. Their year round programme incorporates all these art forms and more.

Nationally and internationally renowned companies have graced the stages of both venues and the programme is diverse and wide ranging.

Lime Tree Theatre and Belltable offer refreshments and bar service on performance nights and offers pre-

theatre dinner deals with a number of nearby eateries.

Belltable Box Office opening times are Monday-Saturday at 69 O'Connell Street from 12-6pm. The Lime Tree Theatre Box Office is open Monday-Friday from 2-5.30pm. Box office is also open for two hours before a performance in the venue in which the performance is taking place. For both venues current programme details, see [www.limetreetheatre.ie](http://www.limetreetheatre.ie).



University Concert Hall

## University Concert Hall

Foundation Building, University of Limerick, Castletroy

061-331549  
www.uch.ie

University Concert Hall is a 1,000 seat multi-purpose entertainment venue located on the beautiful University of Limerick campus which celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2018.

Winner of the Limerick Chamber Award, Best Sport, Art and Culture category in both 2015 and 2016, as well as the 2014 IMRO Award for Munster

Live Music Venue of the Year, UCH boasts a hugely varied, year round programme which caters for all tastes whether your passion is opera, comedy, music, drama or pantomime!

Some of the biggest names in their fields have performed on the UCH stage, from comedians Jimmy Carr, Dara O'Briain and Billy Connolly, singer/songwriters Van Morrison, Imelda May (pictured above), Albert Hammond and legendary Irish musician Christy Moore to large scale opera, the annual Irish Chamber Orchestra season and performances by the RTÉ National Symphony and Concert Orchestras.

There is truly something for everyone.

At Christmas bring the family to what is regarded as one of the best pantos in Ireland, and the only full scale professional production in the region, starring national celebrities and local stars alike!

“Some of the biggest names in their fields have performed on the UCH stage

Come early and dine in the delightful Allegro restaurant, adjacent to UCH, have a drink in the bar, browse the Watercolour Collection of Ireland located in the lobby, then sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

A visit to University Concert Hall is a truly unique experience.

Check out [www.uch.ie](http://www.uch.ie) for full listings or keep in touch on Facebook (@UniversityConcertHall), Twitter (@UCHLimerick) or Instagram (@uchlimerick).

# Venues Aplenty

Aside from larger scale venues, Limerick doesn't want for performance spaces of all shapes and sizes.

**Dolan's Warehouse** (061-314483; [www.dolans.ie](http://www.dolans.ie)) is a venue beloved among musicians and fans alike for its electric atmosphere. The renowned live music venue, adjoining Dolan's Pub and Restaurant facing Limerick Docks, has played host to hundreds of leading music, comedy and theatrical artists since 1998. The **KASBAH Social Club** next door to Dolan's (061-314483; [www.facebook.com/KASBAHsocialclub](http://www.facebook.com/KASBAHsocialclub)) is another good spot for live music.

Located on Sarsfield street, **Pharmacia** doubles as a cocktail bar and event venue, popular with a youthful crowd, and regularly features live bands, DJs and theme nights.

A Limerick mainstay since the 1960s, **Jerry Flannery's** bar on Catherine Street has recently extended its offerings to include a gig venue. A well liked hangout for Munster Rugby fans, the new extension is sure to make Flannery's even more popular with regulars and newcomers alike.

**Friars' Gate Theatre** in Kilmallock (063-98727; [www.friarsgate.ie](http://www.friarsgate.ie)) has a diverse, year-round programme of theatre, music, visual art and other cultural events. **The Honey Fitz**



**Theatre** near Lough Gur is used both as a theatre and community hall. It hosts occasional events, often for the Lough Gur Dramatic Society and the Lough Gur Storytelling Festival at Halloween (061-385386; [www.loughgur.com/honey-fitz-theatre](http://www.loughgur.com/honey-fitz-theatre)).

**Dance Limerick** is based in a beautifully refurbished former church in the city's John's Square—hosting dance and other artistic events (061-467813; [www.dancelimerick.ie](http://www.dancelimerick.ie)).

**The Millennium Theatre** in Limerick Institute of Technology (061-293190; [www.litmt.ie](http://www.litmt.ie)) hosts performances of all

types and **The Irish World Academy of Music and Dance** at UL has regular concerts and dance recitals ([www.irishworldacademy.ie](http://www.irishworldacademy.ie)).

“Played host to hundreds of leading music, comedy and theatrical artists

**Limerick Writers' Centre** ([www.limerickwriterscentre.com](http://www.limerickwriterscentre.com)) runs regular literary events in venues including the café in Arthur's Quay Park, Chez le Fab. A new addition to Limerick's arts scene is the Limerick Theatre and Performance Hub A.K.A **The Gaff** based in Red Cross Hall on Cecil Street ([www.thegafflimerick.com](http://www.thegafflimerick.com)). It is a resource and development space as well as a venue. **The Loft** venue (061-413733; [www.lockebar.com](http://www.lockebar.com)) overhead the Locke Bar on George's Quay is a multi-purpose venue hosting occasional music, theatre and comedy events.

Live music is the most common form of entertainment in local bars. In the past few years, site-specific events are more common too so non-typical venues are often used. Keep an eye on local press and [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) for up to date event listings.



Dolan's Warehouse

# 3

*Limerick has an excellent range of festivals and events all year round with something to suit everyone.*

# Festivals & Events



# Riverfest makes a *Splash!*

“ A four day  
extravaganza which  
regularly draws  
crowds in excess of  
100,000 people

One of the biggest and most popular festivals in Limerick, Riverfest is a four day extravaganza which regularly draws crowds in excess of 100,000 people. Taking place during the May bank holiday, Riverfest kicks off the summer with exciting events such as the Great Limerick Run, Fashion Friday, and the establishment of the “Riverfestival Village” at Arthur’s Quay Park. With a fabulous array of food stalls, arts, crafts, unique attractions and entertainment, Riverfest is definitely one of the highlights of the year. A fun weekend for all the family, the festival is perfectly capped off by the biggest fireworks display in the country!





# Festival Fever

From sports to literature, family fun to music, Limerick hosts a wide variety of festivals all year round. There are well over 40 cultural events in any given year in Limerick and below is just a taste...

## February

Readers and writers both can enjoy a host of readings, discussions and more for the **Limerick Literary Festival**, which is held in honour of prominent Limerick writer, Kate O'Brien from the 22nd to 24th February. ([www.limerickliteraryfestival.com](http://www.limerickliteraryfestival.com))

## March

Mid-month, the streets come alive with the **Limerick St. Patrick's Day Festival**. The St. Patrick's Day parade on 17 March attracts up to 70,000 spectators. The festival also incorporates the **Limerick International Band Championship**—a hotly contested competition to find the best marching band.

The **Fresh Film Festival** screens the work of young filmmakers and holds workshops in March. ([www.freshfilmfestival.net](http://www.freshfilmfestival.net))

## April

The **Limerick Soviet 100** takes place including plays and films, podcast and book launches, music and debates. Take part and help us rekindle the flame of revolution in Limerick. ([limericksoviet100.ie](http://limericksoviet100.ie))

Also in April will be the **Limerick Writers Festival**, showcasing the best from the world of poetry, including local, national and international readers. Inaugurated in 2013 it has now grown into a nationally recognised, all-poetry festival for lovers of poetry, and a world-class, life-enriching series of events for participants and audiences alike.

From the 3rd-6th April the **Limerick Fringe Festival** will be taking over the city, offering cabaret, comedy, dance, music, theatre, and family events. A non-profit which supports and encourages arts and culture in Limerick, the Fringe is not to be missed! ([www.limerickfringe.com](http://www.limerickfringe.com))

## May

The summer festival season kicks off on the May bank holiday with a number of events. Arguably the biggest of these on the local calendar is **Riverfest**, which gets the entire city into party mode. A celebration of all that is great about Limerick, there are barbeques, fireworks, markets, street performances and much more. ([www.limerick.ie/riverfest](http://www.limerick.ie/riverfest))

Regeneration **Great Limerick Run** (held at the end of the Bank Holiday weekend) has grown hugely since it began a few short years ago, attracting thousands of participants. The road race through the city caters for walkers and runners of all abilities right up to marathon level. ([www.greatlimerickrun.com](http://www.greatlimerickrun.com))

Outside the city in Abbeyfeale is the famous **Fleadh by the Feale**, a traditional music festival taking place over the May bank holiday, offering trad fans a chance to watch and participate in musical performances, competitions and workshops. ([fleadhbythefeale.com](http://fleadhbythefeale.com))



### June

The **Limerick Sings International Choral Festival** this month ([www.limericksings.com](http://www.limericksings.com)) is a non-competitive celebration of choral music. 6th - 9th June

**Alliance Francaise Trés Court International Film Festival** takes place on June 7th. ([www.trescourt.com/limerick](http://www.trescourt.com/limerick))

The **Limerick Garden Festival** on 16th June Limerick Milk Market featuring an exciting plant, garden & food market with over 50 traders from all over Ireland, all-day garden expert talks and many opportunities for gardeners, their families and friends to enjoy, engage and experience all things gardening. ([www.limerickgardenfestival.com](http://www.limerickgardenfestival.com))

From the 22nd to 30th of June **BeSPOKE cycling festival** will take place with a number of free cycling related events across the city as part of the National Bike Week. Get on your bike and celebrate all things bicycle!

### July

Ireland's largest tag rugby festival, the **Pig 'n' Porter Festival** attracts teams from all over Ireland and the world for fun and sport on July 13th ([www.pignporter.com](http://www.pignporter.com))

Limerick turns rainbow coloured during the **Limerick LGBTQ Pride Festival** from July 5th to 14th ([www.limerickpride.ie](http://www.limerickpride.ie)). The lively and positive atmosphere celebrates Limerick's diverse culture. The programme includes a pride parade and the crowning of Mr and Mrs Gay Limerick as well as other artistic and information events.

On 28th to 30th June **Spirit of the City** outdoor summer bash extravaganza is taking place in Arthur's Quay park and is all about showcasing the best of everything spirits, craft beers and artisan food.

Perfect for lovers of literature is the annual **Weekend of Words**, a literary festival hosted by local group, Stanzas, to celebrate poetry, short stories, and spoken word by emerging writers. ([stanzas.ie](http://stanzas.ie))

### August

In August Limerick will host the annual **Bring Your Limericks to Limerick Festival**, a three day celebration of literature, arts and culture beginning on 16th August.

From August 8th to 15th, the Fusion Fighters Dance Crew will host the **Fusion Dance Fest**, a celebration of dance in forms as diverse as Irish dance, tap, contemporary and hip hop. Across the eight days there will be a variety of workshops, seminars, and events, and the festival will culminate with a student showcase at the Millennium Theatre, followed by a trip to the Fleadh Cheoil. ([www.fusiondancefest.com](http://www.fusiondancefest.com))

Each year, during the last week of August, a number of events will be taking place across Limerick for **National Heritage Week**. This year's theme is "Pastimes | Past Times" and is sure to offer visitors a unique opportunity to learn about and appreciate local history and heritage.



### September

Throughout September there will be a celebration of Limerick's vibrant culinary scene with the **Pigtown Limerick: Culture and Food Series**. The festival will offer a number of talks on history, and topical food-related issues, as well as walking tours, workshops, and tasting events - definitely a must-visit for any gourmet! ([www.pigtown.ie](http://www.pigtown.ie))

**The Limerick Jazz Festival** attracts the best Irish and international contemporary jazz artists from September 27th to 30th ([www.limerickjazzfestival.com](http://www.limerickjazzfestival.com)). For a broader display of Limerick's cultural offering, the National annual event, **Culture Night** on September 20th is always bursting with events and late opening in Limerick's cultural hotspots.

**The Éigse Michael Hartnett Poetry, Arts & Literary Festival** takes place in Newcastle West in Co. Limerick ([www.eigsemichaelhartnett.ie](http://www.eigsemichaelhartnett.ie)). Honouring the well-known poet, it includes lectures, poetry readings and more.

### October

**The Make a Move Festival** celebrates hip-hop culture and urban art, showcasing the creative talents and skills of dancers, rappers and graffiti artists among others. ([www.makeamove.ie](http://www.makeamove.ie))

**The Richard Harris International Film Festival** marks the outstanding career of one of Limerick's most famous sons—actor, director and producer, Richard Harris ([www.richardharrisfilmfestival.com](http://www.richardharrisfilmfestival.com)). There are a variety of events including film screenings from 22nd to 28th October.

Limerick holds the **Open House Festival of Architecture** from 18th to 20th October. ([www.openhouselimerick.ie](http://www.openhouselimerick.ie))

From the 6th to the 19th of October the city will celebrate the **Bualadh Bos Children's Festival**. With events such as theatre performances, readings, and workshops taking place in the Belltable and the Lime Tree Theatre, the festival promises to capture the imaginations of audiences young and old alike.

### November

Taking place from the 6th - 27th of November, the **Soulscapes 2019** a series of rich evenings for the mind and spirit. Celebrates and reflects on the human spirit through art, word, music, dance and song.

Organised by the University of Limerick, Mary Immaculate College, and the Limerick Institute of Technology, Limerick's **Festival of Science** is an

educational and exciting exploration of the role of science in our everyday lives. Catch some of the free events at various venues around the city.

### December

At **Christmas** time, the city transforms into a winter wonderland which brings Santa Claus, ice skating, special markets, concerts and pantomimes to the city to warm the heart on chilly days.

**The Limerick Christmas Racing Festival** ([www.limerickraces.ie](http://www.limerickraces.ie)) is a highlight of the festive celebrations in Limerick. This four-day racing festival features national hunt racing as well as lots of extra entertainment at Limerick Racecourse. The course has a year round calendar of racing events too.

This is just a selection of the wonderful things taking place in Limerick throughout the year, and there are many more festivals and events to be discovered. Dates and details are subject to change.

See [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) for more information.



4

*There is oodles to see and experience in Limerick so whatever your interest, you'll never be short of something to do.*

# Get Active in Limerick

## Don't Miss!

- \* Seeing amazing sights and learning new facts while taking a walking or bus tour around Limerick.
- \* Setting your pulse racing with excitement with an active pursuit or adventure activity.
- \* Shouting encouragement until hoarse at a sports match or event.
- \* Enjoying indoor fun at a play centre, bowling alley or cinema.
- \* Getting out in the fresh air in a city park or county beauty spot.
- \* Using Limerick as a gateway to the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's vast coastal driving route.

# Walking Tours & More

If you fancy exploring on shanks' mare as the old saying goes, Limerick offers a variety of interesting walking tours.

There are two guides who run guided walking tours leaving periodically from Limerick Tourist Office on 20 O'Connell Street. The tours on offer include **Historical Limerick** and the **Angela's Ashes Walking Tour**—which takes in places mentioned in Frank McCourt's Pulitzer Prize winning memoir. The tours cover many notable locations in the city. Call 061-317522 or see [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) for more information on these tours and booking.

**Limerick Civic Trust** runs walking tours of Limerick twice daily on weekdays—leaving from its HQ, Bishop's Palace. The general tour covers the history of Limerick on the Shannon from 9th century to the modern day. The trust is happy to help arrange expertly-

guided tours as additional extras to its walking tours, focusing on specific aspects of local history. For more information on these, call 061-313399 or see [www.limerickcivictrust.ie/walking-tours](http://www.limerickcivictrust.ie/walking-tours).

**Historical Limerick Up Close and Personal** is a tour by the community project, St Mary's AID. The tour takes in St Mary's Cathedral, the Hunt Museum, the Treaty Stone and King John's Castle, for example and the price includes a complimentary tea/coffee at Hunt Museum Café. For more information, call 087-6163250 or see [stmarysaid.blogspot.ie](http://stmarysaid.blogspot.ie).

**Limerick City Walking Tours with The Hunt Museum** is another option, promising captivating stories of Limerick's past and present and a chance to experience the architecture, history and folklore of the city. Tours depart from the museum on Rutland Street and

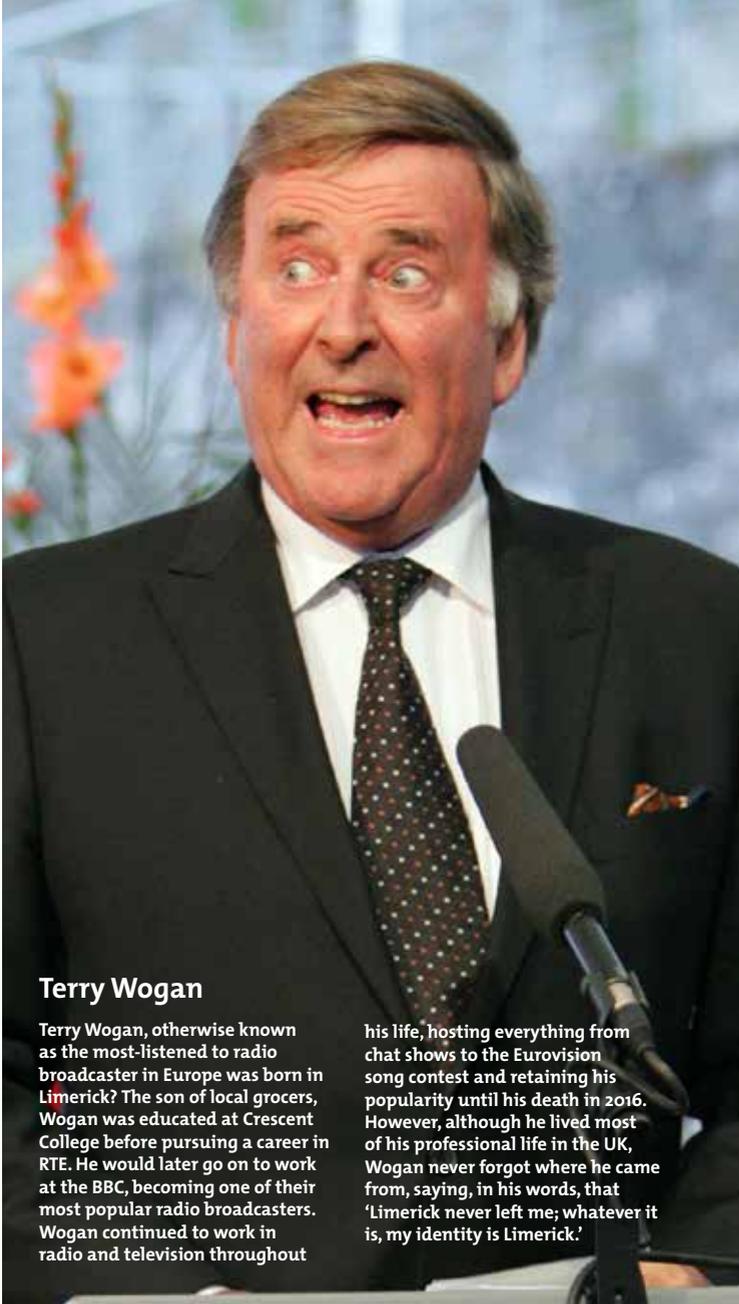
times can be tailored to suit you. Further information available at 083-3000111, 061-312833

If you want to tour the main sights in a horse-drawn carriage, **Limerick Carriage Tours** (085-1578356; [www.limerickcarriagetours.com](http://www.limerickcarriagetours.com)) can do just that.

There are a few self-guided options in County Limerick such as the free downloadable audioguide to Bruff, available from [www.visitballyhoura.com](http://www.visitballyhoura.com), and a tour of Kilmallock on [www.abartaaudioguides.com](http://www.abartaaudioguides.com).

There are other guided/walking tours of sites in the county available too for Lough Gur, Griston Bog in Ballyhoura and Desmond Castle in Adare, for example.

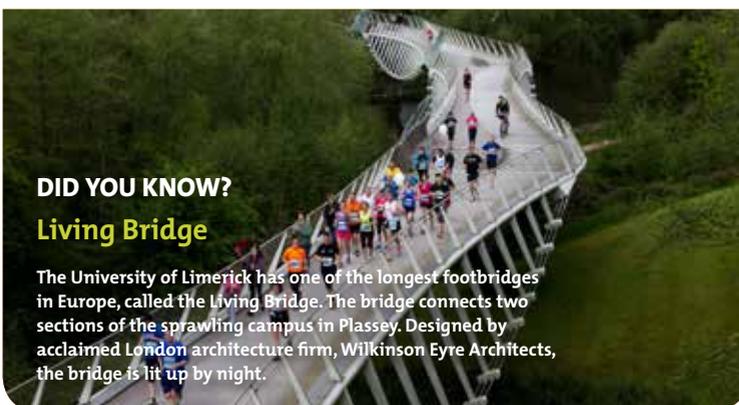
For more information on tours in Limerick, see [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie).



## Terry Wogan

Terry Wogan, otherwise known as the most-listened to radio broadcaster in Europe was born in Limerick? The son of local grocers, Wogan was educated at Crescent College before pursuing a career in RTE. He would later go on to work at the BBC, becoming one of their most popular radio broadcasters. Wogan continued to work in radio and television throughout

his life, hosting everything from chat shows to the Eurovision song contest and retaining his popularity until his death in 2016. However, although he lived most of his professional life in the UK, Wogan never forgot where he came from, saying, in his words, that 'Limerick never left me; whatever it is, my identity is Limerick.'



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Living Bridge

The University of Limerick has one of the longest footbridges in Europe, called the Living Bridge. The bridge connects two sections of the sprawling campus in Plassey. Designed by acclaimed London architecture firm, Wilkinson Eyre Architects, the bridge is lit up by night.

## TIMELINE

### Limerick History

- 
- 812 – A settlement at Limerick is founded by the Vikings.
- 
- 1197 – Limerick City gets a Charter of incorporation from King John 1 of England.
- 
- 1212 – King John's Castle completed.
- 
- 1650/51– Oliver Cromwell's forces besiege the city. The opposing force of Irish Confederate Catholics and English Royalists eventually surrender.
- 
- 1690 – Jacobite forces are besieged by the Williamite army in Limerick.
- 
- 1691 – Second siege of Limerick by Williamite forces. Treaty of Limerick is signed as Jacobites surrender.
- 
- 1765- Edmund Sexton Pery commissions an engineer to plan a new city on his land. 'Newtown Pery' makes up a large portion of the city's central business district today.
- 
- 1852- Limerick Market Trustees are incorporated, running the city's markets.
- 
- 1877- People's Park opens to the public.
- 
- 1919- Limerick's self declared 'Soviet' lasts for 12 days in April.
- 
- 1942- Shannon Airport begins to operate.
- 
- 1972- First enrolment of students in Limerick's National Institute for Higher Education (NIHE), which later becomes the University of Limerick in 1989.
- 
- 1979- Pope John Paul II visits Limerick.
- 
- 1981- The Belltable Arts Centre is established.
- 
- 1998- US President, Bill Clinton, visits Limerick.
- 
- 2010- Limerick hosts the Special Olympics Ireland Games
- 
- 2011- Limerick is designated as European City of Sport
- 
- 2014- Limerick City is the first Irish city to be national City of Culture.

## Shannon Ferries

Killimer, Kilrush, Co. Clare

065-9053124

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

‘A gateway between the South and Mid-West,’ Shannon Ferries offer a ferry service between counties Kerry and Clare, saving travellers a huge 137 kilometres of driving! Offering an unrivalled service to tourists and locals alike, allowing them to take in more of Ireland’s beautiful scenery and tourist hotspots with ease, Shannon Ferries links the picturesque Tralee and Dingle regions to the untamed beauty of the Burren and the Cliffs of Moher.

Established in 1969 in response to the demand for a route across the Shannon Estuary from Kerry to Clare, the Shannon Ferries service now operates two ferries, the Shannon Breeze and the Shannon Dolphin, which depart from Tarbert in Co. Kerry to Killimer in Co. Clare.

Ideally located on the Wild Atlantic Way, Shannon Ferries offers travellers a break from the road with their 20 minute passage across the Shannon. Aiming to



promote tourism in Kerry and Clare, as well as surrounding regions, Shannon Ferries facilitates laid back, enjoyable travel.

Choose from the mixture of majestic mountains and ever changing coastlines, lakelands, woodlands and bustling towns in Kerry, or the equally majestic Atlantic coastline in Clare. Loop Head is one of the most remote and wonderful places in Ireland. The Loop Head Drive will take you to numerous scenic locations as well as to cliff angling spots. The County of Limerick is a place of rural charm and

great beauty, with a gently undulating landscape that varies from the mountains of Ballyhoura in the Golden Vale to the Shannon Estuary. With Shannon Ferries, the possibilities are endless and there is something to suit everyone! You might even get to see a dolphin or two!

The service accommodates pedestrian passengers, cyclists, cars, coaches, mini-buses, and commercial vehicles, with ticket prices starting at €4.50. Throughout the summer months, the ferries run from 7.00am to 9.30pm. Visit the website for more information.



## Nevsail Watersports and Rock Climbing

086-3308236

[www.nevsailwatersports.ie](http://www.nevsailwatersports.ie)

[www.limerickadventures.ie](http://www.limerickadventures.ie)

For your next adventure why not give Nevsail Watersports and Rock Climbing a go? Operating over 15 years in Limerick City and Kilkee in Co. Clare, Nevsail Watersports and Rock Climbing

offers adventure and fun for everyone. Owner Dave Neville wants to share his love of adventure and outdoor activity in a safe and friendly environment.

From the Hunt Museum in Limerick you can try your hand at kayaking, canoeing, stand up paddle boarding, raft building, sailing and boating tours, and sessions along the mighty Shannon. Nevsail’s indoor rock climbing wall (also based in the city) offers rock climbing, abseiling, archery, archery

tag, orienteering, treasure hunts, team challenges, and lots more such as our NEW Abseiling Thomond Park Adventures.

With great rates available, Nevsail has a proven track record in safe, fun-filled friendly adventure (all staff are fully qualified). Anyone can take part from the age of 4+ years and no previous skills or knowledge is needed, (beginners to advanced participants are all welcome).

**“ Proven track record in safe, fun-filled friendly adventure ”**

Nevsail caters for individuals, small to large group outings such as birthday parties, family gatherings, cubs/scouts/girl guides, school tours, stags/hens, work/sports and social outings, and corporate groups. Kids/teens watersports and adventure camps are also available.

Nevsail also operates an adventure centre from Kilkee in Co. Clare if you happen to be travelling along the Wild Atlantic Way. See the website for more information.



Paddywagon Tours

## Paddywagon Tours

Unit 4, Arthur's Quay Shopping Centre

061-419341

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

With top reviews across Tripadvisor, not to mention being voted 'Most Fun Tour' by close to a million travellers from across the world, Paddywagon Tours is a

safe bet if you're looking to see Ireland and have the craic!

With a range of day-long tours running all year round from Limerick, there's no better way to see the beautiful Irish landscape. Tours include Dingle (encompassing Inch beach, Ventry, the Beehive Huts, Sleah Head grotto and Clogherhead), the Ring of Kerry (Killorglin, Dingle Bay, Cahersiveen, Waterville, Killarney National Park and

Torc Waterfall), and the Cliffs of Moher (Doolin, the Burren, Bunratty Castle and, of course, the cliffs).

Paddywagon also caters for private hire so you can design your own tour for groups and special occasions.

**“Paddywagon Tours is a safe bet if you're looking to see Ireland and have the craic!**

Each Paddywagon comes armed with free Wi-Fi on board so sharing all your travel snaps with your friends is a breeze.

Paddywagon does everything from two-day to nine-day tours from its headquarters in Dublin and also has hostels countrywide.

Visit the Limerick office for information, bookings, gifts and souvenirs. Be sure to check the Facebook and Twitter pages regularly for special offers and competitions. Avail of 10% discount using code: limck10



Killaloe River Cruises

## Killaloe River Cruises

Lakeside Drive Ballina,  
Killaloe, Co. Clare

086-8140559

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

Killaloe River Cruises provides tours of the River Shannon and Lough Derg. A commentary is provided on all interesting sites as you cruise by. Relax as you take in the breath-taking scenery along the iconic River Shannon nestled in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.

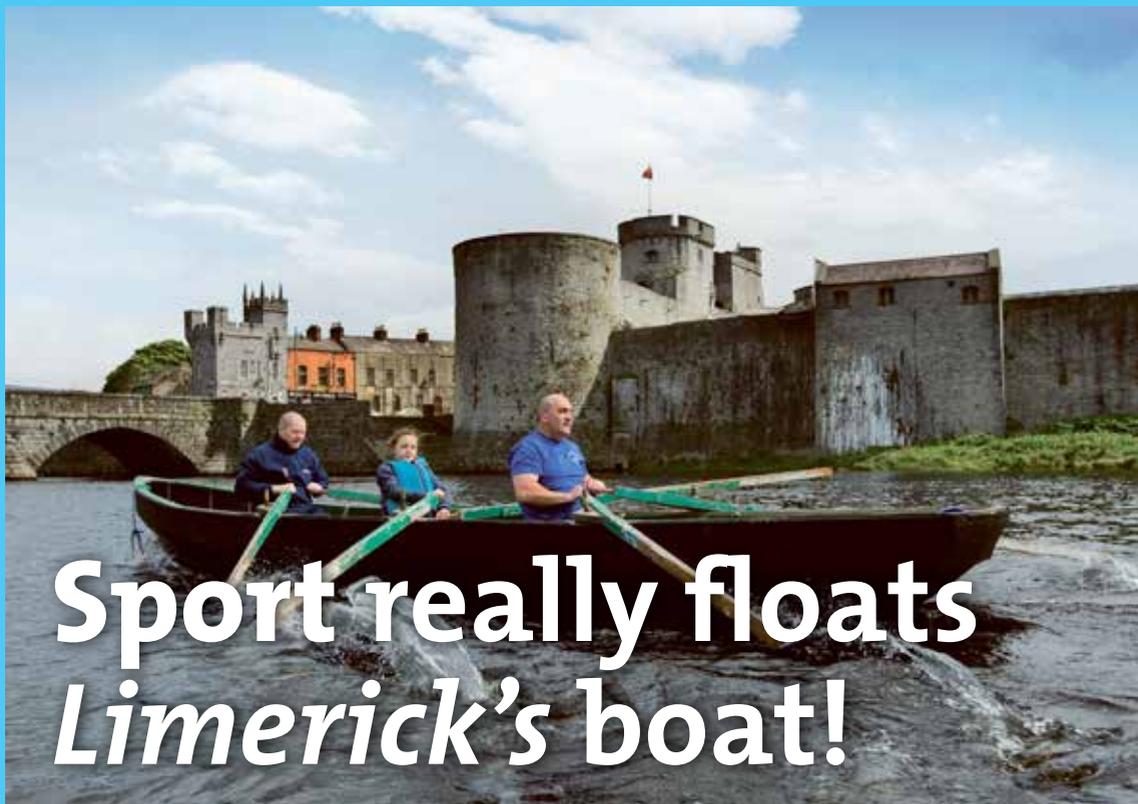
The purpose-built passenger boat has

two decks to maximise your opportunity to take in the natural charm of Killaloe and Ballina. The upper deck has seating for all passengers. The lower deck is fully heated with large panoramic windows for an uninterrupted view. Unwind with an Irish Coffee or one of the many drinks served at the bar.

Whatever the reason, whatever the season the Spirit of Killaloe boat is available to hire privately and provides the perfect setting for any event or occasion. A flexible departure time can be arranged. For more information email [info@spiritofkillaloe.ie](mailto:info@spiritofkillaloe.ie).

Tickets are available on their website for daily cruises.

**“Relax as you take in the breath-taking scenery along the iconic River Shannon nestled in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands**



**From the ‘Red Army’ to the ‘Super Blues’ to the green and white of GAA, Limerick is famous for its sporting prowess.**

**N**ot only has the Treaty City produced a large number of great sports people but also has a reputation for excellent facilities and resounding support. Sport is so prevalent that Limerick had the honour of being the European City of Sport. Not bad for the third largest city in a small nation like Ireland!

Sport is woven into the fabric of the city. Rugby, hurling, Gaelic football and soccer are the most popular sports around the city with teams from school children right up to senior levels. Cricket, boxing, basketball, tennis, golf, handball, athletics and more are also played. With the river Shannon such a prominent feature, it is no wonder that rowing is another widespread pursuit.

Munster Rugby has a huge presence but club rugby in city and county has enjoyed a lot of success too, with many players rising through the ranks to represent province and country.

Limerick GAA is another giant on the sporting landscape. The Shannonsiders’ jerseys bears the legend ‘Sporting Limerick’ instead of a traditional

sponsor. This is a non-commercial entity that aims to capture “all that is good and positive about Limerick sport.”

The logo is carried by several other teams and bodies and available to everyone. This initiative is strongly supported by millionaire businessman and philanthropist, JP McManus. McManus is a lifelong GAA fan and there are many more like him who turn out in their thousands for home games in the Gaelic Grounds during GAA season. The Gaelic Grounds is the largest capacity stadium in the city with space for nearly 50,000 people.

Both the men’s and ladies’ teams have done their county proud many times. In 2018 the Limerick Ladies Football Team won the All-Ireland Ladies Junior Football Championship in Croke Park and that same year the Limerick Senior Hurling Team won the All-Ireland Championship - their first since 1973, and a moment of great pride to the county. The senior team has won around 18 provincial, seven All Ireland championships and 38 other honours between all levels and competitions.



© Liam Burke/Press 22

In camogie (ladies' hurling), the county team has won honours in various categories at national level. Limerick's Intermediate camogie team won the 2014 All Ireland title.

In Gaelic football, the senior team has won two All Ireland championships and 12 other honours. The local club championships are fiercely contested, as are the schools competitions. For fixtures and information, see [www.limerickgaa.ie](http://www.limerickgaa.ie).

Limerick also has a proud tradition of soccer. There are hundreds of local teams playing, from the schoolboy league upwards. Limerick FC is currently in the premier division of the League of Ireland. It has a rich history, winning several regional and Irish titles and competing in European competitions six times. Its home games are now played at its historical home at Market's Field. Fixtures and information are on [www.limerickfc.ie](http://www.limerickfc.ie).

Its stellar reputation has meant that Limerick has hosted many large sporting events. These have included the 2010 and 2014 Special Olympics Ireland Games, the World Rugby 7s 2014 and 2015, the All-Ireland Corporate Games, the 2008 and 2009 Irish Open Golf Championships, the JP McManus Pro-Am, the European Duathlon Championships and the World Powerlifting Championships.

**“The motto of the Munster Rugby team is ‘To the brave and faithful, nothing is impossible’**

The motto of the Munster Rugby team is “To the brave and faithful, nothing is impossible” and Limerick natives have taken that to heart, taking on amazing tasks of endurance. Sean McGowan was

**“A reputation for excellent facilities and resounding support**

the first Irishman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Rob Mortell was the youngest Irishman to summit Mount Everest. During an illustrious climbing career, in which he won accolades for heroism, Ger McDonnell was the first Irishman to reach the top of K2. He died in a tragic accident on his descent.

Limerick people have excelled in many other sporting endeavours. Boxers, Andy Lee and Willie Casey, contested many a fight for European and World titles. Limerick physical therapist, Ger Hartmann treats many world-class athletes. Tennis player, Conor Niland, played at Wimbledon in 2011. Just a few of Limerick's sports personalities include many rugby stars like Peter Clohessy and Paul O'Connell, Olympic rower Sam Lynch, GAA legends, Mick Mackey and Ciarán Carey, International soccer player, Al Finucane and Transplant Games medal-winner, John Loftus.

With thousands of Limerick's young people participating in sports regularly, its heritage will live on for a long while yet. ‘Sporting Limerick’ will continue to draw the crowds to behold its success.





# The Rugby Capital

**In Limerick, rugby union is less a past-time and more a passion which has endured for over 130 years.**

For a relatively small city, Limerick punches well above its weight in terms of the quality of its club rugby teams and has produced countless fine players for the professional and international field of play.

The sport is played widely in city and county, at all levels from schoolchildren up to the provincial team, Munster.

Where rugby elsewhere has an image of being somewhat a sport for the elite, rugby has traditionally cut across all classes in Munster. With a band of supporters known as ‘the Red Army,’ Munster Rugby has been a fixture in Limerick since 1879, based at Thomond Park Stadium (the team also plays games at Irish Independant Park in Cork).

The city is often ‘painted red’ with everything from flags to shop fronts for matches because of the proud tradition of the sport.

Its striking motto is “To the brave and faithful, nothing is impossible.” This adage has held strong over the years. Even before rugby turned into a professional sport in Ireland, Munster beat several international touring sides including Australia and New Zealand.

In the late nineties and early 2000s, Munster reached the finals of the European Cup twice only to be disappointed. After numerous daring attempts, Munster won the prestigious cup in 2006 and again in 2008. Giant screens broadcasted these finals live to thousands of people in the city centre. This was in addition to thousands of fans who attended the games, so Munster is famous for its fervent supporters as well as its winning ways.

## “Munster Rugby is bolstered in part by strong Limerick club sides

Munster also competes in the Pro-12 league, with teams from Scotland, Wales and Italy, and has also won that several times.

Munster Rugby is bolstered in part by strong Limerick club sides. Since the All Ireland League started, it has been dominated by teams from the city. Three clubs, Shannon, Garryowen and Young Munster, have won the competition 13 times between them. Other prominent Limerick clubs are Old Crescent, UL Bohemians, St. Mary’s, Thomond, Richmond and Bruff.

The popularity of women’s rugby is also on the rise and Limerick women have often been fixtures on Ireland and Lions squads. Joy Neville from the city is considered one of the greats of the game and is now a referee.

Local secondary schools like Crescent College Comprehensive, St. Munchin’s College and Ardscoil Ris have also enjoyed much success in junior and senior provincial competitions.

Renowned rugby players from Limerick include Colm Tucker, Tom Clifford, Mick English, Gerry McLoughlin, Peter Clohessy, Paul Wallace, Anthony Foley, John Hayes, Paul O’Connell, Eoin Reddan, Marcus Horan, David Wallace, Jerry Flannery, Conor Murray and Keith Earls... the list goes on!

The Pig’n’Porter, the largest tag rugby festival in the world, is held in Limerick every July and in 2014 and 2015, Thomond Park hosted the World Rugby 7s competition.

The love of rugby in Limerick has spawned many texts. *Alone it Stands* by local playwright, John Breen has toured nationally and abroad. The play is about Munster’s win against the All Blacks in 1978. The former editor of *The Limerick Leader* newspaper, Alan English (now group editorial director of Iconic Newspapers), has written two bestselling books on Munster Rugby and was also the ghost-writer on Paul O’Connell’s autobiography, *The Battle*.



## Thomond Park Experience

061-421100

[www.thomondpark.ie](http://www.thomondpark.ie)

Limerick has often been referred to as the spiritual home of Irish rugby and part of that is due to the fearsome reputation of the provincial team, Munster Rugby, and their base at the mighty Thomond Park Stadium.

Munster Rugby has grown into a global brand since the sport of rugby turned professional. The humble provincial pitch was transformed into a world-class stadium in 2008. Holding nearly 27,000 people on match days, the venue is famed for its unique atmosphere

for games and events such as concerts with the likes of Bruce Springsteen and Elton John.

### “ The spiritual home of Irish rugby

For an opportunity to follow in the footsteps of the players themselves, there is a stadium tour available, which gives visitors unprecedented ‘back stage’ access. Visitors can see the home and away dressing rooms, press conference areas, the Munster dug-out and walk down the tunnel to stand on the hallowed pitch.

The tour also includes a visit to the Munster Experience museum. The history of Munster and Thomond Park is outlined with lots of memorabilia and interactive/multimedia exhibits that allow you to practice your line-out skills, among other things. The museum and stadium tour is open on a daily basis (groups can be catered for too).

The newest additions include a Fan Zone Plaza, a dedicated Family Fun Zone area, a revamp of the Guinness Dug Out Bar and upgraded food and beverage facilities—all adding to the ultimate match-day experience.

The stadium also includes a first class range of conference and banqueting facilities. It can host conferences, gala dinners, exhibitions, weddings and all types of functions, large and small.

For further information contact:

#### **Museum & Stadium Tours**

061 421109; [museum@thomondpark.ie](mailto:museum@thomondpark.ie)

#### **Conference & Banqueting**

061 421129/00; [events@thomondpark.ie](mailto:events@thomondpark.ie)

#### **General Enquiries**

061 421100; [info@thomondpark.ie](mailto:info@thomondpark.ie).





Limerick Greyhound Stadium

## A Night at the Dogs

Limerick Greyhound Stadium,

Greenpark, Dock Road

Bookings: 061-448080

Stadium Direct: 061-448000

[www.limerickgreyhoundstadium.ie](http://www.limerickgreyhoundstadium.ie)

A night at Limerick Greyhound Stadium provides live, adrenaline pumped entertainment. Top class facilities (including The Leger Restaurant, 2 bars

and fast food dining options) ensure it is comfortable to watch the greyhound racing action from inside and out. The stadium caters for all ages and groups sizes.

“ There is live racing on Thursday & Saturday

There is live racing on Thursday & Saturday. Gates open at 6.00pm on Thursday with first race at 7.00pm and 6.30pm on Saturday with first race at 7.40pm.

With excellent entertainment and delicious fare on offer every weekend at Limerick Greyhound Stadium, there has never been a better time to 'go to the dogs'! Prices start from as little as €10 per person, visit their website for pricing and the latest offers.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Irish Coffee

Irish coffee, a brew infused with native whiskey, is said to have been invented in Limerick village, Foynes, in 1943. Chef, Joe Sheridan - who worked in the seaplane terminal there - devised it to warm some passengers up one chilly night. Today, there is a festival in the village on the June Bank Holiday weekend to celebrate the birth of this unique treat.

## Golf in Limerick

Golf is a passion in the mid-west and aside from those profiled here, there are many other fine courses to be found in Limerick and in nearby counties.

In city suburbs, you can find well-maintained parkland courses at the municipal course in Rathbane Golf Club and another at Castletroy Golf Club. Limerick Golf Club is located 6 km south of the city and Ballyneety Golf Club is just under 10 km south of the city.

There are also a number of parkland courses a short distance away in County

Limerick at Adare (Adare Golf Club, located at Adare Manor Hotel & Golf Resort and Adare Manor Golf Course), Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale as well as in Charleville in north Cork and Shannon, Ennis and Dromoland in Clare.

If you fancy some stunning coastal scenery to accompany your game you can find fantastic links courses in Lahinch and Doonbeg in Clare and Ballyunion in Kerry.

If you wish to perfect your short game, Monaleen Pitch & Putt will have you putting like a pro while the driving range in Coonagh or Ballyneety are a great place to work on strategies to hit the fairway every time.





UL Sport Arena

## UL Sport Arena

University of Limerick campus,  
Plassey  
061-213555  
[www.ulsport.ie](http://www.ulsport.ie)

The University of Limerick has one of the fastest growing campuses in Ireland and it is top of the class when it comes to sports facilities owing to the internationally renowned UL Sport Arena.

Aside from the Arena, UL has the whole package from pitches to cycle paths and walking trails - no surprise because of the large student population and vast collection of on-campus sports clubs/societies. But whether you're a casual gym-goer or an athlete in training, the general population makes use of everything too!

The UL Sport Arena incorporates the National 50m Swimming Pool; a 25m Diving Pool; the National Strength & Conditioning Centre; a cardio-fitness centre and a huge sports hall with four full sized basketball courts. Services include fitness studio classes and sports performance programmes. The arena also hosts special events and competitions.

The UL Sport Arena is home to Ireland's first Olympic sized pool and so attracts swimming clubs from home and abroad. Other disciplines like water polo, kayaking and sub-aqua diving take place weekly as well as water safety

classes and conditioning for sports clubs. Swimming classes for all ages and abilities and water-based exercise classes such as aqua-fit and aqua-jogging are very much in demand.

Recreational swimming is also very popular and this is available seven days a week (subject to classes/events). You have the options of purchasing a once off swim or a membership, there is a state of the art sauna and steam room included for you to enjoy.

## “ UL has the whole package, from pitches to cycle paths

The cardio-fitness centre has over 100 pieces of equipment - making it one of the largest and most comprehensive gyms in Ireland. It is designed to deal with any individual fitness level, from the basic beginner to elite/Olympic athlete. Members of the Munster Rugby team are regulars in the gym so that is an instant endorsement of its quality and ease of use. The staff can provide health assessments, advise on fitness programmes and personal training. Again, you can go on a session-to-session basis or become a member.

For a more structured approach, the UL Sport Arena offers a wide variety of fitness classes on a pay as you go basis

or as part of a package. These include Body Pump, Spinning, Pilates, Mind Body Fusion, Bootcamps, Freestyle Fitness Yoga, Box-Fit and more.

The sports hall is truly multi-purpose with multiple courts for basketball, badminton, volleyball, table tennis and indoor soccer. There is also an 80m indoor sprint track and a three-lane 225m suspended jogging track. Birthday parties with bouncy castles etc. can be organised on request.

For teams, the UL Sport Arena provides sports performance services such as sports science seminars and team fitness testing. Peripheral facilities include parking and the Arena Sports Club Bar & Restaurant. Latest additions to the sporting landscape include the fantastic North Campus Synthetic Pitches Development; two 2 - star FIFA approved soccer pitches, one full sized IRB approved rugby pitch and one full sized GAA pitch that has to be seen to be believed. They, along with the wonderful brand new restaurant 'The Pavilion,' exist to be enjoyed by everyone.

In 2019 Maguires South Campus Pitches opened featuring natural and synthetic grass pitches that include GAA and FIFA approved soccer surfaces. These in addition to the brand new 400m athletics track, make UL Sport the standard bearer when it comes to sports and recreational facilities, but they're not finished yet, as a magnificent 21m high climbing wall is due to be added in summer 2019!

# Family Fun!



There is plenty for families and children of all ages to see and do in Limerick whatever the weather or location. From tiny tots to teens, there are activities to suit everyone.

For a swim, you can pay a visit to a number of facilities. The 50 m swimming pool at the **Sports Arena in the University of Limerick** (061-213555) also makes for happy splashing. **Grove Island Leisure Centre** (061-350221) has a 25 metre swimming pool and two kids' pools. Both the UL Arena and Grove Island have gyms too and UL has a multitude of other sporting facilities like running tracks, tennis courts and sports fields.

If you want to play at being Rory McIlroy, try your hand at **Monaleen Pitch & Putt** (087-6954839) or **Adare Pitch & Putt** (087-6963420).

For something a little different, why not try some roller skating at **Rollerjam** (061-422500) or rock climbing at the **Nevsail** indoor climbing wall (086-3308236)? Take to the skies with your feet on the ground with flight simulation at **Atlantic Airventure** (061-363687) in Shannon.

For an exhilarating rush, go-karting is an exciting option. Make sure and check suitability for younger children.

Rev up at **Delta Karting** (061-603603), the **National Kart Centre** (061-340161) or **Kilcornan Karting** (061-393733).

Rain needn't put a dampener on plans because there are several great indoor activity centres offering a vast array of fun forays for kids. From imaginative play to super energetic physical play, these facilities have it all. They include **Tons of Fun** (061-431141), **Delta Lazer & Adventure Centre** (061-423994), **Formula for Fun** (061-603200) and **Kids Town** (061-348111).

“You can get up close with a whole host of animals, from goats to llamas and sheep to owls

In good weather, then a trip to either **Buttercup Farm** (061-397556) and **Stonehall Visitor Farm** (061-393940) is a must. You can get up close with a whole host of animals, from goats to llamas and sheep to owls. There are picnic areas and other activities on site too.

For older kids and teens, **Funworld** (061-325088) offers bowling, pool tables and arcade games.

A unique venue in Europe, Limerick's **Dreamland** is an inclusive, accessible, purpose built centre for disabled and sick children. Located at Park Point, Dreamland offers all children the chance to play no matter their ability. ([dreamland.ie](http://dreamland.ie))

A past winner of “Best Garden in Ireland,” the **Terra Nova Fairy Garden** offers delights for visitors of all ages. Located in Kilmallock, in the heart of the Golden Vale, the weaving pathways, beautiful flowers, and nearby fairy fort give this garden a unique atmosphere, promising a truly magical experience for all.

The city and county are filled with free parks and playgrounds too. Horseriding and trekking are family-friendly activities and Limerick and its environs have several equestrian centres. There are also many child-oriented tours and activities at many of the city's heritage and cultural outlets.

For more ideas on family activities, this guide has lots of information features in this section and others. For even more suggestions, see [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie).

## Tons Of Fun Children's Activity Centre

Unit H1, Eastway Business Park,  
Ballysimon Road V94 NP4o  
061-431141  
www.tonsoffun.ie

Play, learn and party! Discover Tons of Fun children's indoor activity centre, offering a safe, clean and secure soft play and adventure experience for 0-10 year olds (height restriction up to 147cm). With full cafe facilities and party packages to suit all, it's the ideal venue for a family fun day out!

The play areas are divided into age zones, with two areas dedicated to babies and wobblers, with a mini-roundabout, ball pools, assorted soft toys, ball jugglers, and ball lifters. The junior play area for 3-5 year olds is on two levels, with double wavy slides, ball pool and climbing maze. A three-level adventure maze is offered for over 5's, with overhead crawling nets and runways, wavy and tubular slides.

Children can explore the brand new and innovative sensory room, run around the soccer / basketball pitch, bounce in

mini trampolines or just chat and chill in the quiet playhouse area.

And while the children are busy at play, adults can relax in the comfortable seating areas and avail of magazines, newspapers and free Wi-Fi. The coffee shop serves a range of hot and cold drinks, confectionery, freshly prepared snacks and hot food.

“It's the ideal venue for a family fun day out!

Open Monday to Saturday from 10am, Sundays and Bank Holidays from 11am, last entry is 5pm every day. Check the website for current admission charges: discounts are offered for large groups and for children with special needs.

To help make your visit stress-free and enjoyable you'll find plenty of free parking outside the centre, wheelchair access, high chairs, and baby change facilities.

Tons of Fun also operates a Balloon Shop on site, selling a wide variety of



Tons Of Fun Children's Activity Centre

balloons, helium gas and accessories for all occasions. Wholesale and retail customers welcome.

GPS: 52.649, -8.

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Local Cinema

Cinema has always been one of Limerick's most popular pursuits. Aside from the three cinemas operating here currently, at least 13 cinemas of various sizes and locations existed previously in the city and environs—often doubling as concert halls and dance venues. The county town of Dromcollogher was the site of one of the biggest fire disasters in Irish history when 48 people died in a timber barn being used as a temporary cinema in 1926. The fire started when a candle ignited a reel of nitrate film stock.

#### Broadcasting Legend

Ciarán Mac Mathúna, famous radio broadcaster and authority on Irish music, was born in Limerick in 1925. He spent his life travelling around Ireland, the British Isles and America collecting music, songs, stories and poetry to ensure their preservation. He joined Radio Éireann in 1954, where he recorded many Irish traditional musicians. He began his Sunday morning radio series *Mo Cheol Thú* in 1970 and the programme continued for 35 years.

#### Riverdance

Composer, musician and producer, Bill Whelan, was born in Limerick in 1950. He is perhaps best known for composing *Riverdance*. It began as a seven minute piece, accompanying a dazzling display of Irish dancing, for the interval of the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest but became a full-length stage production. The original piece was released as a single, reaching Number 9 in the UK charts. He composed several film scores and played with several bands including Planxty and Stockton's Wing. As a producer, he has worked with U2, Van Morrison and Kate Bush to name a few.

#### Mr Writer

Author, Kevin Barry, was born in Limerick in 1969. Widely travelled and now living in Sligo, he won the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature for his first short story collection, *There are Little Kingdoms*, in 2007. In 2011, his debut novel, *City of Bohane*, was published and subsequently won the prestigious International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 2013.

#### Buried Treasure

One of Ireland's greatest treasures, the Ardagh Chalice, was found in County Limerick in 1868. Two boys digging in a field near a ring fort discovered the artefact among a large hoard of objects. The silver chalice is thought to be from the Early Christian period (around the 8th century) and is decorated with enamel, gold, bronze, pewter and brass. The chalice now resides in the National Museum of Ireland (Archaeology) in Dublin.

#### Sheeran's Girl

Pop hitmaker Ed Sheeran is a big fan of Irish traditional music and Antrim-based trad/folk outfit, Beoga, are featured on his latest album, *Divide*. The fiddle player and vocalist in the band is Limerick native, Niamh Dunne, and Sheeran recently revealed that she inspired the song, 'Galway Girl.' Niamh's father, Mickey, is a well-known piper. Beoga have enjoyed international success in their own right; the band's third album was shortlisted for a Grammy award.



# Parks and Playgrounds



People's Park



People's Park

**N**aturalist John Muir said “everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul” and there are plenty of parks around Limerick where you can take a break and recharge in the quiet of a well-maintained park, away from the hustle and bustle. Read on to learn about the local parks to discover.

## People's Park

Located at the heart of the Georgian Quarter, the People's Park in Pery Square was formally opened in 1877, and gifted to the people of Limerick City in memory of Richard Russell, a prominent local businessman.

People's Park boasts a number of interesting items including two gazebos, a 19th century bandstand and an ornate, restored drinking fountain.

In the middle of the park, there is a free-standing limestone column erected in 1829 by the Barrington family as a memorial for Thomas Spring Rice, MP to Limerick city in the 19th century.

More recent additions to the park include a children's playground.

The park has a large selection of mature, deciduous and evergreen trees such as ash, beech, elm, flowering cherry, hawthorn, lime, maple, oak, poplar and willow as well as a beautiful array of flowers.

The People's Park won the Best Local Park Special Category Award in 2003.

## Arthur's Quay Park

By the banks of the River Shannon, opposite the Arthur's Quay Shopping Centre is Arthur's Quay Park. Populated by lime trees that surround a central plaza, the park has spectacular views of Curragour Falls and the Clare hills. The park was opened in January 1991 by former president Mary Robinson. It is often a venue for local events.



Fun Day in People's Park

© Sean O'Dwyer  
Mount Kennett Skate Park

© Fáilte Ireland

Robert Byrne Park



Mungret Park and Playground

## The Custom House Park

Behind the Hunt Museum, one can find the Custom House Park. This riverside park forms part of the riverside walk and contains some beautiful specimens of horse chestnut, London plane, maple and sycamore trees.

## O'Brien Park

On Clare Street, your eye will be drawn to the freestanding concrete gateway with a classical triumphant arch that marks the entrance to the delightful O'Brien Park. Among the mature trees here you can find alder, birch, hornbeam, mountain ash, ornamental pear and whitebeam trees. There is also a park shelter and cast iron drinking fountain, as well as a small children's playground, which was updated in 2002.

## Robert Byrne Park

Previously known as the Curragour Park, the Robert Byrne Park is situated on Clancy Strand. Sit beneath the lime trees and watch the river flow by or feed the famous Shannon swans.

## Russell Park

Between the North Circular Road and Condell Road lies Russell Park, which is popular with walkers and runners. The park is well known for a glorious host of daffodils that appear in the springtime.

## Shelbourne Park

Reopened in 2009 following extensive renovations, Shelbourne Park has a 710 metre looped walk for walkers and cyclists, two soccer pitches and a children's playground. It is located between Hassett's Cross and Union Cross.

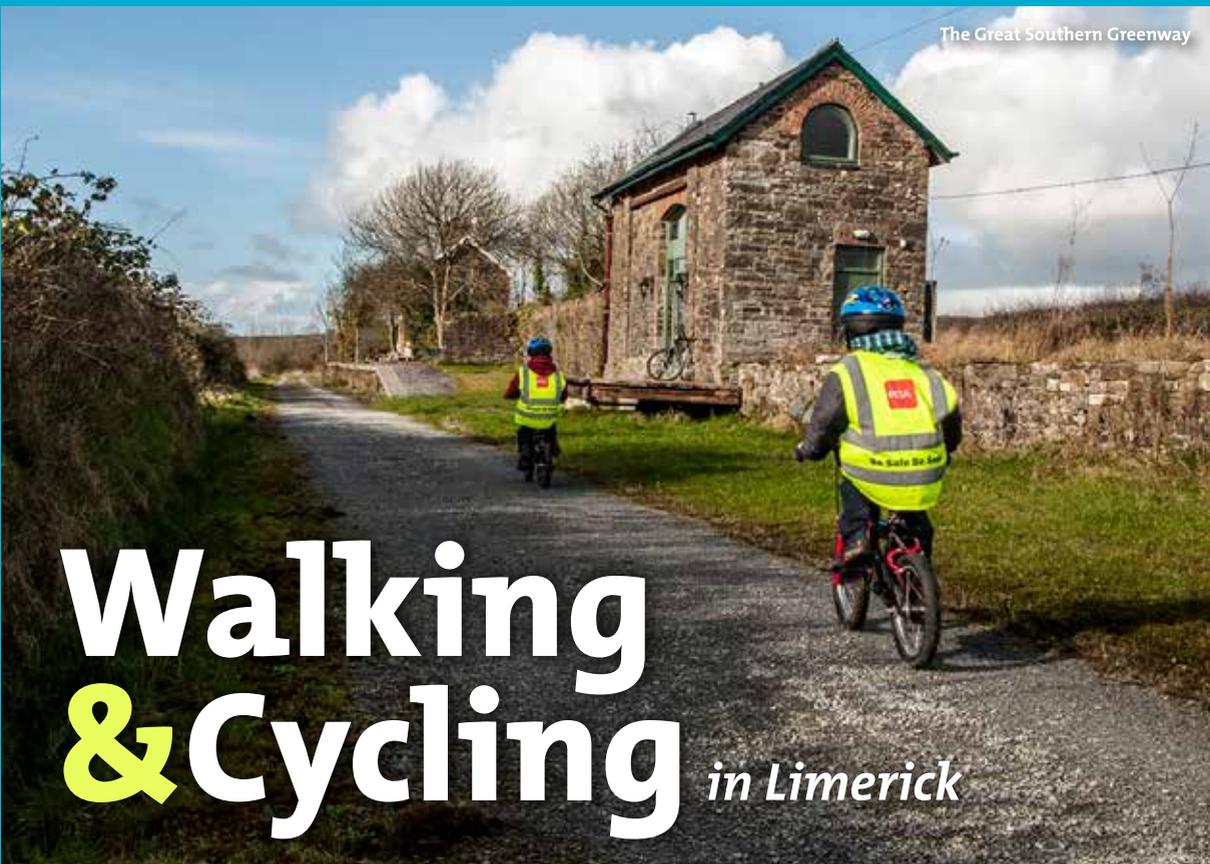
## Mungret Park and Playground

Mungret in Co. Limerick is very close to the city suburbs and comprises of 3,000 square metres including walk and cycle paths. The extensive playground is specifically designed for both able and non able-bodied children and there is a sensory area for children on the autistic spectrum.

## Mount Kennett Skate Park

Skateboarding and roller sports are quite popular in Limerick City and this riverside skate park caters to those needs. With smooth concrete, ramps and rails, this is a great space to practice tricks and perfect your skating. The riverside location provides excellent views of the adjacent bank and wildlife.

There are also a variety of playgrounds in the suburbs and the county like Castletroy, Adare, Abbeyfeale, Askeaton, Ballingarry, Cappamore, Castleconnell, Doon, Foynes, Glin, Kilfinane, Kilmallock, Murroe, Newcastle West and Rathkeale. See [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) for details.



# Walking & Cycling *in Limerick*

**W**alking and cycling are two of the best ways to get fit and a multitude of designated walking routes and cycling trails are the perfect way to explore the sights, sounds and history of Limerick.

## Medieval Limerick Walking Trail

This 3 km trail can take anywhere between one and two hours to complete depending on how long you wish to linger on the various sights. Starting at Merchant's Quay with the Potato Market, County Courthouse, City Hall and St. Mary's Cathedral, the riverside and pavement walk takes you past the remains of the medieval city walls. Along the route you will see the Bishop's Palace, now home to the Limerick Civic Trust, and St. Munchin's Church. Crossing Thomond Bridge you will see King John's Castle and the Bard of Thomond Statue. The walk loops around back along to Fanning's Castle and Barrington's Hospital on George's Quay.

## The Three Bridges Riverside Loop

This walk is similar to the medieval walk but also takes in the beauty of the Shannon River. The loop starts at Arthur's Quay travelling up towards the Hunt Museum through Arthur's Quay Park and the Custom House Park. Leaving King John's Castle follow Castle Street across the Thomond Bridge then turn left to see the Treaty Stone. The new riverfront boardwalk to Sarsfield Bridge provides excellent riverside views of the castle and City Hall. Continue straight on to Clancy Strand where the ramp at St. Michael's Boat Club will take you to the Shannon Bridge. Coming across the bridge and on to the quays, you will see the Seaman's and Dockers memorial, as well as a few pubs and restaurants if you have worked up an appetite. The underpass at Sarsfield Bridge will finish the loop.

“A multitude of designated walking routes and cycling trails are the perfect way to explore the sights, sounds and history of Limerick City

## City Centre Slí na Sláinte

The 3.8 km city centre Slí na Sláinte ('path of health' as designed by the Irish Heart Foundation) is best toured during daylight hours. The trail starts on the newly pedestrianised Bedford Row. The route goes down O'Connell Street, passing the Augustinian Church on the left, moving on to the Georgian Quarter, where you can visit the People's Park. The route turns up onto Barrington Street and continues down O'Connell Avenue

onto New Street. As you come around South Circular Road you will see Mary Immaculate College on the left. Continue on to Henry Street to finish the loop at the bottom of Bedford Row.

There are other Slí na Sláinte routes in the county, including one in Adare. See [www.irishheart.ie](http://www.irishheart.ie) or [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) for more walking roots.

## The Great Southern Greenway

A route for the more ambitious walker, The Great Southern Greenway is a unique 96km stretch of countryside which follows the now defunct Limerick to Tralee railway line. However, 40km of this route has been converted into an off-road walking and cycling trail. This trail begins in Rathkeale, and takes in the communities of Ardagh, Newcastlewest, Templeglantine, and Abbeyfeale. Featuring historical sights such as ancient castles and cemeteries, as well as stunning local scenery, The Great Southern Greenway is the perfect way to explore west Limerick.

## The Broadford Ashford Walking Trails

Based around the Limerick villages of Broadford and Ashford, these walking trails follow six routes across the Mullaghareirk mountains - all specially selected to offer the most picturesque views of county Limerick. The six routes are An Gleann Beag Loop, the Gleann na gCapall Loop, the Killagholehane Way, the Broadford to Ashford Way, the Ashford to Lough Ghe Way and the Gortnaclohy Loop, and while these are "self-guided," there is a guided walk on the second Sunday of every month.

## Limerick Smarter Travel

Limerick City has been designated a Smarter Travel Demonstration City and as such there have been a range of improvements aimed towards cyclists, such as bike lanes, installed across the city.

There are a variety of off-road and on-road routes; perhaps the most popular link the city centre with the University of Limerick in a variety of ways but there are initiatives being added all the time. Check [smartertravel.limerick.ie](http://smartertravel.limerick.ie) for more details.



The Great Southern Greenway



Hill Walking in Ballyhoura

There are also plenty of cycling and walking clubs in Limerick such as the Limerick Cycling Club, UL Mountain Bike Club and Limerick Climbing Club. For more information on local clubs, visit [www.limerickcitysports.ie](http://www.limerickcitysports.ie).

“Historical sights such as ancient castles and cemeteries, as well as stunning local scenery

## Bike Share

A bike sharing initiative has recently launched in Limerick City. Coca-Cola Zero® Bikes is a self-service bike rental service open to all from 14 years up. There are 23 stations (215 bikes) strategically located throughout the urban area. Stations have a terminal and stands for the bikes, which are locked in and released when hired. On return, the bike is locked back into a stand at any station and hire is then completed. Hire options include an annual subscription, a three-day pass and a pay as you go option (first 30 minutes free). In all cases, a security deposit is required. The bikes can be used for everything from commuting to sightseeing. More information on [www.bikeshare.ie](http://www.bikeshare.ie).

# Explore the Great Outdoors

Limerick City offers shopping, entertainment, sport, history, culture, family fun and more (outlined in this and other sections of the guide) but it doesn't have to mean a break from outdoor and adventure activities. Both city and county boast a range of attractive sights and active pursuits to enjoy.

Visitors can enjoy the mighty River Shannon in all its glory with a Limerick City Kayaking Tour from **Nevsail Watersports & Rock Climbing** (086-3308236). Nevsail also has an indoor climbing wall in the city and also offers activities like sailing, stand up paddleboarding, windsurfing, coastering, powerboating and outdoor rock climbing at locations in Limerick and Clare.

**Kilfinane Outdoor Education Centre** in east Limerick has a range of indoor and outdoor activities to enjoy from canoeing to orienteering, abseiling

to basketball (063-91161). Team challenges are a speciality!

For face-paced **mountain biking**, the Ballyhoura area has over 90 km of cross country trails where you can get muddy on forest road climbs, get high on the steep inclines and try to keep steady on the tracks. **Ballyhoura Trailriders** in Ardpatrick (087-2717330, [www.trailriders.ie](http://www.trailriders.ie)) has the exclusive permit from Coillte to operate the Coillte Mountain Bike Trail here (the largest network of its kind in Ireland) and provides bike rental and other services too. Hiking and orienteering are also popular in Ballyhoura.

For lovers of all things equestrian, you can engage in horse-riding, trekking and other variations at many sites including **Clonlara Equestrian Centre** in Clonlara (061-354172/087-6892373); **Boskill Equestrian Centre**

in Caherconlish (085-7673468) and **Clonshire Equestrian Centre** in Adare (061-396770).

Limerick has several great **angling** locations. Plassey and Annacotty (both close to the University of Limerick) are popular fishing spots, as is Castleconnell. **Bleach Lough**, between Kildimo and Pallaskenry in county Limerick, is a trout fishery (087-1845736). Brown trout are also on the menu at **Glasha Lake** in Athea (068-42295).

**Millbank House** in Murroe (061-386115) has an angling centre on-site and is located close to sites for trout and salmon fishing, course and game fishing. **Celtic Angling** (069-68202) offers guided angling tours around county Limerick and Kerry. Don't forget to enquire about seasons and permits before casting your hook!

To enjoy nature in all its glory,



“The Wild Atlantic Way is Ireland’s spectacular coastal driving route



**Cratloe Woods** (061-337322) just over the border in Clare overlooks the estuary of the river Shannon and contains walking/hiking trails, a picnic area and viewing points. A climb up Woodcock Hill in the same parish offers spectacular views of Limerick and the surrounding countryside.

The 777 acre **Curraghchase Forest Park** in Kilcornan (061-337322) has picturesque scenery, a multitude of walkways and nature trails, a lake, a playground, a picnic area and the remains of grand, Curragh Chase House.

There are a number of looped way marked trails in the park to suit all visitors. They vary from the multi-access trails suitable for wheelchair users and family walkers to the longer Curragh and Glenisca trails suitable for those looking for more demanding walking and cycling. The large area of mixed

forest has stands of mostly beech, ash, oak and Norway spruce trees. For naturalists, try **Aughinish Alumina Nature Trail**, a self-guided nature trail near Askeaton (061-604000). The area offers observation areas, bird-watching, wild fowl and butterfly sanctuaries.

“Visitors can enjoy the mighty River Shannon

The Wild Atlantic Way is Ireland’s spectacular coastal driving route, which stretches 2,500 kilometres all the way along the west coast from Donegal to West Cork. Limerick’s close proximity to both Shannon Airport and the coastline means that you can access the route from here by travelling a reasonable

distance by car. The Wild Atlantic Way is illustrated by signs bearing a symbol with a blue background and a white representation of waves.

The pretty village of Foynes in west Limerick is featured on the Wild Atlantic Way. **The Foynes Flying Boat & Maritime Museum** (069-65416) explores the fascinating role played in the establishment of passenger flights across the Atlantic, which is superbly captured in this museum.

Limerick has very good rail and road links for travelling to Clare, Kerry, Cork, Galway and even farther. The coast is never far away, particularly in Clare and Kerry, and opens up a world of stunning sea views, days at the beach and activities like swimming and surfing.

For more information see [www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie) and [www.wildatlanticway.com](http://www.wildatlanticway.com).

# Drives Around Limerick



**Visitors should always be in the driving seat when it comes to exploring with a number of fantastic routes around County Limerick and beyond. Why not load up the car with a picnic and take in the sights?**

The Shannon Estuary is a spectacular and unspoilt estuary located just off the Wild Atlantic Way. The area of remarkable natural beauty is where Ireland's longest river – the mighty Shannon flows into the Atlantic Ocean. Along the **Shannon Estuary Way Drive**, you will find delightful towns, pretty villages and world famous shore fishing sites. (Commence in Limerick City and drive the N69 to Tarbert. Take the ferry in Tarbert for a short journey to Killimer in County Clare. Continue to Ennis and back into Limerick City to complete the looped drive).

**Limerick Drive:** Following the N21, your first stop is Adare, dubbed the prettiest village in Ireland. With so much to see and do here, you might be forgiven for lingering a while. Follow

the signs along the country roads to Curraghchase Forest Park and then the R518 and N11 will bring you to towns like Rathkeale and Newcastle West. Heading north on the N20 you will come to Croom, noted for its restored riverside granary and mill. A short trip through Hospital will bring you to the newly refurbished Lough Gur Heritage Centre to learn about the neolithic people who once lived by the lake.

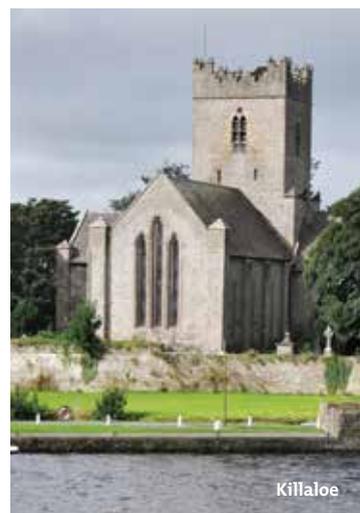
**Lough Derg Drive:** Lough Derg is the largest lake on the Shannon and perhaps the most beautiful. Limerick is only a short distance from Killaloe and Ballina where you can drive along the lake banks. Follow the M7, signposted Dublin before taking the exit for Birdhill/Killaloe. If you want to head towards Portumna, you can take in Ogonnolloe, Scariff, Mountshannon and many other pretty villages.

**Clare Glens:** You could take a short trip to Murroe Village and the Clare Glens Walk. The road is the R506. This looped walk through lush forest

alongside the clear rushing waterfalls of the river has some stunning natural scenery.

**Golden Vale Drive:** Starting in Kilmallock, the Golden Vale Drive will take you from level pasturelands to the foot of the highest inland mountain - Galtymore (3,015ft). You will pass from picturesque countryside, through the medieval town of Kilmallock, and around Lough Gur, famous for its many archaeological sites. The signposted driving route weaves through the villages and towns of Kilmallock, Bruree, Bruff, Croom, Lough Gur, Ballyneety, Pallasgreen, Emly, Galbally, Kilfinane and Ballylanders. (Self-guided CDs available at Kilfinane Tourist Office).

For more information on drives in the vicinity, see [www.shannonregiontrails.ie](http://www.shannonregiontrails.ie).



# 5

*Whether it's a passion for fashion or longing for leisure, 'shop 'til you drop' and experience the best of Limerick.*

# Shopping Heaven

# New Retail Vigour

**A**s the retail capital of the Mid-West, Limerick offers a memorable shopping experience with a fabulous selection of small family-run shops, stylish boutiques and modern department stores.

In our compact city centre there's just a short walk between designer stores, high street brands, market stalls and independent boutiques.

Retail centres include the Arthur's Quay shopping centre in the city centre, the Crescent Shopping Centre in Dooradoyle and the Parkway Shopping Centre on the Dublin Road.

At Limerick Milk Market you will discover the very best of fresh, natural produce from great farmhouse cheeses and chutneys, just-caught fish and artisan meats, organic fruit & vegetables, to delicious healthy breads and fresh pressed juices.

Experience the life and vibrancy of shopping in Limerick's City Centre. From high street bargains to top designer labels, Limerick's got the lot!

## High Street

Shopping in Limerick has something for every budget with a wide range of high street stores.

O'Connell Street and Cruises Street are lively thoroughfares and home to all your favourite high street stores including Debenhams, Oasis, River Island, New Look, Penneys and much more.

## Department Stores

Pay a visit to Brown Thomas or Debenhams on Limerick's O'Connell Street, where you can browse through a wide variety of goods including fashion, accessories, homeware and beauty products all under one roof.

Brown Thomas is one of the best-known department stores in Limerick, renowned for its designer brands and exclusive collections – it's the place to go for a little bit of luxury, whatever your budget.

**“ Whatever your shopping needs, you'll find what you're looking for**

Browse through top brands including Christian Louboutin, Diane Von Furstenberg and Marc Jacobs.

Don't forget Brown's Restaurant in Brown Thomas on O'Connell Street, the perfect place for when you need to recharge your batteries after an extended shopping session!

Popular department store Debenhams stocks affordable ranges from a number of designers such as Jasper Conran and Ben de Lisi.

Debenhams' store on O'Connell Street also has a shoe department, lingerie section and a cosmetics hall with all the top beauty brands and also offers extra services such as a free personal shopper.

## Independent Boutiques

Limerick is the place to go for your wardrobe with an array of independent boutiques throughout the city.

Wander down pedestrianised Thomas Street and Bedford Row and be tempted by many treats ranging from jewellery to beauty to fashion and children shops. Or discover the many unique beautiful boutiques on Catherine Street.

Whatever your shopping needs, you'll find what you're looking for in Limerick city centre.

There are a number of smaller shops, shoe boutiques and antique stores around the Market Quarter, Cruises Street, Bedford Row and William Street teeming with unique and quirky offerings in Limerick.

## Further Afield

Outside of the city, Limerick offers many other wonderful places to get your dose of retail therapy. Newcastlewast has become a haven for fashionistas with a number of boutiques offering both luxury and affordable brands - including the famous Ela Maria, one of the longest running luxury boutiques in Ireland!

Furthermore, in the picturesque village of Adare you will also find a number of stores stocking clothing and accessories from Ireland's top labels, as well as a number of unique craft and design shops.

## **FASHION QUARTER**

If you're shopping for something special, check out the Fashion Quarter on Roches Street and Catherine Street where a wealth of wonderful boutiques and quirky accessories and shoe stores are located.



## “The largest shopping complex outside of Dublin

### Crescent Shopping Centre Limerick

061-228560

[www.crescentshoppingcentre.ie](http://www.crescentshoppingcentre.ie)

Limerick's Crescent Shopping Centre, is the largest shopping complex outside of Dublin with over 90 retailers, creating the perfect shopping experience. Noted for its relaxing atmosphere, bright malls, ease of access & ample free parking, the Crescent Shopping Centre is celebrating 46 years in operation this year and is a mecca for fashionistas and families alike!

You'll find high street brands alongside independent Irish and international stores, a 12-screen

Omniplex Cinema, numerous eateries and restaurants, a drop-in crèche and more! Some of the hottest trends in ladies, mens, and kids fashion can be found in stores such as Selected Femme/Homme, Next, Zara, Superdry, River Island, Quiz, Monsoon, Vila, Tommy Hilfiger, Jack & Jones, Pamela Scott, Meگو, Diesel, Carraig Donn and Mothercare to name a few!

You'll also find jewellers stores, health & beauty outlets, shoe emporiums, hobby shops and bookshops, sports outlets, along with our anchor tenants; Tesco, Penneys, Gap Outlet, Shaws Department Store, Heatons, Argos and Boots!

With a range of services including hairdressers, beauty salons, a locksmith,

banks, ATMs, a post office and a travel agent, there is truly something for everyone!

Parents can keep kids entertained in our outdoor playground, or take a well-deserved retail or coffee break while letting the qualified staff in our drop-in crèche look after your little ones!

If you're in need of a boost after shopping, pop into Butler's Chocolate Café, BBs Coffee and Muffins, Costa Coffee, or enjoy delicious food offerings from O'Brien's Sandwich Bar, Quigleys, Asian street food eatery Ramen, Subway, KFC, Rockin Joes, Italian - Sorrento, Milano's, Franklin's Restaurant and McDonalds.

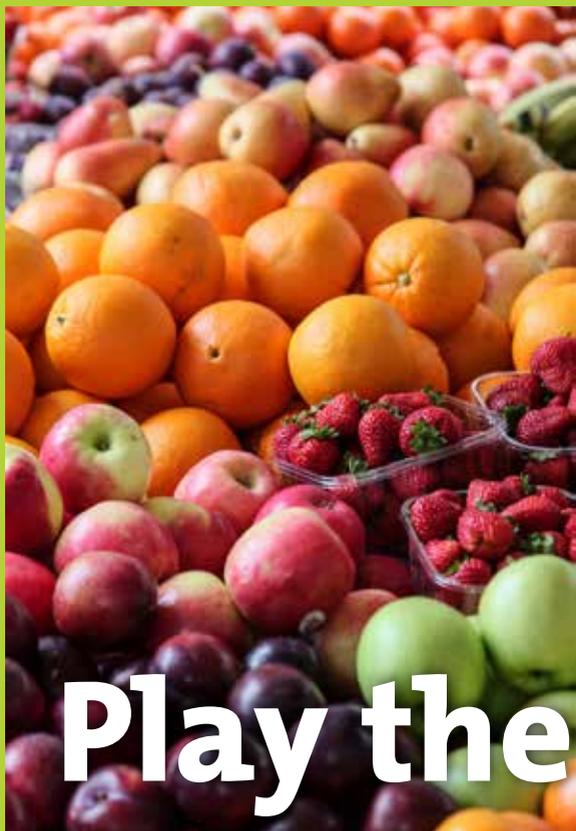
## “Celebrating 46 years in operation

The Crescent Shopping Centre also hosts fashion, beauty and family events year round, along with a spectacular Santa Station during the festive season. There is also a Crescent Gift Card available, which can be used in all stores.

With an emphasis on value, comfort and choice, the Crescent Shopping Centre is well worth a visit. Opening hours are Monday-Wednesday and Saturday 9.30am-6pm, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am-9pm and Sunday 12 noon-6pm.



Crescent Shopping Centre



# Play the Market

**The Milk Market has been a bustling hub of activity and meeting place for the people of Limerick since the mid 1800s.**

**The Milk Market**  
Cornmarket Row  
[www.milkmarketlimerick.ie](http://www.milkmarketlimerick.ie)

When the market started it mostly sold fresh food and produce and this proud tradition continues today but the market also has infinitely more to offer...

Running at full capacity on a Saturday, the market has up to 80 shops and stalls offering foodstuffs (whether fresh produce or delectable creations), crafts, beauty products, plants, jewellery, clothing and art. Thanks to a thoroughly

modern makeover in the last few years, the main market area is now covered by a tensile roof to protect against inclement weather.

“ **A visit to the market on Saturday (8am-3pm) is an ideal way to kick start the weekend**

The Weekly Market day is Saturday, with the Milk Market Venue open on Fri and Sun each week for a café style experience—each with their own unique flavour. Friday (10am-3pm) has more of a food court feel, supplemented with lunch deals and mixed with an eclectic selection of fashion, craft, books to bric-a-brac and live music. Sunday (11am-3pm) is a kind of Family Day Market with a broad mix of stalls. There are often family fun events on Sundays

in addition to regular Vinyl Record, Art and Garden Fairs, creating a relaxed atmosphere.

A visit to the market on Saturday (8am-3pm) is an ideal way to kick start the weekend. Lots of casual traders turn out for the market too so all around Cornmarket Row is buzzing with people and activity. The busy din inside the ‘big top’ is music to the ears and you could easily spend hours browsing.

It’s hard to pass such tempting fare. You might find yourself sampling a delicious crêpe from the Bon Appétit Creperie or the magnificent Grill at Country Choice (recent winner of Best Market Stall Ireland in the Irish Times) and revelling in handmade delights from Wilde Irish Chocolates or sipping a hot drink at the Harper’s Cafe. Any gourmand would be spoiled for choice.

Your visit could start with freshly squeezed juice, followed by a stop at Green Apron for some award winning Jam/Preserves, the finest homemade Vegan and Natural Foods from Happy Food at Home, Turkish delights to



dazzle the taste buds washed down with a squeezed pomegranate juice from Sefik or gluten-free goodies from Wild Fig Foods. Anne Lloyds have some traditional Bacon Butty offerings supplemented by there newest innovation the Souper Market Stall selling fresh homemade soups with ingredients sourced from within the market and there are many more authentic continental and asian cuisine options.

If you'd rather take something home, Country Choice is famous for its fresh home made food, including real hams, organic vegetables and wholemeal breads. Renowned local fishmongers, René Cusack, sells a range of white fish and shellfish along with their own tasty calamari.

There is a range of fruit and vegetable stalls to rival any supermarket including Rose Cottage Fruit Farm, Killowen Orchard, Quinn's Fruit & Vegetables, Nolan's Butcher have delicious ready to cook dishes and fresh cut vegetables. If baked goods are what you are after Sunflower Bakery and the Gourmet

Tart Company are among the best in the country. For meat and fish you need to pop over to West Cork Fish, Quarmount Butcher and Lisduff Traditional Fine Food stalls.

The Milk Market is a genuine haven for foodies, abounding with high quality specialty goods such as sauces, relishes, chutneys and more including The Real Olive Company, Green Apron and Plog Pies. There are also several cheese outlets including The Flying Cheese Brigade, Dave Smiths and Greenacres Cheese & Coffee Shop—a market institution for over a decade. Recent additions include the Ma's Kitchen café and Bia at the Milk Market Restaurant with a broad range of filling sandwiches, designer cakes made to order and a range of teas.

While some are laden down by groceries, others prefer to browse clothing, crafts, accessories and art. To stand out in the crowd, The Edge deals in retro, vintage and gothic clothes. If you need some sparkle in your life, Walk in Closet shop has the latest ladies fashion, Virgo Jewellery & Accessories has a large

variety or for the more 'crafty' customer, the selection of gifts and artisan products from local producers, will have something unusual. For an investment in some art and uniquely Irish crafted gems visit the beautiful Milk Market Gift Store.

Plant and shrub enthusiasts are spoiled for choice with many experts among the line up of traders. Rich pickings and sound advice can be had from Kiely's and Cormac McCarthy to name a few.

Some shops in the market complex open outside of market days. Further information on all the traders in the market is available on the website.

The market, in conjunction with Dolan's Warehouse, now runs evening music concerts under the big top and details of upcoming gigs are on the website.

The Milk Market is truly an energetic, multi-purpose venue and has become Ireland's leading market.

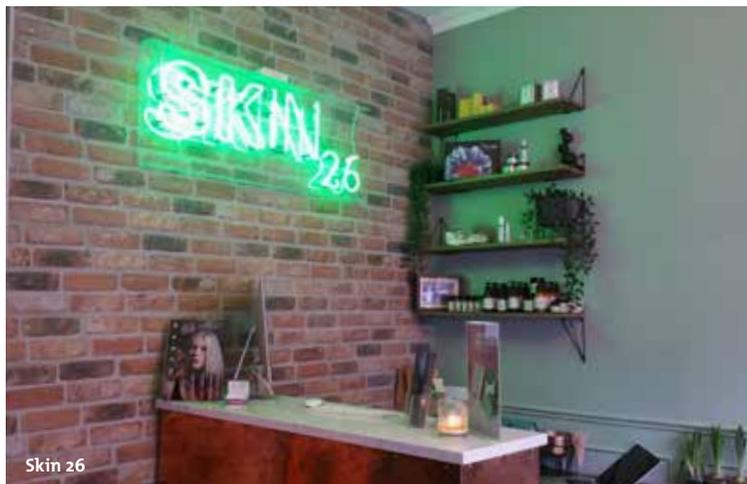
Find it on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/limerickMilkMarket](http://www.facebook.com/limerickMilkMarket)

## Skin 26

60 Catherine St  
061-596688  
Skinz26.com

In the words of its Founder and Formulator, Ben Johnson, MD, “Permanent change is possible, your skin just needs to be inspired” - and there is much inspiration at Skin 26. This chic loft-style clinic in Limerick’s hip Georgian Quarter offers unique skincare, wellness and beauty restoration products and treatments that are vegan and oncology friendly, anti-inflammatory, cruelty-free, and non-toxic. Their holistic approach to skin care and beauty aims to help their clientele enhance their natural beauty and improve their overall skin health.

Skin 26 offers a range of skincare products and services including facials and facial peels, LED therapies, and reflexology. Their products treat acne, rosacea, pigmentation, capillary damage, eczema, psoriasis, and premature aging. Perfect to augment your skin’s health - or if you just feel your skin deserves a boost! Skin 26 uses the Osmosis skincare



and beauty line which rebalances the skin from the inside out using the most scientifically advanced skincare technologies.

In addition to skincare, Skin 26 have a number of beauty treatments. These include waxing, tanning, and makeup, as well as Ellabanna Henna treatments and lash-lifts. Skin 26 also specialises in luxury manicures and pedicures, including the vegan-friendly Bio-

Sculpture nails - offering patrons the whole beauty package.

With a small, but dedicated team of experienced skin care and beauty experts - or ‘skinnies’ (as they are affectionately called) - Skin 26 offers clients personalized service and a breadth of information on skin care, making Skin 26 the perfect spot for anyone looking to transform their skin in style.



## M. Cahill & Son

47 Wickham Street  
061-311821  
www.cahillstea.com

Looking to discover a hidden gem in the heart of the city? Housed in an old tobacco and snuff factory, Cahill’s Shop has been serving the people of Limerick since 1870 and has maintained its unique atmosphere through the years.

Quaint and full of character, it is the only tobacco and cigar shop outside Dublin. Through the decades it has had many changes, and while it still has many cigar, tobacco and snuff customers, it also has much to interest the non-smoker. If you are looking for something quirky or special, Cahill’s stocks a wide range of gentlemen’s gifts.

“Join them for tea tastings everyday

It is packed with one-of-a-kind items like walking sticks, hip flasks, lovely tweed caps, silk handkerchiefs, cufflinks, shaving gear and grooming sets, leather wallets and penknives. The store prides itself on carrying a large range of Irish-made giftware for men, together with international brands.

As well as this, the shop is also famous for its tea. Cahill’s has a great range of teas and tisanes (herbal teas), which are blended and weighed in the shop in the old fashioned way. Connoisseurs can choose from classic

blends, to exotic fruity and herbal flavours, to seasonal specials. Fancy a taste? Join them for tea tastings everyday!

Furthermore, carrying a selection of teapots, teacups, saucers, and infusers, Cahill’s is truly a tea-lover’s paradise.

There are many reasons to visit Limerick but no visit is complete without calling to Cahill’s, the city’s oldest shop. Stepping into its fragrant, heady environs is like stepping back in time.

M. Cahill & Son opens from Monday to Saturday, 9.30am-5.30pm.

“Looking to discover a hidden gem in the heart of the city?



Parkway Shopping Centre

## Parkway Shopping Centre

Dublin Road

061-416144

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

Known for its relaxed, local vibe, The Parkway Shopping Centre is a community-centric shopping centre located on the Dublin road just outside Limerick's city centre. It is anchored by Dunnes Stores - Ireland's largest grocery and fashion retailer - and is the perfect place to meet for a leisurely cup of coffee, lunch with a friend, go on a shopping trip or just browse. The Parkway prides itself on its welcoming friendly staff and its Limerick hospitality to visitors from far and wide.

Parkway offers a wide range of stores and services all under one roof. It is a one-stop-shop with free parking so you can relax and enjoy your time there and not be up against the clock.

Lively and welcoming, the Parkway is always busy but never overwhelming. Don't be surprised to spot kids clubs, hear live music, meet fun characters, Santa or the Easter Bunny at the Parkway, they celebrate all the big calendar events, and more, throughout the year and it's well worth following them on Facebook and Instagram for their great competitions and giveaways. [www.ParkwaySc.com](http://www.ParkwaySc.com)

Parkway offers a comprehensive shopping experience where you can shop for fashion at Born Clothing, So Beautiful Boutique and Dunnes Stores, meet and eat at Planters Restaurant, Canteen Asian Cuisine, Quigley's Café

or Burger King; sit and sip a cuppa at Insomnia Coffee; get a phone or accessories from CarPhone Warehouse, FunTech or Three Mobile and Eir; have your nails done at The Angel Nails; grab some fresh cut meats at Morrissey's Butchers; pick up your Vape at Hale Vaping; find that perfect gift from Giftworks, Gamestop, CEX or have one made at Take Away T-Shirts, get the newest #1 bestseller at Eason.

## “ Offers a wide range of stores and services all under one roof

For the shoe fashionista, the Shoe Rack and Steps for Clarks have just the right fit for you. Get all your beauty and cosmetics or fill a prescription at Lloyd's Pharmacy or grab your healthcare items and specialty food products at Holland & Barrett. The shopping continues at the Parkway with EuroGiant, O'Briens Fine

Wines, Ryan Stoves, Homecare Medical Supplies as well as services such as NDLS, Ladbrokers, FBD and EBS.

Community involvement is also an important part of the Parkway's ethos. The centre is a proud supporter of many local charities, and they host a number of fundraising events throughout the year. The centre offers free space to charities, allowing them an opportunity to raise awareness while aiming to meet their respective fundraising goals.

The centre comprises 135,000sq over a single level with more than 30 stores and more than 700 free parking spaces. The centre is open 7 days a week 362 days a year; closing only Christmas Day, St. Stephen's Day and Easter Sunday.

The management and staff of the Centre look forward to welcoming you and wish you a pleasant shopping experience in the Parkway Shopping Centre.

[www.ParkwaySC.com](http://www.ParkwaySC.com). Be social with the Parkway and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



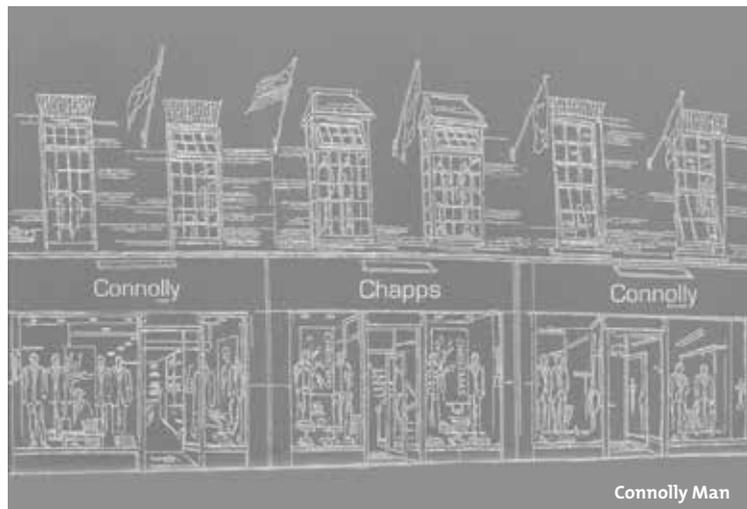
## Connolly Man

12-14 Patrick Street/Crescent Shopping Centre  
Shopping Centre  
061-410324  
www.connollyman.com

The Connolly group have justly earned their reputation as one of Ireland's top menswear retailers and the name is synonymous with quality menswear for over half a century.

Providing an unrivalled selection of leading labels, expert service, a personable atmosphere and a genuine commitment to customer satisfaction.

“Expert service, a personable atmosphere and a genuine commitment to customer satisfaction



From classic business suiting, weekend casuals, leading denim labels, contemporary suiting collections and formalwear, Connolly stores have got it all.

Stores in the group are located in Patrick Street, the Crescent Shopping Centre Limerick and O'Connell Street, Clonmel. Connolly outlet stores are located in Crescent Shopping Centre

and Bedford Row Limerick (massive discounts on oddments and end of season stock). Stitch (Superdry) is also located on Patrick Street.

So if you're looking for something a bit special that you can't find easily elsewhere, why not come visit and discover whats in store for you...

For more information, email [info@connollyman.com](mailto:info@connollyman.com).



Michael Gleeson Shoes  
Young Gleeson Shoes

## Michael Gleeson Shoes Young Gleeson Shoes

25-26 William Street  
Michael: 061-417407  
Young: 061-417407

It's not just about the shoes for this family-run business, since 1985 Michael Gleeson Shoes have been providing foot care along with their perfectly fitted shoes to customers for over 30 years. Limerick's leaders in men, women and children's footwear, Michael Gleeson

Shoes offer a level of service second to none.

The store is conveniently located in the city centre on William Street and offers a variety of shoes, including dress mens and womens work shoes, as well as a number of wide fitting comfortable options. The store stocks well known brand names such as Clarks, Geox, Skechers, Dubarry, Ecco, Gabor, and many more. They also carry leather-soled shoes for dancing, as well as a selection of medical footwear for people with problem feet. As well as this, they offer an adult measuring and fitting

service to ensure you get the perfect fit for your feet.

Adjacent to the store is Young Gleeson Shoes for the children in your family. With brand names such as Superfit, Ricota, Primigie and Lelli Kelly, to name a few, they offer shoes with extra support and those which are suitable for orthotics. The friendly staff are always available to measure and advise on the perfect shoes for your little ones from pre-walker to secondary school.

“Friendly staff are always available to measure and advise on the perfect shoes

Furthermore, their onsite chiropodist can treat and help you alleviate your day-to-day foot problems, and find the right shoe and fit to suit your specialised needs. Whatever your foot needs are; you are sure to leave the store with a smile and a pair of happy feet.

# 6

*Limerick is the ideal place to 'eat, drink and be merry' with more than its fair share of fine restaurants, cosy cafés and vibrant pubs.*

## Food & Drink



Copper and Spice

## Copper and Spice

Above Mill Bar, Annacotty,  
Co. Limerick  
061-338791  
www.copperandspice.com

Copper and Spice really lives up its name with copper prevalent in the tableware and of course, the spice is all in the food.

Located a few minute's drive from the University of Limerick in the quaint village of Annacotty, this Indian

restaurant has a great reputation among local people for its authentic cuisine.

“Great reputation among local people for its authentic cuisine

The vibrant colours, dark wood and variety of textures in the décor complement the dining experience.

It offers an array of different set menus priced at €20 and €23, a monthly special menu and an à la carte.

Dishes include (but are not limited to) paneer rolls, fish pakora, makhani chicken, monkfish curry, methi malai maas and channa masala. There are 'Asian and Pacific' sections in the menu too so you can mix and match between Indian, Thai and Japanese.

The restaurant has been recommended by the McKenna's Guide and food critic, Georgina Campbell. Copper and Spice also has a sizeable takeaway menu and delivery service available.

## Texas Steakout

116 O'Connell Street  
061-414440 / 061-410503  
www.texassteakout.com

In 1988, the Wild West came to Limerick in the form of the Texas Steakout but don't be fooled by the novel theme, the quality of the food has made it one of the city's most popular restaurants.

The décor is modern and stylish, with lots of solid wood, exposed brick, fascinating photographs and even life-sized cowboys and Indians.

“The quality of the food has made it one of the city's most popular restaurants

The Steakout serves lunch Monday to Saturday 12-4pm, with light options as well as hearty meals. The three course Sunday lunch guarantees you a good meal.



Texas Steakout

Dinner is available seven days a week from 4-10.30pm (10pm on Sundays). Appetisers include spare ribs, loaded potato skins and mussels. The extensive list of mains takes in chicken, meat, fish and vegetarian meals from fajitas to braised lamb shank, fish and chips to colcannon chicken with bacon, enchiladas to Texas fried shrimp. Of

course, juicy steaks and steak burgers are a speciality.

There are great value set menus with numerous dishes to choose from as well as the à la carte menu.

Families are welcome and booking is advisable. Try not to have a *Gunfight at the OK Corral* over the buffalo bill!

**DID YOU KNOW?****Poetry**

A 'limerick' is a short, humorous poem with a strict rhyming scheme (AABBA). It is not conclusively known if the name of the form refers to Limerick City or County specifically but many say that the name is a reference to the renowned 'Maigue Poets.' Many of these poets wrote limericks and one such verse by publican poet, Sean O'Tuama, in the 18th century read: "I sell the best Brandy and Sherry/ To make all my customers merry/But at times their finances/Run short as it chances/And then I feel very sad, very."

**Limerick in Numbers****91,456**

Population of Limerick City and environs

**3**

Limerick is the third most populous city in Ireland

**202**

Distance in kilometres from Limerick to Dublin

**1197**

Year Limerick got its Charter from King John 1

**2,000**

Approximate number of art works in Limerick's Hunt Museum

**4**

Number of bridges across the Shannon in Limerick City

**2**

Limerick has the second largest Polish community in Ireland

**675**

Length in metres of the Shannon Tunnel

**14,000**

Student population of UL during the academic year

**250,000**

Estimated number of people who gathered in Limerick City centre to see The Giant's Journey on September 5-7, 2014

**Tuscany Bistro at The Granary**

Michael Street  
061-468000  
www.tuscany.ie

Tuscany Bistro at The Granary is the place to be in Limerick if you are a lover of Mediterranean and Italian cuisine.

This beautiful restaurant, set in the historical setting of the Granary building, boasts an amazing 90 seats as well as a stunning heated outdoor seating area.

Tuscany offers delicious meals ranging from authentic Italian dishes to wholesome Mediterranean meals, using only the finest and freshest local and Mediterranean ingredients.

With an ethos revolving around 'simple perfection,' the extensive range of antipasti, salads, pastas and pizzas as well as poultry, meat and seafood options will wow guests. There is also a diverse range of delicious gluten free

dishes including pasta and pizza as well as a variety of vegetarian dishes!

**“Stunning heated outdoor seating area**

If it's nightlife you're after, the restaurant enthusiastic bar staff can whip up almost any cocktail that tickles your fancy, with complimentary music in the our fully roofed cozy courtyard on selected evenings.

That's not at all, as there's a child friendly menu, Food To Go Menu, an excellent Great Value Menu, a Light Bite Lunch Menu with a pre-order facility & a Catering Menu for private events. Tuscany Bistro is an all-round delight with friendly experts to serve you the absolute best.

It's the perfect venue for weddings and private events. With two other beautiful locations' already in Castletroy and Ballina/Killaloe, we can't get enough of this Italian gem!

Parking, Free Wi-Fi, wheelchair accessible & outdoor seating area.

Email: granary@tuscany.ie

**“Using only the finest and freshest local ingredients**

Tuscany Bistro at The Granary

## Sodalicious

9 Lower Cecil St  
061-595156  
www.sodalicious.ie

Sodalicious is a dedicated soda bread bakery situated in the heart of Limerick city. Owned by Jane Conlon, alumnus of the renowned Ballymaloe Cookery School, the emphasis is on freshly flavoured bread and scones creating the platform for a broader menu.

All the baked goods are handmade on the premises every morning. There are no artificial flavours added and everything is yeast free making Sodalicious a low fat nutritious option for the health conscious customer. The breads are also made with sodium

“All the baked goods are handmade on the premises every morning”



Sodalicious

bicarbonate which has been proven to aid digestion.

Offering classic white and brown breads and scones, Sodalicious also has a range of more adventurous combinations. These include breads flavoured with cheese, herbs and nuts, and sweet and savoury scones such as orange chocolate chip, and caramelised onion and feta cheese.

As well as this, Sodalicious serves breakfast and lunch, offering a variety of

wholesome dishes from eggs benedict to soups, sandwiches, and salads. These are complemented by a cafe menu featuring a number of specialty coffees and teas.

Open Monday to Friday from 8am - 6pm, and Saturdays from 9am - 5pm, Sodalicious also has a private dining room and is fully wheelchair accessible. Whether you're stopping in for your morning coffee, a hearty loaf or a sweet treat, Sodalicious is your one-stop-shop for all things delicious!

## Bella Italia

43 Thomas St  
061-418 872  
bellaItalia.ie

Bella Italia brings a slice of Italy to Limerick and gives you a chance to sample 'la dolce vita' in the heart of the city.

This family-run restaurant/deli opened in 1990, offering traditional Italian dishes to patrons in search of an authentic taste of Italy. Over the years, as its fan base has grown, Bella Italia has expanded to include a comfortable, cosy seating area - perfect for groups, family outings, or intimate meals for two.

The menu offers its visitors a great selection of classic Italian dishes, including antipasti, salads, pastas, and pizzas. Whether you're after something simple - like a fresh pizza made to order - or are feeling more adventurous, Bella Italia has something to sate your appetite. Try the spicy tagliatelle boscaiola, or the Sardinian fish stew and savour the distinctive flavours of Italy! As well as this, the carnivores among your group won't be disappointed - try

the restaurant's unique "steak on a stone" (only available at the Castletroy location) and watch your prime fillet, or rib-eye steak sizzle on the table until it's done to perfection.

Furthermore, Bella Italia is fully licensed, and offers a selection of Italian and European beers, wines and spirits. Why not top off your meal with traditional tiramisu and a neat espresso? Or try Bella Italia's delicious Italian frozen yogurt 'Yogorino' and dessert bar? Here they offer fresh crepes made to order, pancakes and waffles with a host of delicious toppings - the perfect end to every meal.

Offering a great value every day, kid's menu, take-away, and catering services, Bella Italia truly ticks every requirement. Those outside the city centre can also visit their second premises in Castletroy.

Overall, for a quick bite at lunchtime, an afternoon snack with a glass of wine, or a lingering evening meal, Bella Italia has something to suit your needs.



Bella Italia



The Copper Room

## The Copper Room

100 O'Connell Street

061-211000

[www.thecopperroom.ie](http://www.thecopperroom.ie)

In the elegant setting of Georgian Limerick, The Copper Room offers a little something different—specialising in atmosphere, music and comfort.

The two large open fireplaces, generous smoking areas and candlelight features make for an incredibly European feel.



Their philosophy is simple: To share their passion for cheese, wine and port with their customers. The Copper Room, located at 100 O'Connell Street, prides itself on having the most comprehensive wine, port and champagne selection around.

With food being served to 1am at weekends there is an extensive menu including various types of cheeses, paté, meats and breads. All are served on rustic slates while being accompanied by various oils and side dishes, each is tailored for you and your own choice.

“Large open fireplaces, generous smoking areas and candlelight features making for an incredibly European feel

The Copper Room is open seven evenings a week from 5pm 'til late, and offers later closing times of 2am on Fridays and Saturdays as long as you are in by 12.30am. Various activities take part at the weekends including DJs with live music and popular jazz on Sunday evenings.



The Copper Room does not take reservations and operates on a walk-in policy and prides itself on having a very laid-back bar feel for the customer.

It is possible to book for corporate gatherings and parties with two separate areas available and there are also gift vouchers available for that someone special.

Will Leahy, 2FM DJ and television personality had this to say about The Copper Room: “I just love this place, a little taste of the continent—the atmosphere, the fires, the wine, the food—it really has it all!”

For more information, see [www.copperroom.ie](http://www.copperroom.ie), email [info@copperroom.ie](mailto:info@copperroom.ie), Facebook, TheCopperRoomLimerick and Twitter, @Copper\_Room.



Hong Kong

## Hong Kong

44 William Street

061-411505 / 085-1531761

[www.facebook.com/HKCRlimerick](http://www.facebook.com/HKCRlimerick)

The Hong Kong was the very first Chinese restaurant in the Treaty City and has been serving superb Cantonese cuisine to the people of Limerick since 1963.

The Choi family first founded the restaurant and then sold it to their friends, the Lees, who had come to Ireland from Hong Kong. They renamed it after their homeland and the décor

reflects that heritage, as does the tradition of great service.

“Serving superb Cantonese cuisine to the people of Limerick since 1963

Starters include meat sung, crispy aromatic duck and skewer chicken in satay sauce as well as soups.

Mains cover poultry, meat, seafood and vegetables in various delectable combinations. Their curry is famous in the city, a recipe descended from the pioneers who first came to the UK and Ireland.

Whether your preference is crispy chilli chicken, beef Szechuan, king prawn Kung Po, House Special duckling, char siu roast pork, or the Chef’s Special hot-hot chicken, there is something for every palate. The menu includes European dishes like Chicken Maryland and omelettes, among others.

To go with the flavours on offer, choose your tippie with classics from the Wine Menu such as the fragrant frizzant Mateus Rosé or French Chablis wine from J. Moreau & fils. Beers include the popular lagers Tsingtao, Tiger, Budwieser, Heineken and Bulmers cider.

The Hong Kong can boast of having one of the best value meal deals in the city, with massive choice offering a starter and main course starting at €12 from 4.30-7.30pm daily.

Popular with couples, families or even old friends’ get-togethers for its cosy setting, book a table over the phone to avoid disappointment.

The Hong Kong also offers takeaway and delivery services. It opens seven days a week from 4.30-10.30pm.

## Luigi’s Traditional Fish & Chips Takeaway/ Restaurant

44 Parnell Street

061-410269

Located directly across from Colbert train station and serving the people of Limerick for 30 years, Luigi’s is

everything you’d want in a Fish & Chip restaurant/takeaway.

“Serving the people of Limerick for 30 years

Luigi Orlandi and his staff have perfected their recipes over many years to the point where Limerick people now simply only have to say “going for a Luigi’s” to be instantly understood.

Restaurant seating area open Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 6pm.

Takeaway open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 12.30am, and Sundays from 4-11.30pm.



Luigi’s Traditional Fish & Chips



## Lana

28 O'Connell Street 061279788  
Dublin Road, Castletroy 061-508061&  
Courtfields SC, Raheen 061-303254  
[www.lanathai.ie](http://www.lanathai.ie)

Bringing you the tastes, colours, and aroma of Asian street food, Lana brings authentic Asian cuisine from the streets of Thailand, Indonesia, China and Malaysia to your doorstep. Food from Lana is prepared with passion by a team of chefs that come from across Asia bringing their unique food heritage with them. The delicious savoury dishes served here have proven popular with many locals who come back again and again for a tasty 'Lana.'

The modern and vibrant interior design of Lana's various outlets reflect the dishes and flavours on offer. With such reasonable prices you will have to come back a few times to discover your favourite Lana dish, be it noodles, a curry, duck salad, pad thai, khao pad, thai sweet sour chicken or nasi goreng.

“Authentic Asian cuisine from the streets of Thailand, Indonesia, China and Malaysia

Lana is a casual dining experience offering both eat-in and take-away services with free ice-cream after every meal. The chefs want you to enjoy your meal so let them know if you would like

your dish mild, medium, hot or very hot; your food is cooked to your taste. Orders can also be taken online at [lanathai.ie](http://lanathai.ie) or download the app Lana Asian street food to receive 10% off.

Lana also has other restaurants in Salthill, Galway, Ennis, Co. Clare and Tralee, in Co. Kerry with more coming next year, so keep your eyes open for a Lana coming your way soon.

## Hamptons Bar & Grill

Henry Street  
061- 609325  
[www.hamptonsgrill.ie](http://www.hamptonsgrill.ie)

Hamptons Bar & Grill is a New York style restaurant, located next door to

The Savoy Hotel. At Hamptons they are proud to have custom designed their own wood fired Robata ovens and grills, unique to Limerick & Ireland. Built to ensure the maximum in flavour and succulence in all steaks, chicken and seafood. They use the best beech wood charcoal in all their cooking which imparts its unique signature in a slow release formula. All meats are marinated overnight in their secret recipe rubs and dressings before being grilled or roasted for your delectation.

“The popularity of Hamptons restaurant is in the popularity of its dishes

The popularity of Hamptons restaurant is in the popularity of its dishes; prawn cocktail, bang bang chicken, ravioli pasta or succulent fillet steak cooked on the robata grill.

At Hamptons they endeavor to source all their produce locally and organically where possible. Most of their produce comes from County Limerick, County Clare, County Tipperary & County Galway.

The glamorous decor and the attentive service makes it an ideal destination for a family occasion, friends gathering or just that special date.



Hamptons Bar & Grill



Da Vincenzo's Food & Wine Hall

## Da Vincenzo's Food & Wine Hall

First Floor The George Hotel,  
Shannon Street

061-460425

[www.davincenzo.ie](http://www.davincenzo.ie)

For an authentic taste of Naples in a contemporary setting that manages to be both chic and casual, Da Vincenzo's is the place to go.

The eatery is decorated with a spectacular abstract, monochrome mural depicting all things Limerick.

Da Vincenzo's serves lunch and dinner daily. Salads, pasta, pizza and other traditional Italian fish and meat dishes are featured on both wide-ranging menus.

“An authentic taste of Naples in a contemporary setting

Lunch is available daily from €10. It can be a light affair with soup or a panini or a three course meal for €29.

For dinner, there are sharing boards as well as regular starters. For something a little different, why not indulge in the “ultimate Neapolitan street food”—white pizza, which has no tomato sauce on it. The desserts include homemade gelato and classics like tiramisu. Everything can be paired with one of the 200 available wines, supplied by Findlaters.

Da Vincenzo's also runs events like wine tastings and you can even bring some ingredients home from the deli to experiment yourself.

## The Golden Grill

8 William St

061-418645

[thegoldengrill.business.site](http://thegoldengrill.business.site)

A true Limerick institution, the Golden Grill offers some of the best classic fish 'n' chips in the city. In business for over 50 years, the restaurant has proven itself indispensable to its loyal patrons who return time and again for traditional Italian fish and chips “just like Papa used to make.”

Located in the heart of the city, on Limerick's William St, the Golden Grill is right in the middle of the action. Whether you're out for a day of shopping, visiting the city, or if you're one of the Limerick natives who gives the restaurant its local flavour - the Golden Grill has got you covered. Following a recent makeover, the restaurant's retro, diner-style interior offers a welcome respite from the high street. Clean, cosy, and cheerful, visitors



The Golden Grill

can stop in for a quick bite, or simply while away the hours soaking up the lively atmosphere.

However, what keeps people coming back is - naturally - the food! With fresh fish, golden chips, and an array of other dishes, the Golden Grill is renowned for its high quality fast food. Serving up traditional chipper fare such as fry ups, chips, and burgers, the restaurant also

offers a range of homemade lunches including steak and shepherd's pie. Whatever you're after, come hungry - as the generous portions leave little room for second helpings!

Overall, with an ethos of tasty food, great value, and excellent service, the Golden Grill might just keep its top spot for another 50 years!



Alex Findlater & Co. Wine & Food Hall



## Alex Findlater & Co. Wine & Food Hall

109 O'Connell St

061-516 450

[www.alexfindlaterandco.ie](http://www.alexfindlaterandco.ie)

The Limerick Savoy collection joined forces with Findlater & Co., the general grocers and wine merchants brand with a rich and storied heritage dating back to 1823, to create the vibrant new Alex Findlater & Co. Food & Wine Hall, an impressive 18,000 sq. ft. Food & Wine Hall on the city's main street, O'Connell Street, located on the ground floor of The George Hotel, part of The Savoy collection, in the heart of the city's shopping and restaurant quarter, an original and inspirational new resource for food and wine lovers.

“Bringing a lush new layer of luxury and creating a stylish new drinking and dining destination in the city centre

The first of its kind in the city – and the first in what the partnership hopes will be a strong new Irish retail presence, with potential other sites being looked at around the country – the seriously substantial Food & Wine Hall opened in March 2018 and includes a lavish Oyster

& Seafood Bar, an upmarket food area and Grill Room, and a fantastic selection of over 300 wines from across the globe, which can be purchased from the Wine Cellar in main food hall with no corkage charge to enjoy over your dinner with family, friends or colleagues.

“An impressive 18,000 sq. ft. Food & Wine Hall on the city's main street

There is also a flagship Warbler & Wren Coffee House as well and a full premium food retail experience, making the Alex Findlater & Co. Food & Wine Hall the new go-to destination in Limerick for food and drink shopping, all-day dining and meeting with friends

over exceptional coffee, great wines and Champagnes, and delicious dishes from a wide variety of carefully curated menus.

Findlater & Co. have provided their unsurpassed professionalism and breadth of offering on coffee and wine to the Savoy collection for many years, and this new business venture is a brilliant blend of two companies at the top of their game.

Bringing a lush new layer of luxury and creating a stylish new drinking and dining destination in the city centre, the Alex Findlater & Co. Food & Wine Hall will add buzz and excitement to Limerick's vibrant shopping and restaurant quarter. With plans to roll out the concept to a wider audience in other Irish cities and possibly in the UK, for now it is the lucky food and wine lovers of Limerick who will be the first to sample the delights of the premium Alex Findlater & Co. Wine & Food Hall.





**Harry's on the River**  
**Café-Bar-Restaurant**  
Absolute Hotel, Sir Harry's Mall  
061-463600  
[www.absolutehotel.com](http://www.absolutehotel.com)

In the heart of Limerick's historical Medieval Quarter, you will find the award-winning Harry's restaurant which is as vibrant and current as Limerick city itself. Named after the one of the city's first entrepreneurs, Sir Harry Hartstonge, who once lived at the end of the Mall adjacent to the historical Baal's Bridge.

Harry's restaurant is located on the first floor of the Absolute Hotel, it is surrounded by Limerick's best known tourist attractions like the Hunt Museum, King John's Castle, St Mary's Cathedral and Limerick's lively Milk Market.

**“ It is surrounded by Limerick's best known tourist attractions**

In Harry's, you will find local people enjoying the best of local Irish produce. There is also a large selection of craft beers, including the locally brewed Harris Pale Ale.

The team is personable and professional, the menu innovative with food that 'hits the spot' and the surroundings bright and stylish. Diners can sit back and watch the water flow by from the floor to ceiling windows overlooking the Abbey River.

Fresh, made-to-order lunches are served Monday to Friday 12.30pm – 5pm, Saturday 1pm – 5pm or bring the whole family for Sunday lunch between

1-3pm. Dinner is served Monday to Sunday 5-9.30pm. Pop in any time for freshly baked homemade scones served with jam and cream.

As night draws in, the bartenders can shake up perfectly blended cocktails with the city skyline in the background.

The restaurant has a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence and the Absolute Hotel is rated as the number one hotel in Limerick on TripAdvisor. It has also been recommended by food critics, Lucinda O'Sullivan and Georgina Campbell but don't take their word for it, visit for yourself.

**Off the Bone**  
Raheen Roundabout, Raheen  
061-487 410  
[offthebonegastropub.com](http://offthebonegastropub.com)

Off The Bone in Raheen - Hot Press Magazine's *Best Limerick Gastropub* – is

an essential stop-off for those that want to experience prime Irish steaks and Gastro dishes served in hip, stylish surroundings.

Offering an extensive à la carte menu, along with a very appealing early bird menu which showcases a number of their signature dishes. Off The Bone is one of a select number of eateries in the region to be certified by the Irish Angus Producers' Society for their prime Black Angus beef. The establishment is also one of very few in the country to feature the unique Jospier Oven – which cooks over charcoal at incredibly high temperatures to perfectly seal in the flavour of the Prime Angus Beef.

**“ An essential stop-off for those that want to experience prime Irish steaks**

To complement their considerable menus, Off The Bone features a well-judged drinks menu featuring their own range of Irish brewed Craft Beers. Wine lovers will also enjoy a selection of exclusive Pinot Grigio, Merlot and Frizzante.

Kick back to the sounds of a selection of great local music acts and guest performances every weekend 'til late.

Located adjacent to the Great National South Court Hotel, there's ample, free parking and public transport nearby.

For more information, visit [facebook.com/offthebonegastropub](http://facebook.com/offthebonegastropub) or call 061 487 410.



# Cafés

*Limerick has truly embraced café culture with numerous casual eateries to sit and watch the world go by.*



Jack Monday's

## Jack Monday's

Coffee House  
Thomond Bridge House,  
Thomondgate V94D1WP.  
061 279284

Jack Monday's is nestled beside the Treaty Stone in one of the most historical quarters of Limerick city and named after a soldier from the civil war era. The café boasts of its own historical story, but don't take our word for it call in and check out the stunning views of the

mighty River Shannon and King John's Castle - it's not one to be missed.

The menu caters for a variety of tastes from vegetarian dishes to an all day Irish breakfast; there is the mouth watering mango beef bomb and fabulous falafel wraps which are just some of the other choices. Renowned for their famous Belgian hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream accompanied by the Belgian waffles smothered in Maple syrup!

Jack Monday's Coffee House is open 7 days a week. See Facebook & TripAdvisor for further information.

“ **Stunning views of the mighty River Shannon and King John's Castle - it's not one to be missed**



Gusto d'Italia

## Gusto d'Italia

30 William St  
061-590642  
gustoditalia.ie

Located on the busy thoroughfare of William Street, with a fresh, bright, and deceptively spacious interior, Gusto d'Italia is your one-stop shop for sweet treats. A patisserie and gelateria, Gusto d'Italia serves authentic Italian gelato and a range of pastries such as tiramisù, pannacotta, and sliced cakes.

The menu also includes freshly prepared pancakes, waffles and crepes (with dairy and gluten free option) as well as sundaes, milkshakes and smoothies. There are a whopping 24

colourful flavours of gelato and fruity vegan sorbets - a number of toppings such as crushed Oreo cookies, chocolate flakes, fruit, nuts, and sauces.

Similar to ice cream, gelato is a frozen treat popular in Italy. Churned at a slower rate, gelato is typically denser than ice cream and served at a lower temperature to give an extra smooth and silky texture. As well as this, the fat content of gelato is lower, ensuring the base flavour really shines through.

A truly artisan ice-cream parlour, all the offerings at Gusto d'Italia are made in house from original recipes, using traditional methods. Furthermore, ingredients like milk, cream, and fruits are delivered daily from local suppliers.

“ **The ideal spot for anyone looking to satisfy their sweet tooth in style**

Gusto d'Italia also makes cakes for any occasion - as well as specialty gelato cakes. Whether it's for a birthday, wedding, or a communion, you can order a cake made to your specifications from the website, or in store.

Gusto d'Italia is the ideal spot for anyone looking to satisfy their sweet tooth in style.

## The Wine Buff

17 Mallow Street

061-313394

www.thewinebuff.com

The Wine Buff, located in a beautifully restored Georgian building, can tell you everything you ever wanted to know about wine but were afraid to ask, along with selling a fantastic selection of wines from all over the world.

Owner, Mike O'Mara, would be delighted to welcome you to his shop, whether you are looking for a single bottle of wine or wines for a special occasion of any size or type. The wines are carefully chosen and prices start from €11.99 so great quality does not have to cost the earth.

There is always a friendly staff member on hand to ask for advice if you wish and you might get to taste a wine when you call in.

Stock includes wine from all over the world, champagne, wine gifts/accessories, Wilde Irish hand-made chocolates, olive oil and chutneys.

The Wine Buff is now the country's biggest independent specialised wine retailer and has expanded to include 14 stores nationwide along with one in Madrid and St. Emillion, Bordeaux.

“The country's biggest independent specialised wine retailer



# Pubs

*Limerick has a variety of both quaint old style public houses as well as stylish, modern pubs to choose from.*

## W.J. South's

4 Quinlan Street (O'Connell Avenue)

061-314669

South's Pub has the unique honour of being the place where Pulitzer Prize winning writer, Frank McCourt, had his very first pint.

It has several mentions in McCourt's memoir, *Angela's Ashes*, and he visited the pub on trips back to Limerick.

South's has been trading since 1909 and maintains the classic interior and character that is its signature to this day. The imposing bar counter is something to see in itself and its history is outlined in the framed newspaper cuttings and sketches hanging on the walls.

It has been modernised and extended over the years with one of the additions being a carvery counter. South's serves breakfast in the mornings and is often busy for lunch as well as light refreshments throughout the day.



“Trading since 1909 and maintains the classic interior and character

It has televisions dotted around but plenty of quiet corners to relax in the welcoming atmosphere. Among the clientele are avid sports fans, many with a keen interest in rugby, racing and golf. South's has its own golf society. There is a smoking area with tables and chairs at the front and side entrance.

## Fennessys Pub

1 New Street  
061-229038

Fennessys is one of Limerick's oldest pubs and is full of character and steeped in history.

Established in 1904 by Matthew Fennessy, the pub is now being run by the fourth generation of the Fennessy family.

Located adjacent to Mary Immaculate College on the South Circular Road, this pub has been a favourite for the staff and students of the college for many years as well as for locals. The college's new addition, the Lime Tree Theatre, is fast becoming the city's leading stage venue and this makes Fennessys a prime location for a pre or post performance tippie.

“Fennessys is a great spot to watch a match, have a function, enjoy a creamy pint or relax with a coffee



Fennessys Pub

Fennessys is a great spot to watch a match, have a function, enjoy a creamy pint or relax with a coffee.

The neat old world frontage of the pub is an indication of what you will find inside. There are two old style Irish pub booths - one even dubbed 'The Senate' - dark wood tables with a variety of seating options and décor including a model plane suspended from the ceiling bring classic charm to the 21st century. The sizeable lounge area often hosts parties and table quizzes.

You can also grab lunch here with the sandwich bar, open Monday to Friday from 12 noon-2.30pm offering fresh sandwiches, toasties, soup and hot drinks. The off-licence attached to the premises sells a range of beers, wines and spirits with weekly special offers.

A fun and friendly pub, Fennessys has three sports associations including a golf society, a pitch and putt club and a deep sea angling club.

Twitter & Facebook: @fennessyspub



Collins' Bar

## Collins' Bar

Dooradoyle Road  
061-309191  
www.collinsbardooradoyle.ie

With a laid back atmosphere and attractive furnishings, Collins bar & restaurant offers locals and visitors the whole package. Highly thought of for its excellent food, fine range of drinks and

timeless décor, it is located conveniently off the motorway at Dooradoyle—an obvious choice for a pitstop when passing through or exploring the Wild Atlantic Way.

From Saturday brunch to carvery lunch, a stylish sandwich and salad menu to a sizeable evening à la carte, food is to the fore at Collins.' As well as offering exceptional cuisine, it's a much-loved, cosy local bar. Whether you are tucking

into the grilled fillet of sea bream, or the 12 hour braised shank of lamb, or you just fancy a comforting taco bowl, you're sure to leave Collins bar with a big satisfied smile on your face. Don't forget to indulge in a dessert, all homemade and are beyond delicious. The bar is stocked with an extensive range of gins, whiskeys, superb wines and of course everyone's favourites in beer and cider. The new gin menu offers an array of trendy gin cocktails that will thrill the followers of gin fashion. Food is served midday-9pm, seven days a week (reservations accepted). There are lots of screens for all major sporting events as well as free Wi-Fi. There are party packages available to suit all budgets. The comfortable outside area, with heaters and canopies, makes for great summer BBQs. Owners, James Collins and his wife Eileen, have a passion for exceptional customer service and that has made Collins' bar what it is today, since opening over 14 years ago. You can find the bar at M20 Junction 2.

## Flannery's Bar

19 Shannon Street  
061-415027

Step into one of Limerick's best-kept secrets at Flannery's Bar on Shannon Street.

With a traditional wooden pub façade and gold lettering, Flannery's is located directly opposite the entrance of the George Boutique Hotel.

Proprietor, Paul Flannery and his staff treat every customer as if they were regulars, inviting them to have a pint in the comfortable and relaxed atmosphere of this cosy pub.

“**Superb bar to bask in all things Limerick and Munster**

Located just off O'Connell Street, it would be easy to overlook this small pub, but the big welcome and family-run ethos is not to be missed. This is a superb bar to bask in all things

Limerick and Munster, whether the pre-match warm-up, watching games or having a drink afterwards while discussing the action.

With strong connections to Ahane GAA through Paul's wife, Eilise—the granddaughter of one of Limerick and Ahane's finest hurlers, the great Mick Mackey—it is also a good spot to watch all the GAA action in the summer.

On Sundays, a local trad band entertains with foot stomping traditional music from 6pm to late. On Thursdays we also get the foot tapping to a folk group who will lead you on a mystical

journey of song and melody from throughout the ages...

If you are looking for a light lunch option, they have you covered. Local favorites include the Mick Mackey baked potato with fillings of your choice, Mamma Fla's homemade soup of the day, King John's nordic flat bread (big favourite with the vegetarians), locally sourced pork belly toastie or the timeless classic toastie of the day is always an option. And for those not so pleasant days outside we have you covered with a tasty hot whiskey or one of the finest Irish coffees in Limerick!



## Myles Breen's

18 Shannon Street  
061-414327  
[www.facebook.com/MylesBreens](http://www.facebook.com/MylesBreens)

Myles Breen's Select Bar has stood at 18 Shannon Street in Limerick City since 1802. Since the early 19th century its façade has witnessed disparate archetypes of traffic, not just humans but from horse-drawn wagons to the contemporary motor car.

Nonetheless, one thing which has survived to remain the same is its establishment as a public house and as an institution of Munster Rugby. This pub is situated on a street which links Limerick's City centre to the majestic River Shannon.

Its neighbouring sites include the place where the world famous Shakespearean actress Ada Rehan was born, or two doors down from where Adam Clayton called "the exact point of becoming U2" occurred on March 18th 1978 when the band, performing as U2 for the first time, won the Limerick Civic Week Pop group '78 competition.



While working as a whole, Myles Breen's interior lends itself to be split into three sections: a top section, middle and bottom. Its snug and amiable atmosphere is created by a combination of contrasting factors: good staff, patterned upholstery, polished mahogany and of course, the red relief wallpaper

littered with a framed gallery of precursory sporting events.

When sport is not on the television, the only friendly music that can be heard is the art of conversation, sounding from mouths and lingering on the ears of each of its customers.

## The Glen Tavern

1-2 Lower Glentworth Street  
061-411380  
[www.glentavern.ie](http://www.glentavern.ie)

The Glen Tavern is Limerick's local in the heart of the city. Located in the Georgian Quarter, this wonderful dated building circa 1800 still retains its old world charm.

Renowned for its food and beverage trade, it's a family run business, catering for local and tourist alike.

The friendly staff, led by owner Ger Callanan, continue to maintain their high standards achieved with the Fáilte Ireland award and TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence 2013/14/15/16/17 and 2018.

Whiskey and Craft Beer Tasting are new options from the extensive selection of events for 2019.

Delicious Irish food menu, a great pint of 'the black stuff' and live music and sport are just some of the reasons to call in to The Glen.

Food is served from 9.30am until 10pm all freshly prepared on the premises by chef, Josie.



The Glen Tavern

Breakfast options include the iconic full Irish, a mini breakfast, and lots more.

Light lunch options include seafood chowder, homemade soups, sandwiches and 'a light bite of the day.'

For a heartier meal in the daytime, there is a large choice such as shepherd's pie, ploughman's lunch as well as daily specials e.g. curry, Irish stew and a vegetarian dish of the day. Evening meals include gourmet bangers & mash, beef & Guinness pie, and White Gypsy

Beer battered cod to name but a few.

Groups bookings for meals can be assured of a professional service in a cosy atmosphere. All special dietary needs are well catered for with the choice of menu that is available.

The location, just off O'Connell Street, makes it an ideal meeting place. There is live music nightly Thursday to Sunday; you are guaranteed a good night's entertainment.

All major credit cards are accepted.

## The Number Three Pub & Grub (No. 3)

3 Lower Glenworth Street  
[www.facebook.com/thenumberthreepub](https://www.facebook.com/thenumberthreepub)

Cheers to this local gem! The No. 3 Pub & Grub seems to be Limerick's homage to the classic TV sitcom and its homely bar. The warm and welcoming staff create an atmosphere that makes you instantly feel like you're among friends. As for setting, the recently remodelled No.3 has seamlessly transitioned into a modern and contemporary space whilst maintaining its traditional old world charm and ambience.

“ The perfect place to immerse yourself in the local vibes and relax



The Number Three Pub & Grub

The No.3, nestled cosily in the Georgian Quarter, is the perfect place to immerse yourself in the local vibes and relax with a fresh cold pint, craft beer or spirits - and you can always find a friendly local or two to join you! Also serving up a tasty menu with food served from 9am - 4pm you are sure to get your fill starting with breakfast items such as poached eggs and avocado smash or the No. 3 Breakfast Blaa, mains such as Shamie's Fisherman Pie, traditional fish & chips and pizza (to name a few), or a fresh slice of daily cheesecake, ice cream

or Cookie Jar served with vanilla ice cream to finish your meal.

For added local charm, The No. 3 provides a lively setting where you can catch a match or enjoy the sounds of live music every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. And, if you feel daring, or talented enough - warm up those vocal cords and tap into your inner Star is Born persona and take a shot at the Karaoke mic on Sunday nights 8 - 10pm. Whatever your mood you're sure to leave satisfied and feeling like The No. 3 may be your lucky number.

## Sexton's Bar

91 Henry Street  
[www.facebook.com/Sextons](https://www.facebook.com/Sextons)  
Limerick

What's old is new again at Sexton's Bar. Situated in the Garden Quarter of the city, the newly remodelled Sexton's is your one-stop-shop for fun, food, and comfort.

Upon walking through the doors, visitors are instantly absorbed into the warmth and charm of this bright and cheery pub. The décor is a unique blend, offering the comfortable vibe of a family home, with all the trappings of a contemporary Irish bar. For patrons, to lounge in a comfy spot inside this homey, yet vibrant pub, offers a chance to be transported into a seemingly personal space that simulates being at home - in the best way possible.

Sporting Limerick's first outdoor wood fire pizza oven, Sexton's serves up tasty piping hot pizzas made with the freshest ingredients, as well as serving a variety of lager, craft beer, cocktails, wine and spirits. Perfect



for gathering with family or friends, Sexton's offers visitors the perfect setting in which to share a meal, play one of the many board games they have available, or simply enjoy a drink together. Especially unique is the city's only Fauxlet room (a must see), where you can relieve yourself of all the stresses of the day or; hang out in their Pizza Garden for a real backyard feel.

Sexton's also pride themselves on caring for and catering to DD (Designated Drivers) or non- alcoholic

drinkers, and stock plenty of non-alcoholic drinks (fairly priced) for patrons to have a great time out, inclusively.

Overall, Sexton's sets the perfect scene for a number of outings. Whether you are a solo visitor seeking a home-away-from home, or part of a larger group, there is plenty of fun to experience in Sexton's warm and lively atmosphere.

## Scruffy Murphy's

Hartstonge Street  
[www.facebook.com/scruffymurphyslimerick](https://www.facebook.com/scruffymurphyslimerick)

Scruffy Murphy's (known locally as 'Scruffy's') is not your typical watering hole. Located in the vibrant Georgian Quarter of the city, Scruffy's is a unique blend of classic Irish pub and lively entertainment venue. A neighbourhood favourite, Scruffy's is where locals and visitors alike gather for drinks, fun, or just to unwind.

The entrance to Scruffy's opens with a garden-like outdoor patio area where you can sit or stand and enjoy some libation no matter the weather. With a fully sheltered spot, rain or shine Scruffy's have - quite literally - got you covered!

“Where locals and visitors alike gather for drinks, fun, or just to unwind

Inside, Scruffy's is spacious and offers patrons a multi-functional setting in which to enjoy their drink, making it the perfect backdrop for any mood. You can warm up by the welcoming fireplace and sip a hot whiskey or hot chocolate; sit at the bar and sip a cold pint or relax in one of the pub's many cosy snugs. Or, if you're looking to while away an afternoon or evening, take your chance at a game of pool in the comfortable and roomy games area. With TV screens throughout the pub, Scruffy's is also the ideal spot

to catch a live match in an energetic atmosphere. And if hunger gets the best of you, sit down for one of their tasty toasties and/or a fresh bowl of soup served daily.

There is much fun to be had every day of the week at Scruffy's, and things get especially lively with live music, every Friday and Saturday night along with open mic. People come to Scruffy Murphy's for the pints, but stay for the craic!





Maggie Choo's at 101

## Maggie Choo's at 101

101-102 O'Connell Street

061-597164

[www.101limerick.com](http://www.101limerick.com)

Maggie Choo's is definitely a reliable venue for impressing first-time visitors to Limerick. Step past the streetlights and the dark doors and into an abundance of textures: coloured tiles and intricately sculpted wood.

The bar is vast, and stocked with top class liquor. The bar is dotted with an impressive amount of detail that gives the place its soul. If you hear whispers of secret passageways behind the walls, secret cocktail bars or secret gardens — know that it's all true.

The latest addition to the 101 collective, Maggie Choo's is both an

eatery and a bar, a place like nothing we have seen before in Limerick.

The cocktails are the talking point of Maggie Choo's, with classics from Manhattans to Whiskey Sours flowing, in house creations such as Barrel & Drum and Whisper Sister are enjoyed by the trendy crowd and the firm favourite Espresso Martini, graces the hand of the regulars. Plenty of beers and spirits are available to patrons who prefer a more traditional drink and of course Guinness on tap, and Irish Whiskeys to keep the visitors warm.

A selection of food is served until 9pm - Enjoy Garlic Prawns, Nordic Flatbread, Antipasto selections or get your hands into the "Durdy" Fries (Crispy fries with taco beef, garlic mayo, mixed peppers, melted cheese and scallions).

Maggie Choo's is a welcome new arrival in Limerick which is definitely worth a visit.



## Dolan's Pub & Restaurant

Dock Road  
061-314483  
www.dolans.ie

Dolans is one of Ireland's iconic music venues. Located on the Dock Road Dolans has 4 live music venues, Traditional Irish music every night and serves delicious food.

Winner Irish Pubs Global Best Entertainment Experience (World) Winner 2017, Winner Irish Pubs Global Best Entertainment Experience (Ireland) Winner 2017, Irish Pub Best Venue SW 2017, Winner Pure M Best Venue Award 2017, Metal Radio Ireland Best festival, Hotpress Readers award 2015 Best Venue IMRO Live Music Venue of the Year Award 2014, Hotpress Venue of the Year 2013 Special Commendation, IMRO 2013 Munster Winner.

“One of Ireland's most iconic venues



Dolan's Pub & Restaurant

Dolan's is also home to the famous Dolan's Warehouse, which hosts the top international, national and local acts.

The décor has great character from the solid to the open fire, the corner space reserved for Irish musicians and Irish music memorabilia on the walls. With a warm atmosphere, amiable service and an outstanding pint, you can understand its popularity.

Dolan's opens for breakfast on weekends and Bank Holidays. Lunch is

served from 12pm, Monday-Friday and dinner served from 5-10pm. There is a special student menu too.

The menu specializes in fresh Irish food fish Irish beef with a strong leaning toward local produce. We are especially proud of our local Irish beef, fresh fish and fabulous steaks

There are several large screens for watching sport (the sport is especially lively for Munster games) and two heated smoking areas.



Mickey Martin's

## Mickey Martin's

Augustinian Lane

Mickey Martin's is a fantastic little family-run pub right in the centre of Limerick's pedestrianised zone.

There has been a licensed premises here for 200 years, ever since the first

licenses were issued in 1819. Mrs. Lucinda Warren and her daughter were among the first to the courthouse that January.

But don't be misled by the slow, easygoing olde-world charm. Mickey's is that down-a-lane pub that you can't quite figure out how you found it the morning after. Alongside an extensive

draught selection, music is really the star of the show in Mickey's. All the staff members have a well-educated ear and are led by their manager Seamus, who is also a DJ. You are likely to hear an eclectic mix of Funk, Soul, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Disco and House. Along with the resident DJs, Mickey's also hosts DJs from all around Ireland and abroad.

“Regularly Mickey's spills out onto the lane

Nor is it always little. Regularly Mickey's spills out onto the lane, transforming the whole area into a street festival, for guest DJs, match nights and 'cos the sun is shining.

One of the very best events in Mickey's calendar every year is the Mickey Martin's Fancy Dress Party at Halloween. If you only go out once a year, this night is not to be missed!



## 101 Limerick

101 O'Connell Street

061-597164

[www.101limerick.com](http://www.101limerick.com)

101 Limerick is the name on everyone's lips and is Limerick's most popular hotspot. Located on the main street in the business district; 101 Limerick is a multi-levelled cocktail bar with an edge, offering three floors of fun in the heart of the city.

"The Basement" at 101 is an authentic and comfortable Irish Bar, decorated with paintings by the acclaimed Irish artist Solus and tales of "Dead" Rob Rich to give visitors a taste Limerick character.

The heart and uniqueness of 101 Limerick is their signature outdoor bar, with ample heating, colourful lighting, plants and creative design, the bar offers an escape into a stylish "Secret Garden" venue, where you can sip your drink or dance to the beat of laid back house music.

101 Limerick brings an air of old-school glamour with its slick and suave décor and atmosphere. Complete with a 1920's inspired parlour bar in "The Piano Bar," it is the ideal venue for a night out with a bit of extra sparkle.

With passionate staff whose cocktails are created with a touch of finesse. We recommend trying the French 101 cocktail, which is a heady combination of house-infused strawberry and rose syrup, lemon and gin topped

with Prosecco – it's worth every cent of its €10 price tag as it practically screams glamour.

The venue features a mix of live music and dj's throughout the week and on weekends a visit to the exclusive "Opium" Lounge is a must, with bottle service, top class liquor being served and an oriental vibe, this seductive atmosphere will have you dancing early into the morning. Bookings are required for the booths and enquiries can be made at [bookings@101limerick.com](mailto:bookings@101limerick.com).

“A multi-levelled cocktail bar with an edge



## Ma Hogans Bar

72 Catherine St

061-316111

[www.facebook.com/MaHogansBar](http://www.facebook.com/MaHogansBar)

Located in the vibrant Catherine St area, Ma Hogans is one of Limerick's most established traditional pubs.

The pub has a storied history, and Ma Hogan herself was one of the city's many colourful characters of days gone by. Many long-time Limerick residents can attest to the landlady's formidable discipline of unruly customers and the many rules of the old pub.

“ Its quirky history only adds to its unique local flavour

Today, however, Ma Hogans is a relaxed spot, and its quirky history only adds to its unique local flavour. Under new ownership, the pub has been beautifully restored to its old world charm. Retaining the original bar, Ma

Hogans has an open fire, snug, ornate advertising mirrors and wood panelled walls, effectively creating a cosy and atmospheric setting in which patrons can while away an afternoon or evening.

The pub also has a comfortable outdoor seating area at the front entrance. In addition to this, with a strong commitment to traditionalism, the pub has no televisions nor live music, ensuring that visitors can experience the

simple pleasures of a great pint and good conversation to the fullest.

With a great selection of beers, wines, and spirits, as well as a team of friendly staff, Ma Hogans is the epitome of the homely neighbourhood pub - an ideal spot for those looking for a new local, as well as visitors seeking an authentic taste of Limerick.

Twitter: @MaHogansBar,  
Instagram - @mahogansbar



Ma Hogans Bar



The Horse & Hound Bar

## The Horse & Hound Bar

1 Mulgrave Street

061-419194

The Horse & Hound Bar has been continuously trading at the corner of Mulgrave Street and Cathedral Place for over 150 years.

Originally established under a 999 year lease to cater for thirsty farmers who enjoyed an early tippie before selling their produce at the market fair, this bar continues to provide food and

drink to those who start their day in the early morning.

In its long history it has been the birthplace of an American Senator, a location for the picking of the Limerick hurling team, and during the War of Independence, guns, ammunition and infamously, the gunpowder used to blow up the Annacotty bridge, was stolen from the nearby barracks and passed to the rebels inside the doors of this well-known Limerick bar.

The Horse & Hound opens from 7.30am Monday to Saturday and from 9am on Sunday with its hallmark full

Irish breakfast as the main attraction.

From 12-9pm, it serves a traditional, wholesome and generously portioned menu which changes daily with speedy, table service assured. At any time of the day, this is one of the best places in the city to get a good pint of Guinness, a true sign of a traditional Irish pub.

Popular with locals and tourists alike, this establishment sees customers returning again and again for its relaxed atmosphere, good food, great drink and friendly banter. With a reputation for impromptu sing songs and traditional music, this Limerick pub is a favourite.



## The Tap House

Newtown, Annacotty  
061-338893  
[www.thetaphouse.ie](http://www.thetaphouse.ie)

Conveniently located just outside Limerick city centre, the Tap House Pub & Kitchen is an excellent choice for your next outing.

Newly refurbished in 2017, the Tap House features a large wraparound bar, and decor characterised by the warm accents of polished wood, leather, and bronze. With exposed brick, a fireplace and comfortable seating, the finishings on the bar and restaurant create a space which is welcoming, with an air of subtle sophistication. In addition to this, adjacent to the bar is the Tap House Garden, a heated veranda and sun trap. The Garden can also be covered up, allowing you to enjoy al fresco dining all year round.

Ultimately, the Tap House boasts an atmosphere that is at once cosy and convivial, making it the perfect place for family meal, a reunion with friends, or an intimate dinner for two!

“Perfect place for family meal, a reunion with friends, or an intimate dinner for two!”

Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner seven days a week, the menu - and service - is second to none. The Tap House caters to a wide range of tastes and preferences, ensuring that there's something for everyone. They offer everything from gastropub favourites like BBQ ribs, chicken wings and beef

burgers, to delicious seafood dishes and european cuisine. Try popular exotic dishes such as the Thai red curry and sizzling fajitas, or enjoy the best of traditional food including top quality sirloin steak and fish and chips.

In addition to this, the Tap House also has an extensive drinks selection, featuring a range of beers, wines, spirits and cocktails. Keep an eye on their social media to spot their cocktail of the month, drinks deals, and seasonal specials!

The Tap House also caters for corporate events, engagements and birthdays, so if you have a large group, a special event, or celebration to plan for, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Furthermore, the Tap House also offers a haven for sporting fans, with strategically placed TVs throughout the space, showing a variety of events and matches throughout the year. Whether you are a Munster Rugby supporter, a GAA fanatic, or soccer aficionado, you can trust you'll find your passions catered to.

Located in Newtown centre, the Tap House is placed right at the intersection of Castletroy, Annacotty, and Monaleen, making it easily accessible for locals and visitors alike. You can also find them on Facebook @thetaphouseLK, Instagram @the\_tap\_house, and Twitter @tap\_house\_. With food, service, and atmosphere second to none, choose the Tap House for your next group brunch, big night out, or family celebration - you won't be disappointed!



## The Commercial

46/47 Catherine Street  
[www.facebook.com/thecommerciallimerick](http://www.facebook.com/thecommerciallimerick)

With its dark oak wooden floor boards, its intimate candle lit snug and blazing wood burning stove nestled into the buildings original 200 year old red brick arched fireplace, this charming softly lit oak bar exudes intimacy, ambience and character.

Having been sensitively restored, redecorated and refurbished to a delightful standard, this historic 1800 landmark building and renowned family run hotel set in the heart of Georgian Limerick reopened its door as a bar and live music venue to serve its cities dwellers and visitors into the late hours once again.

If you're longing to unwind and enjoy banter, fireside fiddles and friends or to gently reminisce and gaze through timeless wooden sash windows, ponder over your favourite novel or crossword and sip on a mug of rustic homemade soup, then look no further. Perhaps

that doesn't rock your boat though and a spirited night of live music in the intimate underground stone walled basement bar does.

“If you're longing to unwind and enjoy banter, fireside fiddles and friends

The Commercial is a place you will feel wholly at ease with warm welcoming experienced staff, it is cosy, traditional and complimentary to its period and character – a little hidden gem deep in the heart of the city that serves a smashing hot toddy and one of the creamiest pints around.

Situated on a Georgian terraced street The Commercial 46/47 Catherine Street is accessible by foot and car, it has street parking outside, is a convenient 5 minute walk to Colbert Bus and Rail Station and an abundance of the cities hotels, shops and restaurants.

Instagram: @thecommerciallimerick



The Commercial

# Limerick in Numbers

1983

Year Limerick Civic Trust was formally inaugurated

2004

Year the annual Riverfest began

350

Length in metres of The Living Bridge in UL, Ireland's longest pedestrian bridge

061

Telephone dialling code for Limerick

24

Distance in kilometres from Limerick to Shannon Airport

2001

Year Limerick rower, Sam Lynch, won his first World Championship gold medal in the Men's Lightweight Single Skulls (he took gold again in 2002)

1889

Year the first edition of *The Limerick Leader* hit the streets on Friday 9 August

8

Number of All Ireland Senior Hurling titles won by Limerick to date

1852

Year the School of Ornamental Art (now Limerick School of Art & Design, LIT) was established

95

Sum in millions raised for charity by the JP McManus Invitational Pro-Am golf event since 1990

DID YOU KNOW?

## Hollywood Starlet

Born in Limerick in 1928, Constance Smith was a film actress, and contract player of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. She won a beauty contest in Dublin at 16 and her mother sent the photo to a film studio. She subsequently did a screen test and moved to London to act. In 1950, she was noticed playing an Irish maid in the film, *The Mudlark* and offered a contract by the Hollywood studio. She starred in numerous features throughout the 1950s including *Man in the Attic* and *Treasure of the Golden Condor*. She was a presenter at the Academy Awards ceremony in 1952. Her film career faltered in the late fifties. She had a turbulent romantic and personal life in the following years. Constance Smith passed away in 2003 in London.

## Katie Dalys Heritage Pub and Kitchen

12 Castle St, Castle Parade  
061-214893  
www.katiedalyslimerick.com

Katie Dalys Heritage Pub and Kitchen is a popular spot with locals and visitors alike. With a prime location in the heart of Limerick's famous Medieval Quarter, the pub is right beside King John's Castle - one of the city's best known and most-visited historical landmarks. Furthermore, situated as it is en route to Thomond Park, Katie Dalys has also proven popular with the Munster Rugby crowd.

### “ In the heart of Limerick's famous Medieval Quarter

In keeping with its historical setting, the pub focuses on traditional Irish food



Katie Dalys

and hospitality. With a menu featuring full Irish breakfasts, pub favourites such as fish and chips and cottage pie, as well as a number of healthy options, Katie Dalys has all the credentials of a true gastropub. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner from 10am to 9pm 7 days a week, the pub also has a set menu and finger food menu, making it a viable option for big groups and parties.

As well as its dining options, Katie Dalys also has an extensive drinks selection, with numerous wines, spirits,

and a particular focus on aged oak barrel whiskeys and craft beers.

With four televisions offering live sports coverage on the weekend, and music every Friday night till late, the pub provides plenty of entertainment for patrons. Whether you are sightseeing in the old part of the city, looking for a hearty lunch with colleagues, a night out with friends, or even a leisurely weekend brunch, Katie Dalys is a versatile spot with something for everyone.

## The Locke Bar

3 Georges Quay  
061-413733  
www.lockebar.com

The Locke Bar is one of Limerick's best-loved traditional Irish pub with an award winning seafood menu in the heart of Limerick City's medieval quarter.

The Locke is synonymous in Limerick as well as further afield for its genuine Irish hospitality, incredible atmosphere, delicious fresh seafood, extensive drinks menu and unforgettable trad music sessions and Irish dancing seven nights a week.

### “ Trad music sessions and Irish dancing seven nights

The Locke is a pub for all seasons enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. In winter, customers cosy up to welcoming, open fires and in the summer, they enjoy al fresco dining in the extensive outdoor



The Locke Bar

seating area by the Abbey River—on the original site of one of Limerick's oldest pubs dating all the way back to 1724.

The Locke serves delicious food daily and menus to suit everyone - breakfast, lunch and dinner served daily until 10pm. Food served Monday-Friday 9am-10pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am-10pm.

If it's traditional Irish music that you're after, then The Locke is just the

right place for you. When the musicians strike up a 'sessúin' and get the 'craic' started, it's unique every time. Different musicians and a variety of instruments make sure each visit is one to remember not forgetting the Irish dancers.

For further info email enquiries@lockebar.com.

## Roma Casino

29 William St  
061-596864  
romacasino.ie

For amusements a little off the beaten track, Roma Casino is a great option for locals and visitors alike. Located at the top of William St, Roma has been a fixture in Limerick city for many years, and the many patrons who return time and again are a testament to the quality gaming experience it offers.

Right in the heart of the city, the casino is an oasis of calm for visitors looking to escape into a plush, comfortable world of fun. With a range of slot, poker, and casino machines, Roma has something to suit every taste. They also run a daily spin wheel which offers one lucky customer the chance to win up to €100.

As well as its amusements, Roma is also known to take exceptional care of its customers. There is complimentary coffee and tea for all patrons, and VIP areas with extra-comfortable

surroundings for those who want to avail of the very best Roma has to offer. Regular visitors can also avail of the loyalty card scheme, proving that Roma is certainly an establishment that prioritises its patrons.

Spacious, yet with an intimate and friendly atmosphere, Roma is perfect for chilled out solo games or for social outings. Open from 8.30AM to 2AM, an evening at the casino is an evening to enjoy. Keep an eye on their Facebook for special offers, events, prizes and more. Drop into Roma Casino and who knows - today could be your lucky day!

“Oasis of calm for visitors looking to escape into a plush, comfortable world of fun



Roma Casino

# The Market Quarter

*This area near Limerick's famous Milk Market has an array of vibrant pubs and clubs.*



Phil Flannery's Bar

## Phil Flannery's Bar

2 Denmark Street  
061-419761  
www.philflannerys.com

“Come in for a chat and stay for the craic” is the motto at this friendly, family-run bar in the very heart of the city.

Located in Limerick's Market Quarter, the service at Phil Flannery's is all about the personal touch and the amiable staff complement the great pint of plain.

When it comes to food, quality and value is always on the menu with breakfast served from 10am and light snacks and full meals through to 10pm, Monday to Friday and to 5pm on Saturday.

Sports fans will be right at home watching the top sports contests of the day—whether it be soccer, rugby, GAA, golf and more, displayed on a choice of eight screens. There are always some barstool experts waiting to talk sports.

Flannery's livens up even more on weekends with live bands as a regular fixture. Musicians who have played here include Irish folk legend, John Spillane.

The stylish marble-clad exterior is one improvement made in extensive renovations in 2007 and another popular addition was the state of the art beer garden/smoking area on the second floor. Inside, the spacious bar and lounge is laid out with comfort in mind, including features like an open fire and free Wi-Fi. There is a function room, which is available for any occasion too.

The bar opens until 1am on Friday and Saturday nights. As any one of the regulars will tell you Flannery's aims to be a true local so a warm welcome is always waiting here.

**DID YOU KNOW?****Twinning**

Limerick is twinned with several places in three different countries, including its township namesake in Pennsylvania in the USA. The others are: Quimper (France), New Brunswick, New Jersey (USA), Starogard, Gdanski (Poland), Spokane, Washington (USA), Kansas City, Kansas (USA) and Lowell, Massachusetts (USA).



Photo: Brendan Howard



Photo: Roxana Gonzalez

**Che Guevara**

Famed revolutionary, Che Guevara, visited Limerick once in 1965 when his flight was forced to land at Shannon Airport. *Irish Times* journalist, Arthur Quinlan, interviewed him - becoming the only western journalist to have done so. The story has it that the journalist even taught Guevara how to make an Irish coffee in what was the former Hanratty's Hotel in Glentworth Street in the city.

**Michael Flannery's Pub**

17 Upper Denmark Street

061-436677

[www.flannerysbar.ie](http://www.flannerysbar.ie)

Michael Flannery's Pub is well known in Limerick and its owner is one of the city's longest serving publicans, working in the family business since 1959.

Located on Denmark Street, just around the corner from the famous Milk Market, its vibrant red frontage is set off against a beautiful stone façade.

Michael's grandfather, William, opened the first Flannery's pub in 1898. Michael is one of the last remaining local publicans who bottled his own Jameson whiskey from the cask until the mid 1960s and there is a beautiful display of the materials he used in the pub. Thus began his love affair with Irish whiskey and the pub has over 140 different types—one of the largest collections in Ireland.

“**William, opened the first Flannery's pub in 1898**

Visitors can discover all the different types by consulting a personally compiled 'Whiskey Bible,' which lists them all with tasting notes.

Flannery's is also known for serving an excellent pint of Guinness and offering Limerick's largest selection of Irish craft and world beers, currently

numbering over 50. Try local craft beers such as White Gypsy and with rotating taps, there's always something for everyone whether you prefer an IPA to a Stout to a Weissbier.

The décor is authentic with a stove, grocery-style bar counter and a snug, perfect for two old friends catching up or a larger group attending a Whiskey Tasting Session.

“**Thus began a love affair with Irish whiskey and the pub has over 140 different types**

At the rear, there is a courtyard overlooked by a roof terrace with a spacious contemporary bar behind.

All major sporting events are shown with a multitude of screens scattered around, but not in Michael's pub, which is a TV free zone to encourage good conversation. There is live music and DJs most nights in the adjoining bar, rocking Denmark Street until the small hours.

Flannery's is one of those 'split personality' bars that has something for everyone, giving the customer the traditional Irish pub with a modern twist.

For more information, see [www.facebook.com/flannerysbarlimerick](http://www.facebook.com/flannerysbarlimerick), Twitter @FlannerysBar, Instagram @flannerys\_bar\_limerick or email [info@flannerysbar.ie](mailto:info@flannerysbar.ie).



Michael Flannerys Pub



## Mother Macs

9 High Street  
061-414900  
www.mothermacs.ie

Located on High Street and Upper Denmark Street, Mother Macs Public House is one of Limerick's most iconic buildings.

Known locally as The Roundhouse, the building dates back to the 18th century and the large windows give a

panoramic view of the passing hustle and bustle. Over the years the building has had several different uses; most recently a public house but also a whiskey/tea merchants and a grocery shop.

The building was purchased in 2015 by two local brothers and in December of that year opened its doors as Mother Macs. The pub has become known for its excellent selection of beers and was awarded "Best Pint of Guinness" in 2016 by the Limerick Leader readership.

The bar is focused on offering a selection of local, national and international beers. It offers rotational craft beer taps, guest taps, specials and a large selection of bottled beers.

“Makes for a brilliantly atmospheric pub that’s a favourite for locals and visitors alike

To complement the beer selection the pub also offers an extensive whiskey selection. Visitors are encouraged to enquire about the Whiskey of the Month offers. The opening of Peggy’s Parlour in 2018, an intimate bar just off the main bar, offers visitors access to a selection of unique whiskeys.

Mother Macs has the distinction of being one of only a small handful of Limerick bars without a TV. It makes for a brilliantly atmospheric pub that’s a favourite for locals and visitors alike.



## Cobblestone Joe's

11 Little Ellen St  
061-414840

Inside this rustic cottage-like pub is where you will find the remnants of the pre-existing cobblestone floor that lends itself to the name.

With a blazing fire and covered courtyard, Cobblestone Joe's ('Cobbles') makes for a comfortable hideout no matter the weather - bright, yet cozy. The picnic benches and glass roof in particular give the space a unique "secret garden" atmosphere.

Cobbles' menu features items such as goujons, a bucket of wings and even pancakes. You can also tuck into one of their menu wraps or hot Panini

sandwiches or create your own. Salads are prepared fresh and the lasagna is as delicious as it gets. However, you can't talk about food at Cobblestone Joe's without mentioning their award-winning Italian pizzas. Offering freshly baked to order pizzas from the classic pepperoni to more exotic options, such as curry pizza or even their special "all day breakfast" pizza Cobblestone Joe's boasts recently awarded the 'Best Pizza in Limerick' title on the popular tourism and consumer website Irelandbeforeyou die.com.

Furthermore, Cobbles really comes to life every Friday and Saturday night to the pulsating sounds of live music - whether you're after contemporary music or an energetic rock band - with its impressive stage and immersive sound system the bar is consistently abuzz with a vibrant mix of visitors of all kinds. And their drinks list is extensive with everything from Jameson to the freshest local brews or foreign beers, and spirits. All being said, with its warm atmosphere and team of friendly staff, 'Cobbles' is the perfect place to unwind or get your party on!



The Old Quarter

## The Old Quarter

3 Little Ellen Street  
061-401190  
[www.theoldquarter.ie](http://www.theoldquarter.ie)

A firm favourite in Limerick's Market Quarter for many years, the Old Quarter is your first port of call for an authentic local dining experience.

Located on Little Ellen Street, in Old Quarter is right in the heart of the city, making it easily accessible via the nearby parking complexes, via public transport, or on foot. Enjoy a stroll through the Market Quarter, with its many boutiques and colourful shops and finish up with a visit to this cheerful Gastro Pub!

“Enjoy your meal inside, in the cosy environment of a traditional pub, or eat on the terrace outside

Whether stopping in for a quick coffee, a leisurely brunch, dinner or drinks, the Old Quarter can cater to your needs. Enjoy a full Irish breakfast in the morning, or a hearty evening meal with choices from sirloin steak to pasta dishes to delicious vegetarian options. Don't forget to follow your meal with some Bewley's tea or freshly ground Bewley's

coffee! With a policy of serving fresh, wholesome, and simply good food, you can trust that whatever you fancy is cooked to perfection.

The Old Quarter seamlessly blends traditional Irish hospitality with the European bistro feel of al fresco dining. Enjoy your meal inside, in the cosy environment of a traditional pub, or eat on the terrace outside. With heat lamps and rain-proof awning, the terrace gives you a chance to really soak up the atmosphere of the Market Quarter and watch the world go by - no matter the weather.

As well as the food menu, the Old Quarter also offers a variety of drinks options. With a wide range of beers, wine, cocktails and spirits - including a number of premium whiskeys and gins, there is sure to be something to quench your thirst. Follow them on Facebook @oldquartergastropub to stay up to date on drinks offers and seasonal specials.

However, the fun doesn't stop after dinnertime. The Old Quarter has also proven itself to be one of the most popular nightspots in Limerick, with live music every single weekend! Attracting



a varied clientele, the lively atmosphere at the Old Quarter means the place is hopping with visitors and vibrant with energy night after night. Whether it's a girls or boys night out, a tourist outing or a get together with your colleagues, we can guarantee an evening of fun. Ideal for music enthusiasts who believe you can't beat the buzz of a live band or simply for those who can't resist the pull of a great Friday night out - the Old Quarter is sure to make it special!

Follow the Old Quarter on social media, visit the website, or simply call in to find out more. Once you experience the Old Quarter for yourself, you're likely to discover why it's considered the jewel in the crown of the Market Quarter for locals and visitors alike!



## Smyth's Bar

Denmark Street

061-310766

[www.iconniteclub.com/smyths-bar](http://www.iconniteclub.com/smyths-bar)

Smyth's Bar is synonymous with great nights out in Limerick with its potent mix of live entertainment, tasty food and drink at top prices with efficient service.

Established nearly a decade ago, it is a popular beat in the heart of the 'Market Quarter' and is more often than not buzzing with energy.

Just beyond the entrance is a large smoking area; within, there is plenty of space whether sitting, standing or dancing in the tasteful interior. The vibe is contemporary with leather seats and wrought-iron fixtures.

### “A popular beat in the heart of the 'Market Quarter'”

Smyth's has a good range of food on offer during the day, including breakfast, served from 9am Monday to Saturday. Smyth's offers a fine choice of sandwiches/light bites and hot lunches Monday to Friday from 12-3pm followed by an à la carte menu from 3-6pm. There are daily deals and weekly specials available. On Sundays, hot carvery lunches are available from 12.30-6pm.

By night, the bar aims to have live music seven nights a week and has top Irish bands such as Big Generator and



Smyth's Icon Nightclub

Free Beer on a regular basis, with no cover charge. Smyth's has a full drinks menu including craft beers and cocktails along with drinks promotions. These include the '5 for €16' deal with certain bottled drinks and a handy bucket of ice to keep them cold.

Smyth's is connected to the Icon Nightclub so you can go from pub to club seamlessly. Entry is free from Smyth's from Monday to Wednesday.

### Smyth's Icon Nightclub

Denmark Street

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

Seven nights a week, two levels, two dance floors and five bars all filled with a chic and fun party atmosphere — The Icon is Limerick's largest and "Ireland's

best nightclub" with a party happening every night of the week.

It was voted as the best club in the country in the Smirnoff 'Battle of the Clubs' contest, fighting off stiff competition from other venues.

It is spread over two levels, with two huge dance-floors, five bars and several smoking areas. The Icon has everything a modern nightclub should have and attracts huge crowds. Visitors can kick back in one of many alcoves and sip one of the signature cocktails or just dance the night away to your favourite tunes.

### “Kick back in one of many alcoves and sip one of the signature cocktails or just dance the night away”

Entry is free from Smyth's from Monday to Wednesday.

Thursday is Ladies Night where women have free entry.

On selected nights, the two floors each have their distinct music. The downstairs dance-floor might have R n B and current chart hits playing where upstairs would have tunes from the 70s, 80s and 90s.

There is something for everyone and the club is known for its fantastic atmosphere.



Smyth's Bar

# 7

*Oh sweet Adare, Oh lovely  
vale, Oh soft retreat Of  
Sylvan splendour*

- Gerald Griffin, 1803-1840

# Adare

# Steeped in History & Heritage

Adare is a small village with a big difference. Not only does it have an extremely rich history but in its present state, it has a strong community spirit and a booming tourist trade.

Adare in Irish is ‘Áth Dara,’ which translates as “the Ford of the Oak” for its setting amid water and woodland. It was founded on a tributary of the mighty River Shannon, the River Maigue, in the 13th century, and the lands were originally ruled by the Fitzgeralds—Earls of Kildare.

Situated 16 km from the larger Viking settlement in Limerick, Adare was regarded as a strategic stronghold. Much like today, Adare had a good retail sector and became known as a market town. By the Middle Ages, it was a large settlement boasting Desmond Castle and three monasteries—the Franciscan, Augustinian and Trinitarian Abbeys. These still exist, either as ruins or in their entirety, and are all available to visit.

## Desmond Castle

The majestic Desmond Castle has been overlooking the River Maigue from the north bank since the 13th century. There are supervised tours from June to September, which can be organised through Adare Heritage Centre. For bookings, call 061-396666 or reserve online at [www.adareheritagecentre.ie](http://www.adareheritagecentre.ie).





# Visiting Adare

With a population of about 2,000, Modern Adare is a lively place with much to recommend it. The village has two four star hotels in the form of one-time estate coach house and old world hotel, the Dunraven Arms and the modern, Fitzgerald's Woodlands House Hotel. Many more guests stay in high quality bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation in the village and surrounds.

It has another fine golf course, Adare Manor Golf Club, which was founded by the 4th Earl of Dunraven and completed in 1900. This is just one of many popular activities to do around Adare. Sports of all types are played, particularly Gaelic Games. Other outdoor pursuits such as hiking and fishing are also prevalent. It has a lovely village park, great for a stroll in any weather.

It has many bustling bars, shops and restaurants. Adare is a foodie heaven with numerous fine cafés and restaurants as well as several well-known pubs.

The stores here are brimming over with everything from fashion to art; there is something for everyone. The village hosts regular events, with particular focus on the culture and heritage of the area.

**“Brimming over with everything from fashion to art; there is something for everyone**

Adare is a multiple winner in the prestigious, nationwide Tidy Towns Competition. It won the overall national title in 1976. A local committee gives time voluntarily to keep the village looking its best. It was the tidiest town in County Limerick in 2016—adding another Gold Medal to add to a

considerable haul won over the years. In 2015, adjudicators complimented Adare on over 50 years of “support and dedication” for the Tidy Towns competition which is “no mean feat,” adding “well done to all the community of Adare for their efforts over the decades into making Adare one of Ireland’s Tidiest Towns.”

The surrounding areas of picturesque rural landscapes are also popular with walkers and outdoors enthusiasts. Visitors can go walking in Curraghchase Forest Park, walk the “Sli na Slainte” through the town, or along the riverbank, or even go fishing in the River Maigue!

The beautiful village and surrounding countryside attracts many visitors from far and wide. The village aims to extend a ‘Céad míle fáilte’ to each and every visitor and ensure their time in Adare is an unforgettable experience.



# A Thriving Village

Around the 1820s, the Earl of Dunraven took it upon himself to design a layout for the village. He built a lot of new buildings and houses including the famous thatched cottages on Main Street, which he rented to tenants. The Dunraven family has made an incalculable contribution towards preserving and restoring sites in and around Adare as well as donating a lot of land to this end.

The ‘new’ Adare Manor was started in the 1830s and took over 20 years to build. Legend has it that the Earl was hobbled with gout and his wife, Lady Caroline Wyndham, urged him to take on a new project to occupy him. The result was an opulent, neo-Gothic ‘calendar house.’ The Earl did not live to see it finished but his son completed the project. It remained as the family seat until 1982.

It was bought in the late eighties by the Kane family from Florida and they restored it above and beyond its prior glory. Today it is a luxury, five star hotel and part of the estate is occupied by a championship golf course.

With 840 acres of parkland, sumptuous furnishings, and top class food, drink, and service, Adare Manor has won numerous awards, including Hotel of the Year at the 2018 Best of the Best Awards, and Hotel of the Year 2019 at the AA Ireland Hospitality Awards. This has led to Adare Manor and Adare at large becoming known as one of Ireland’s most popular luxury getaways.

“Becoming known as one of Ireland’s most popular luxury getaways

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Adare on the Big Screen

Adare Manor house and grounds was one of the locations used in the 1977 American comedy film, *The Last Remake of Beau Geste*. The film is a satire loosely based on the novel *Beau Geste*—a story of brothers and their misadventures in the French Foreign Legion. Although the film got mixed reviews, it had a star-studded cast including Marty Feldman, Ann Margaret, Michael York, Peter Ustinov, James Earl Jones and Spike Milligan.

### The Prettiest Village in Ireland

Adare is widely referred to as “the prettiest village in Ireland” and a lot of work has been done to keep it that way. A designated heritage town, it was the overall national winner of the Irish Tidy Towns Competition in 1976. It has maintained a stellar record in the competition. Adare won the award for Ireland’s Best Kept Small Town in 2008. It was the tidiest town in County Limerick in 2014, 2015 and 2016—winning a gold medal in 2016.

### Adare’s influence reaches to Antarctica

Cape Adare in Antarctica was named in honour of the third Earl of Dunraven, Edwin Richard Wyndham-Quin. It was so named by his friend, naval officer and explorer, Captain James Clark Ross, in 1841. It is in the furthest north-eastern peninsula in Victoria Land and the inhabitants are hundreds of thousands of Adélie penguins.

## Coatesland House

Bed & Breakfast (3 star)

Tralee Road (N21), Graigue, Adare

V94A592

061-396372 / 087-2477351

coatesfd@indigo.ie

www.coateslandhouse.com

Since its establishment in 1990, Coatesland House B&B enjoys continued success and popularity with its many guests over the years.

It has a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence since 2013 to 2018 inclusive and has a TripAdvisor Hall of Fame credit to its many other credits and awards in hospitality—putting it in the top 10% of businesses on the popular tourist review website. Coatesland House boasts many glowing reviews too!

They specialise in walking tours, golf groups, wedding groups, families etc. with seasonal special rates and an eco-friendly ethos, pet-friendly classifications.

Coatesland House B&B is located just a 10 minute walk to the beautiful village of Adare, with all its wonderful scenic walks, golf courses, restaurants and pubs.



The six bedroomed B&B, all ensuite, offers much more than just a just a facility; it's a home away from home. The Hogan family takes pride in their very high repeat business, all due to the comforts, warmth and hospitality of the proprietor, Florence Hogan.

“ Relax in the tranquility of landscaped gardens

Flexibility and the acknowledgement of guests' special requests are both a given. Some of the many extras include

an ample monitored, secure and well-lit parking area to the rear of house, enabled free Wi-Fi, satellite TV and an outside covered smoking area.

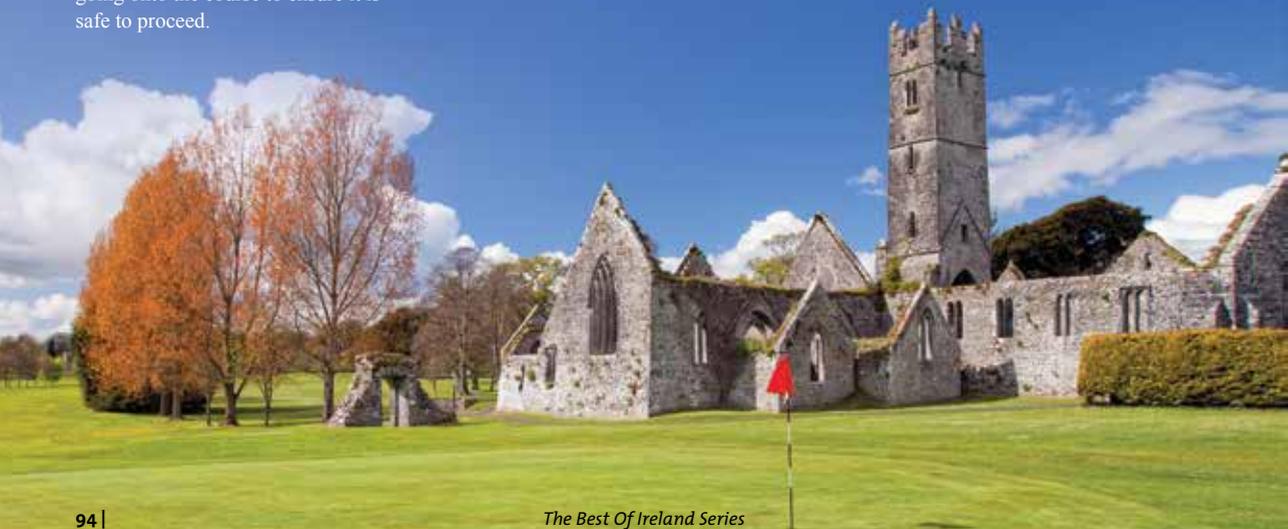
Guests are encouraged to relax in the tranquility of landscaped gardens after a day's travelling.

The breakfast menu incorporates all Irish produce and is prepared specifically for all guests to include a varied buffet, continental and traditional full Irish breakfast. Special dietary requests catered for vegan, vegetarian etc.

Early bookings are advisable during peak holiday seasons to avoid disappointment. Open all year. All bedrooms are upstairs. There is a bed-only option also available with short and long-term stays welcome.

## Franciscan Friary

The ruins of the Franciscan Friary, sometimes called the 'Poor Monastery,' are located just outside Adare village within the grounds of Adare Manor Golf Club. Visitors should check in with the clubhouse on 061-396204, before going onto the course to ensure it is safe to proceed.



## Adare Heritage Centre

Adare, Co. Limerick  
061-396666  
[www.adareheritagecentre.ie](http://www.adareheritagecentre.ie)

Adare's rich history is a treasure trove just waiting to be discovered and the natural first port of call for visitors is the charming Adare Heritage Centre open 363 days of the year.

Conveniently located on the main street, it has a large car/coach park at the rear (parking is free) restroom facilities as well as the tourist information point, local library, a historical exhibition, restaurant, craft shops and heraldic service all under one roof.

“Adare's rich history is a treasure trove just waiting to be discovered



Adare Heritage Centre

A potted history of Adare Village is included on the guided tour of the Adare Desmond Castle, one of the few authentic Norman castles in Europe. This tour is available throughout the summer season by shuttle bus from the Adare Heritage Centre.

Tickets available online [www.adareheritagecentre.ie](http://www.adareheritagecentre.ie) or from the reception desk in the Centre. Group rates available. Walking Tours of Adare are also available on request.

For more information email [info@adareheritagecentre.ie](mailto:info@adareheritagecentre.ie) or see [facebook.com/AdareHeritageCentre](https://facebook.com/AdareHeritageCentre)

## The Blue Door Restaurant

Main Street  
061-396481  
[info@bluedooradare.com](mailto:info@bluedooradare.com)  
[www.bluedooradare.com](http://www.bluedooradare.com)

The Blue Door is based in one of the Adares iconic thatched cottages built in the 1830s. Although it has moved with the times, it still has a cosy bistro-style ambience sure to leave an impression.

The blue door into the restaurant of the same name leads back in time but strangely, to high quality, modern cuisine.

“A cosy bistro-style ambience sure to leave an impression

The staff make customers comfortable while each dish is being freshly made to order.

The eatery is open daily from noon so visitors can stop in for lunch or dinner.

Lunch favourites include open smoked salmon and prawn sandwich, bacon and cheese burger, homemade cottage pie or spinach and ricotta cannelloni

Some dishes from evening menu are deep fried king prawns in katafi pastry, warm duck salad with orange and sesame dressing, fillet of salmon beurre

blanc sauce on a bed of spinach and sirloin or rib eye steak. Other options include burrata cheese bruschetta, confit of duck, and seabass with bacon and mint pea puree. The homemade dessert menu sweetens the deal with such classics as sticky toffee pudding, warm chocolate brownie and vanilla panna cotta.

Come and try it for yourself a warm welcome awaits.



The Blue Door Restaurant

## The Golf Course at Adare Manor

Adare, Co. Limerick

061-605200

[www.adaremanor.com/golf](http://www.adaremanor.com/golf)

The Golf Course at Adare Manor is an award-winning championship course set in the grounds of 5-star luxury resort, Adare Manor.

World-renowned golf course designer Tom Fazio spearheaded the comprehensive 24-month redesign of Adare Manor's golf grounds. Each hole of the Golf Course at Adare Manor offers an exceptional experience amid the surroundings of our parkland estate.

Planted throughout with mature trees, gorgeously landscaped, and bounded by the peaceful waters of the River Maigue, the course offers ever-changing vistas and breath-taking approaches to each hole.

“Set in the grounds of 5-star luxury resort



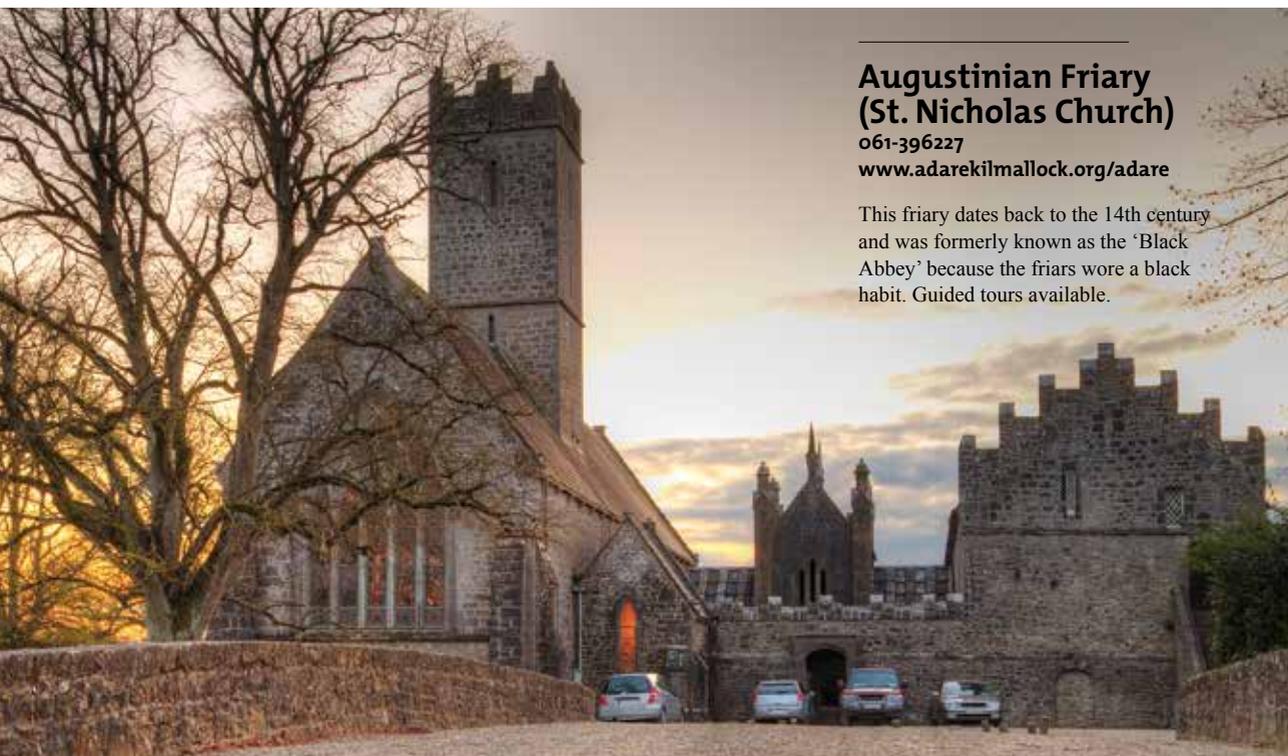
The Golf Course at Adare Manor

The Golf Course is one of only three golf courses in the UK & Ireland where all 18 greens benefit from a SubAir Aeration System, removing moisture through vacuum pumps and guaranteeing firm play each day. The course makes up 7,509 yards with a par 72 from the Championship tees; 12,055 square metres of Pure Distinction bentgrass USGA putting surfaces; 170 acres of low-cut sand capped grass, wall to wall, with no rough in play; and 6,641 square

metres of bunkers. This championship course is set to host the JP McManus Pro-Am 2020.

The Carriage House is a clubhouse designed with a sense of effortless sophistication. Take advantage of the fully stocked Pro Shop and warm and welcoming locker rooms. Indulge in the very best of fresh Irish produce at The Carriage House Restaurant.

For more information email [golf@adaremanor.com](mailto:golf@adaremanor.com)



## Augustinian Friary (St. Nicholas Church)

061-396227

[www.adarekilmallock.org/adare](http://www.adarekilmallock.org/adare)

This friary dates back to the 14th century and was formerly known as the 'Black Abbey' because the friars wore a black habit. Guided tours available.



Adare Manor Hotel

## Adare Manor Hotel

Adare, Co. Limerick

061-605200

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

Once the family seat of the Earls of Dunraven, Adare Manor in Co. Limerick is now a warm and welcoming 5-star luxury resort, set on an 842-acre estate surrounded by medieval ruins, walled gardens and winding woodland paths.

Following a 21-month ground-breaking restoration, refurbishment and expansion, Adare Manor reopened on 2nd November 2017. The largest restoration project of its kind in Ireland, the transformation honours the building's architectural heritage as a Neo-Gothic masterpiece whilst incorporating the latest in contemporary luxury.

The 104 guest rooms are air conditioned and lavishly appointed with original art, Georgian-style furnishings, luscious textiles and marble bathrooms. From Classic rooms to Signature suites, guests can choose from a range of room categories. To experience a retreat that combines the comfort of a high-end hotel with the independence of a self-catering holiday, there are several Manor Lodges and Cottages available.

Located a four-minute walk from the Manor House and adjacent to The Carriage House, our Manor Lodges can sleep up to four people, and our Cottages can sleep up to six people.

Providing a genuine taste of the best that contemporary Irish cuisine has to offer is our fine-dining experience in The Oak Room restaurant. The

Carriage House is host to The Carriage House Bar, Terrace and Restaurant, which offers a warm and welcoming environment that showcases the best in local produce. Lovers of fine spirits and companionable conversation may retreat to The Tack Room.

“A warm and welcoming 5-star luxury resort, set on an 842-acre estate surrounded by medieval ruins, walled gardens and winding woodland paths

Guests may design a custom itinerary of activities including falconry, archery, gun dog displays, fishing, clay pigeon shooting, with horseback riding available within a short drive. Golfers will be tempted by the prospect of a perfect round on the resort's Tom Fazio designed championship golf course.

Adare Manor boasts the only La Mer spa in the UK and Ireland, as well as a swimming pool, relaxation area, elegant private cinema and boardroom. The property boasts a new ballroom featuring a sweeping staircase, stunning marble floor and crystal chandeliers, with a capacity of 80 to 350 people banquet style to host the most lavish weddings. Just outside the Manor gates, the charming village of Adare is a beautiful blend of traditional thatched cottages, antique shops, boutiques and friendly pubs.

For more information email [info@adaremanor.com](mailto:info@adaremanor.com)





## Limerick Racecourse

**Greenmount Park  
Patrickswell, Co. Limerick  
061-320000  
www.limerickraces.ie**

Horse racing in Limerick dates as far back as 1790. In 2001, Limerick Racecourse opened at Greenmount Park, Patrickswell and has since been noted as one of the top three racecourses in Ireland. Horse racing is known as the “Sport of Kings” and a visit to the horses is a must for anyone visiting the region. Limerick Racecourse is set on 250 acres of land with stunning panoramic views across the surrounding Limerick countryside with easy access to the M20 motorway(exit 4), not too far a distance from anywhere!

Limerick Racecourse stages 18 fixtures per year with a mix of both flat and national hunt racing. The flat and hurdles course is a right handed oval track measuring approximately one mile and three furlongs. The whole track is visible from the grandstand which is quite unique in Ireland creating an exceptional racing experience.

The state of the art venue caters for all occasions; family celebrations, sports and social clubs, team nights, corporate outings, hen and stag parties, active retirement groups and many more.

Hospitality options at Limerick Racecourse are second to none. From tasty treats to hearty meals to whet many an appetite, there is something for everyone at Limerick Racecourse. Relax and let the experienced team from

Woodlands Catering look after your hospitality needs on a race day.

There is a wide selection of options to choose from including a fast food outlet, Woodlands Catering carvery restaurant and for a VIP day at the races, the panoramic restaurant. The panoramic restaurant allows one to enjoy the racing from the comfort of a reserved table in the Greenmount Suite. A racing package includes admission, race card, 4 course meal and a reserved table. Waiter service and tote betting are also included making

In 2019, there are a host of great racing dates to enjoy including:

- Saturday 16th March - NH racing from 2pm
- Sunday 17th March - NH racing from 2pm
- Sunday 31st March - NH racing from 2pm
- Saturday 27th April - Flat racing from 2pm
- Thursday 30th May - NH racing from 5:30pm with live music after racing
- Saturday 15th June - Flat racing from 3pm with live music after racing
- Friday 21st June - Flat racing from 5:30pm with live music after racing
- Sunday 7th July - NH racing from 2pm
- Saturday 13th July - NH racing from 3pm with live music after racing
- Thursday 25th July - NH racing from 5:30pm with live music after racing
- Saturday 12th October - Flat racing from 2pm
- Sunday 13th October - NH racing from 2pm
- Friday 29th November - NH racing from 12:30pm
- Thursday 26th - Sunday 29th December - NH racing from 12:30pm

the Greenmount Suite the perfect place to enjoy the races.

Coming up on the racing calendar is a two day March fixture on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th March (St. Patrick’s Day) The summer Twilight Racing evenings are very popular with live music after racing as is the Munster National (The oldest race in the province of Munster). The four day Mr Binman Christmas Racing Festival attracts an audience of over 40,000 patrons each year. In 2018, Limerick Racecourse had the honour of staging its first Grade 1 race, with the Matchbook Betting Exchange Novice Steeplechase which was won by the Gordon Elliot trained Hardline and jockey Keith Donoghue.

Visit [www.limerickraces.ie](http://www.limerickraces.ie) for more information and to check out the latest horse racing offers. No matter how the betting goes, Limerick Racecourse always provides a winning experience. Email [info@limerickraces.ie](mailto:info@limerickraces.ie).



# 8

*Located on the banks of the Arra River, Newcastle West is an expansive town with a rich history, and vibrant local culture.*

# Newcastle West



# Strong Traditions



The largest town in Limerick county, except for Limerick city, Newcastle West grew up around a castle, the ruins of which are located just off the town square. The prominence of the castle is encapsulated in the name, which in Irish is “An Caisleán Nua Thiar.”

The castle was built by the FitzGerald family during the 1200s, and many battles were fought in the area during the reign of Elizabeth I. In 1302, the town was sacked, and it was destroyed in 1315.

However, after years of war and conquest, the town began to blossom again and was thriving by the 19th century. Newcastle West became especially well known for its markets, which sold everything from livestock to crafts and other goods. Hiring fairs were also popular, as farm labourers advertised themselves for work.

The motto of Newcastle West is “As Dúchas Dóchas,” which can be translated as ‘Our Hope springs from our Traditions.’ A town full of rich history and strong traditions, Newcastle West has continued to grow over the years, evolving into the unique and charming town it is now.

“A town full of rich history and strong traditions”

## Longcourt House Hotel

St Mary's Road,  
Newcastle West

Co. Limerick

069-25300

[www.longcourthousehotel.ie](http://www.longcourthousehotel.ie)

This newly developed hotel is conveniently located on the N21 and is a mere 5 minute walk to the centre of the bustling and vibrant town of Newcastle West, Limerick's county town. Owned by local couple Jim & Mary Long, they purchased the hotel in 2014 and lovingly restored and rebuilt the hotel, before reopening in December 2017.

“When you visit, you'll experience elegance, comfort, and charm



Longcourt House Hotel

When you visit Longcourt House Hotel, you'll experience elegance, comfort, and charm. From their warm West Limerick welcome, to sampling some of the best local produce on their menus, and enjoying talented local musicians frequenting Chasers - the popular hotel bar - you are sure to be immersed in the lively spirit and rich culture of the area.

Longcourt House Hotel offers comfortable and luxurious accommodation, quality dining, and acts as the perfect backdrop to host the events that matter to you. Guests can always expect a warm and friendly welcome when they visit, and staff are happy to help with any requests to ensure a pleasant stay.

# Culture & Entertainment

For entertainment, there are a number of options. The town has a number of lively bars, including Whelan's and Cleary's which offer live music on the weekends. Each year, the town also hosts Eigse Michael Hartnett, a popular literary and arts festival. It is run by a local committee in partnership with Limerick City and County Council and brings leading writers, poets, artists and thinkers to the town.

For fans of the outdoors, there are a variety of ways of getting back to nature. The Great Southern Greenway is a 39km walking and cycling off-road route running along the old railway line connecting the towns of Rathkeale,

Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale. The route passes through farmland surrounded by hills, the charming banks of the river Daar, later climbing into the Rooskagh Hills leading to boglands and providing wonderful views of the Limerick Plains and the Golden Vale.

Whether with friends or family, there's plenty of fun to be had in Newcastle West!



# Packed full of local flavour



Today Newcastle West has a population of close to 7000, an increase of almost 50% over the past 25 years... a population that also reflects the increasing diversity of Ireland itself. More than 1 in 5 people now living in Newcastle West are not Irish born but have made the town their home. Now, their Irish-born children go to school in Newcastle West, work in Newcastle West, and have become a wonderful part of the singular social fabric of the town.

The streets of Newcastle West are lively, and full of places to pique the interest of visitors and locals alike. With a variety of bars, restaurants, cafes, furniture and household goods, supermarkets, and speciality shops, Newcastle West has a lot to offer.

Foodies won't be disappointed by the offerings here, as Newcastle West has a number of delicious dining options. From neighbourhood favourites like Brown Morel to Asian cuisine at Arra Chinese Restaurant and quality pub-grub at Dan Cronin's Bar and Bistro, there's something for everyone. The Silver Room Restaurant is another popular spot, having been opened in 2017 by two Polish couples who originally came to work for a hotel in Adare. That year they won Newcomer of the Year in the Food and Wine Awards and more recently have expanded their restaurant.



The Green Room at Springfield Castle

## The Green Room at Springfield Castle

Springfield,  
Co. Limerick  
087-6319893  
[www.facebook.com/springfieldcastleireland](http://www.facebook.com/springfieldcastleireland)

Nestled between the villages of Dromcollogher and Broadford, the Green Room at Springfield Castle a bright new star in the West Limerick food trail and offers visitors the chance to enjoy the dramatic setting of an

authentic Irish castle within the beautiful rural landscape of County Limerick.

Tending to their own garden, the green-fingered chefs grow much of their own produce, including fresh fruit, vegetables, and salads which are incorporated into their dishes. Whatever they don't grow themselves, the chefs source from local producers in the area, including meat from the local butchers. Working with the seasons is important to the staff at the Green Room, so every dish is as fresh, wholesome, and delicious as can be.

However, while the ingredients are certainly local, the inspiration for the dishes comes from around the world. They offer a wide range of options, from Peruvian style ceviche, to Indian curries, to traditional Irish meals and their famous Argentinian-style Asado.

## “ A bright new star in the West Limerick food trail

Situated in a converted cowshed in the Castle courtyard, the Green Room is certainly a unique place to savour a meal. Enjoy a relaxed cup of coffee, a formal sit down meal, or a fun-filled night of Spanish tapas. The Green Room also has a food truck for a more casual dining experience.

The Green Room is only open on Saturdays and for occasional Sunday brunch Club. The space is also available for private parties. Visit [facebook.com/springfieldcastleireland](http://facebook.com/springfieldcastleireland) to keep up to date with opening hours and seasonal offerings. Bookings recommended.

# 9

*If you want to visit attractions in neighbouring counties, there are many options within reasonable driving distance.*

# Further Afield

# Explore more

There is a huge variety of sites and experiences not to be missed in Limerick's neighbouring counties, a reasonable drive away. The following are just some of the many places of interest on Limerick's doorstep...

Image: Killarney Lakes

## Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Bunratty, Co. Clare  
061-360788

At Ireland's premier visitor attraction you are invited to explore three wonderful experiences—the spectacular 15th century Bunratty Castle, the 19th century Bunratty Folk Park and the Village Street. Whether for a daytime visit or an evening banquet, Bunratty Castle has lots to enjoy. Knappogue Castle & Walled Garden is also situated in neighbouring Clare.

## Craggaunowen

Co. Clare  
061-360788

Dubbed “Ireland's original award winning pre-historic park,” Craggaunowen allows visitors to step back over 1,000 years ago to explore the roots of our Celtic ancestors, who shaped how we live today. Immerse yourself in the traditions and dwellings of the Crannóg people, wander through the woods to see real wildlife and see the magnificent, leather hulled ‘Brendan Boat,’ built by Tim Severin, who sailed across the Atlantic Ocean re-enacting the voyage of St Brendan.

## The Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark

Co. Clare  
065-7072295

The 250 square kilometre area in north Clare known as The Burren is one of the largest karst landscapes in Europe—a unique rocky terrain made of limestone. The Cliffs of Moher are over 200 metres high and run for over eight kilometres along the Atlantic Ocean. Over 30,000 pairs of seabirds, including several protected species, nest at the Cliffs of Moher. The Burren has many historical and archaeological sites including ringforts and dolmens as well as many rare Irish species of flora and fauna. It also boasts walking trails and activities like rock-climbing. Ireland's smallest national park, The Burren National Park (065-6827693) also occupies 15 square kilometres of the landscape.

## Brian Boru Heritage Centre

Killaloe, Co. Clare  
061-370788

The small Clare town of Killaloe was once the capital of Ireland as the 11th century seat of heroic king, Brian Boru. The exhibition at the centre traces the life story of Ireland's greatest monarch

whose army defeated a Viking invasion at the Battle of Clontarf in 1014. Killaloe itself is made up of charming shops and narrow streets and crossing the bridge, visitors can find themselves in the Tipperary town of Ballina. Set on Lough Derg, the area is a centre of leisure activities like boating and other watersports.

## Nenagh Heritage Centre/Museum

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary  
067-33850

From Limerick, Nenagh is less than 40 minutes' drive and this unique museum is located in the 19th century gaol buildings in the town. There is a diverse range of topics covered here from the history of the structure itself to old rural Ireland. The stories are told through a mix of audio-visual elements, models, artefact displays and hands-on exhibits. After visiting the museum, you can also take a tour of the Gatehouse to follow in the footsteps of condemned prisoners and hear the story of some in detail. There are occasional art exhibitions and events.

“Immerse yourself in the traditions”



Scattery Island

## Scattery Island

**Kilrush Marina,  
Merchants Quay,  
Kilrush, Co. Clare**  
085-2505512 / 085-2505514  
[www.scatteryislandtours.com](http://www.scatteryislandtours.com)

Since being awarded Ireland's European Destination of Excellence in 2017, Scattery Island is fast becoming one of Co. Clare's most popular visitor attractions.

Ranked at #2 on Trip Advisors Top Attractions in Co. Clare (Feb 2019) just behind the Cliffs Of Moher, this magical little island is the perfect addition to a day trip to the Cliffs of Moher or the beautiful Loop Head drive.

“ This magical little island is the perfect addition to a day trip to Co. Clare

Just one hour from Limerick city and located on the Wild Atlantic Way, just off Kilrush in Co. Clare, Scattery Island has a fascinating history and was once the home of legendary monsters, medieval saints, Irish chieftains, Vikings, adventurers' raiders and traders.

Scattery features a wealth of historic sites, including five Churches, a Cathedral, a magnificent Round Tower,

Napoleonic War Artillery Battery and a working Lighthouse. Today the island is uninhabited and visitors can explore its ancient historic sites and experience its unspoilt natural beauty in peace and tranquillity.

The island is a must visit for anyone interested in Ireland's rich history, or simply those who enjoy flora and fauna or bird watching. Visitors to Scattery will enjoy a guided walking tour around the monastic sites with the OPW's island tour guides and learn about St. Senan, who established a monastery there in the early 6th Century, the Viking invasions and Brian Boru – the High King of Ireland who defeated the Limerick Vikings in a great battle on Scattery.

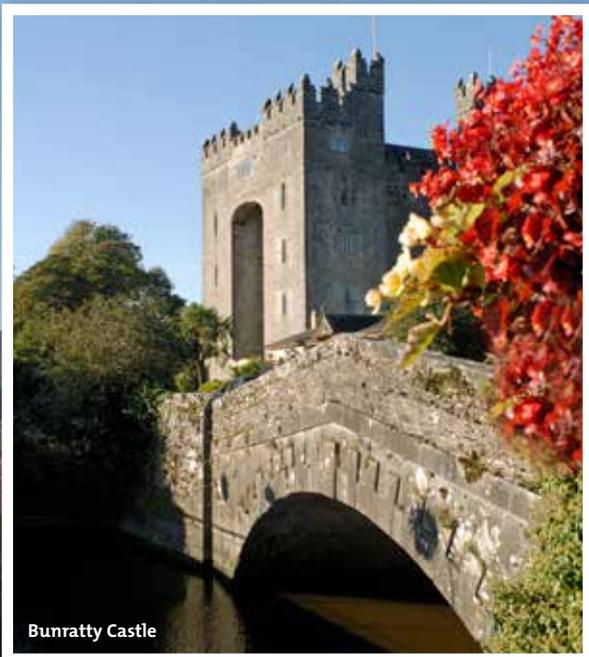
Guests can also visit St Senan's Bed, the reputed burial site of the Saint himself and sample the waters of St. Senan's well, believed to have great healing powers.

Scattery leaves a lasting impression with visitors. It is as if the land and the buildings are talking to you - a silent speech, about its life and times and the great people who lived, loved and died there during a history that spans from the 6th to the 20th century.

Tours to Scattery Island operate between May and September and depart from Kilrush Marina with multiple sailings daily. The ferry exits through the lock gates onto the calm picturesque waters of the Shannon Estuary River. The sailing time to the island is just 25 minutes and guests have 2.5 hours to enjoy the island. Tea, coffee and snacks are available on the ferry and a packed lunch service is also offered and can also be booked on line.

Visit [www.scatteryislandtours.com](http://www.scatteryislandtours.com) to book your ticket online or phone 00353 85 2505512 or 00353 85 2505514.





Bunratty Castle



Fota Wildlife



Rock of Cashel



The Burren

## The Rock of Cashel

Cashel, Co. Tipperary  
062-61437

Overlooking the town of Cashel, there is a spectacular group of medieval buildings set on an outcrop of limestone. These include a 12th century round tower, high cross and Romanesque chapel, a 13th century Gothic cathedral, a 15th century castle and the restored Hall of the Vicars choral. This exciting stroll through centuries of history on a single site is complemented through an audio-visual show and exhibitions. Guided tours are available but visitors are advised to check times etc.

“Spectacular group of medieval buildings set on an outcrop of limestone

## Fota Wildlife Park

Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork  
021-4812678

Around 20 minutes from Cork City, Fota Island is home to a 75-acre wildlife park featuring both flora and fauna of Irish and more exotic origins. You can see animals like gibbons, wallabies, prairie dogs, monkeys, tapirs, cheetahs, ostriches, lemurs, giraffes, flamingos, kangaroos, zebras, seals, bison and more. The park is also home to many tree and plant species. There are tours and activity days that make for a fun family day out.

## Blarney Castle

Blarney, Co. Cork  
021-4385252

A few kilometres outside Cork City lies the world famous Blarney Castle and stone. The current keep was built by the MacCarthy clan and dates from the 15th century but earlier fortifications are thought to have been based on the same site. It has a fascinating history, with sieges and tales galore. Large parts of the castle are intact. At its top, the main attraction is the ‘Stone of Eloquence’— better known as ‘The Blarney Stone.’ Legend has it that if you kiss it, you will get “the gift of the gab”!

## Killarney National Park

Killarney, Co. Kerry  
064-6631440

Ireland’s very first national park now covers almost 25,000 acres. This beautiful expanse includes the Lakes of Killarney, lush forests of oak and yew trees, boglands, mountains and is home to the country’s only native herd of Red Deer. Other highlights include historical sites like Ross Castle, Muckross Abbey and the mansion, Muckross House and Gardens, one-time home to the family that donated land to found the national park.

## Nearby beaches

Several seaside towns and villages are within reach of Limerick by car, so if the weather is fine, many people head to the beach. In Clare, Lahinch, Kilkee, Spanish Point and Fanore are some of the most popular beaches for both swimming and watersports like surfing. In Kerry, Ballybunion beach and others like Banna Strand near Tralee are favourites with holidaymakers.

# Accommodation



## CITY HOTELS

### Woodfield House Hotel

Ennis Road  
t: 061-453022  
www.woodfieldhousehotel.com

### Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa Limerick

Ennis Road  
t: 061-456200  
www.radissonblu.ie/hotel-limerick

### Kilmurry Lodge Hotel

Dublin Road, Castletroy  
t: 061-331133  
www.kilmurrylodge.com

### Limerick Strand Hotel

Ennis Road  
t: 061-421800  
www.strandhotellimerick.ie

### Castletroy Park Hotel

Dublin Road  
t: 061-335566  
www.castletroypark.ie

### South Court Hotel and Suites

Raheen Roundabout, Adare Road  
t: 061-487487  
www.southcourthotel.com

### The George Boutique Hotel

O'Connell Street  
t: 061-460400  
www.thegeorgeboutiquehotel.com

### Maldron Hotel Limerick

John Carew Link Road, Roxboro  
t: 061-436100  
www.maldronhotellimerick.com

### No 1 Pery Square Hotel & Spa

Pery Square  
t: 061-402402  
www.oneperysquare.com

### Clayton Hotel

Steamboat Quay  
t: 061-444100  
www.claytonhotellimerick.com

### Limerick City Hotel

Lower Mallow Street  
t: 061-207000  
www.limerickcityhotel.ie

### The Savoy Hotel

Henry Street  
t: 061-448700  
www.savoylimerick.com

### Absolute Hotel & Spa

Sir Harry's Mall  
t: 061-463600  
www.absolutehotel.com

### Pery's Hotel

Glentworth Street  
t: 061-413822  
www.perys.ie

### Greenhills Hotel

Caherdavin, Ennis Road  
t: 061-453033  
www.greenhillsgroup.com

### The Pier Hotel

Sarsfield Bridge  
t: 061-317179  
www.thepierhotellimerick.com

## Travelodge

Coonagh Roundabout, Ennis Road  
t: 061-457000  
Castletroy  
t: 061-603500  
www.travelodge.ie

## CITY TOWNHOUSES

### The Bedford Townhouse & Café

Bedford House, 11-12 Bedford Row  
t: 061-204400  
www.thebedford.ie

## CITY GUESTHOUSES

### The Boutique

Denmark Street  
t: 061-315320  
www.theboutique.ie

## CITY BED & BREAKFASTS

### Glen Eagles

Ennis Road  
t: 061-455521

### Armada Lodge

Ennis Road  
t: 061-326993  
www.armadalodgebandb.com

### Moyrhee

Meelick  
t: 061-326300  
www.moyrhee.com

### Avondale

Cratloe Road  
t: 061-451697  
www.avondalebedandbreakfast.ie

### Coonagh Lodge

Coonagh  
t: 061-327050  
www.coonaghllodge.com

## COUNTY HOTELS

### Dunraven Arms Hotel

Adare  
t: 061-305900  
www.dunravenhotel.com

### Adare Manor Hotel & Golf Resort

Adare  
t: 061-605200  
www.adaremanor.com

### Fitzgerald's Woodland's House Hotel

Adare  
t: 061-605100  
www.woodlands-hotel.ie

### The Mustard Seed @ Echo Lodge

Ballinagarry  
t: 069-68508  
www.mustardseed.ie

### Castle Oaks House Hotel

Castleconnell  
t: 061-377666  
www.castleoaks.ie

### Longcourt House Hotel

Newcastle West  
t: 069-25300  
www.longcourthousehotel.ie

### Devon Inn Hotel

Templeglantine  
t: 069-84122  
www.devoninnhotel.ie

### Deeberth House Hotel

Kilmallock  
t: 063-31200  
www.deeberthousehotel.com

### Rathkeale House Hotel

Rathkeale  
t: 069-63333  
www.rathkealehousehotel.ie

### Leen's Hotel

Abbeyfeale  
t: 068-31121  
www.facebook.com/pg/LeensHotelAbbeyfeale

## COUNTY BED & BREAKFASTS

### Coatesland House B&B

Adare  
t: 061-396372  
www.coateslandhouse.com

### Berkeley Lodge

Adare  
t: 061-396857  
www.adare.org

### Carrigane House

Adare  
t: 061-396778  
www.carriganehouse.com

### Park Lodge

Abbeyfeale  
t: 068 31312  
www.parklodge.ie

### The Orchard

Newcastle West  
t: 069-61029

### Deeberth House B&B

Kilmallock  
t: 063-98106  
www.deeberthouse.com

### The Old Bank B&B

Bruff  
t: 061-389969  
www.theoldbank.ie

### Woodview B&B

Kilfinane  
t: 063-91106

### Shanagarry B&B

Newcastle West  
t: 069-61747  
www.shanagarrybnb.com

### Cedar Lodge

Patrickswell  
t: 061-355137

### Millbank House & Angling Centre

Murroe  
t: 061- 386115  
www.millbankhouse.com

### Fitzgerald's Farmhouse & Equestrian Centre

Abbeyfeale  
t: 068-31217

### Coolrahnee House

Askeaton  
t: 061-398883

## CARAVAN & CAMPING

### Curraghchase Caravan & Camp Site

Kilcornan  
t: 061-396349  
www.curraghchasecaravanpark.ie

### Adare Camping & Caravan Park

Adare  
t: 061-395376  
www.adarecamping.com

This is just a selection of accommodation available. For even more options in Limerick City and County, including self-catering, see [www.discoverireland.ie](http://www.discoverireland.ie) and [www.failteireland.ie](http://www.failteireland.ie).



## The Boutique Hotel

Denmark Street

061-315320

[www.theboutique.ie](http://www.theboutique.ie)

The Boutique Hotel is one of Limerick's most central - and most competitive - hotels. Located in the heart of the Market Quarter, the Boutique Hotel is ideal for visitors wishing to explore the city from a convenient and comfortable base.

“Ideal for visitors wishing to explore the city from a convenient and comfortable base

Tucked away on Denmark Street, the hotel is just off the main thoroughfare of O'Connell Street and within easy walking distance of some of Limerick's main attractions, including Thomond Park Stadium, King John's Castle, and

the city's historic Medieval and Georgian Quarters. Within the Market Quarter itself there are a number of quirky boutiques, quality cafes, restaurants, and bars to sample, as well as high street shops a short walk away.

At the hotel itself there are a variety of rooms to suit every need, including twin, double and family rooms. All rooms are ensuite, with satellite TV, free WiFi and complimentary tea/coffee making facilities. Full Irish and continental

breakfasts are served each morning with fresh ground coffee.

The Boutique Hotel is easily accessible, at just a short walk away from the bus/train station, and with rates to suit discerning visitors. Furthermore, with a 24 hour reception and friendly, knowledgeable staff, the hotel is sure to make your stay in Limerick as seamless and enjoyable as possible. When choosing Limerick, choose the Boutique Hotel - you are sure to be impressed!



The Boutique Hotel



The Bedford Townhouse & Café

## The Bedford Townhouse & Café

Bedford House, 11-12 Bedford Row

061-204400

[www.thebedford.ie](http://www.thebedford.ie)

The Bedford is a boutique 12-bedroom property located in the heart of Limerick city. Lovingly restored, with original architectural features and stylish modern

touches, this heritage townhouse is just the place for an urban luxury escape.

The Bedford Café is located on the ground floor of the Townhouse and is the perfect space to meet friends, enjoy specialty coffee and sample the delicious all day brunch menu which is locally sourced.

Townhouse guests can choose between the Chic, Elegant or Suite bedrooms and avail of the Parlour

Room hideaway, gym and steamroom to unwind. Step back in time with The Bedford Row Heritage Trail on display in The Parlour Room and learn about the clothes making history of this unique property. After a restful night's sleep, wake up to the Wellness Breakfast in The Bedford Café before exploring the many sights & attractions that Limerick has to offer.

The Bedford is also proud to be a sustainable business. All coffee cups and packaging materials in The Bedford Café are 100% compostable. The Townhouse also provides guests with eco-friendly Anyah spa products; minimising its use of plastic.

As a boutique property, The Bedford can tailor a personalised Limerick experience for each of their guests. Described by Pól Ó Conghaile as “a slick new addition to Limerick with lots of love for local materials and heritage, bang in the middle of the city” this is definitely one to add to the little black book for Limerick.

Follow The Bedford on Instagram @the\_bedford\_townhouse, facebook.com/TheBedfordLimerick or on Twitter @The\_Bedford\_TH



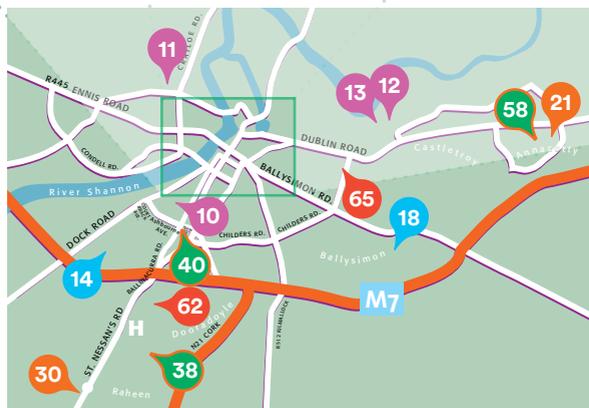
**WILD ATLANTIC WAY**  
SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN



	Wild Atlantic Way
	Ferry Route to Island
	Flight Route to Island
	Signature Discovery Point
	Discovery Point
	Embarkation Point
	Road (Motorways / National Road)
	City / Town

**Note:** Not all of the route is fully accessible by coach traffic.  
For a suggested coach route, please see [www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway](http://www.failteireland.ie/wildatlanticway)





# City Map



## History & Heritage

1. King John's Castle
2. St John's Cathedral
3. St Mary's Cathedral
4. The Bishop's Palace
5. The Treaty Stone

## Arts & Culture & Education

6. Belltable
7. Limerick City Gallery of Art
8. Limerick Museum
9. The Hunt Museum
10. The Lime Tree Theatre
11. Thomond Park
12. UL Sport Arena
13. University Concert Hall

## Activities

14. Limerick Greyhound Stadium
15. Nevsail
16. Paddywagon Tours
17. Roma Casino
18. Tons of Fun

## Restaurants & Cafés

19. Alex Findlater
20. Bella Italia
21. Copper and Spice
22. Da Vincenzo's
23. Gusto d'Italia
24. Hamptons
25. Harry's on the River
26. Hong Kong
27. Jack Mondays
28. Lana
29. Luigi's
30. Off the Bone
31. Sodalicious
32. Texas Steakout
33. The Copper Room
34. The Golden Grill
35. Tuscany Bistro at The Granary

## Pubs

36. 101 Limerick
37. Cobblestone Joe's
38. Collins' Bar
39. Dolan's Pub
40. Fennessys Pub
41. Flannery's Bar
42. Katie Dalys
43. Ma Hogans Bar
44. Maggie Choo's
45. Michael Flannery's Pub
46. Mickey Martin's
47. Mother Macs
48. Myles Breen's
49. Number Three Pub & Grub
50. Phil Flannery's
51. Scruffy Murphy's
52. Sextons
53. Smyth's Bar / Icon Nightclub
54. The Commercial
55. The Glen Tavern
56. The Horse & Hound Bar
57. The Old Quarter
58. The Tap House
59. Locke Bar
60. W.J South's

## Shopping

61. Connolly Man
62. Crescent Shopping Centre
63. M. Cahill & Son
64. Michael / Young Gleeson's
65. Parkway Shopping Centre
66. Skin 26
67. The Milk Market
68. The Wine Buff

## Accommodation

69. The Bedford Townhouse & Café
70. The Boutique Hotel



# Useful Information

## TOURISM:

Limerick Tourist Office  
20 O'Connell Street  
061-317522

Adare Tourist Office  
Adare, Co. Limerick  
061-396255

[www.limerick.ie](http://www.limerick.ie)  
[tourism@limerick.ie](mailto:tourism@limerick.ie)

## TRANSPORT:

Colbert Station (Bus & Train)  
Parnell Street  
061-315555

[www.irishrail.ie](http://www.irishrail.ie)  
[www.buseireann.ie](http://www.buseireann.ie)

Dublin Coach (M7 Express Service)  
Dublin to Ennis/Killarney/Tralee (via Limerick)  
01-4659972  
[www.dublincoach.ie](http://www.dublincoach.ie)

## EMERGENCY:

### Emergency Services

General Emergency Number (fire, ambulance etc): **999** or **112**

### Garda / Police

Henry Street Garda Station  
Henry Street  
061-212400

Roxboro Garda Station  
Roxboro Road  
061-214340

Bruff Garda Station  
Bruff, Co. Limerick  
061-382947

Newcastle West Garda Station  
Newcastle West, Co. Limerick  
069-20650

See [www.garda.ie](http://www.garda.ie) for a full list of Garda Stations in Limerick.

### Medical

University Hospital Limerick  
Dooradoyle  
061-301111

Shannon Doc (Out of hours GP service)  
1850-212999

Shannon Doc Centres

Dooradoyle Health Centre, Off St. Nessans Road, Dooradoyle

Hospital Health Centre, Knockainey Road, Hospital, Co. Limerick

Shannondoc Surgery, Bishop Street, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

See [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) for a full list of registered General Practitioners in Limerick.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### The Cranberries

Limerick band, The Cranberries, are one of the most successful alternative rock bands from Ireland. This internationally acclaimed group was formed in Limerick in 1989. The core group consists of bothers, Mike and Noel Hogan, Fergal Lawler and Dolores O'Riordan. The band gained an international profile with their debut album, *Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We?* in 1993. Their second album, *No Need to Argue*, went triple platinum within a year with the number one hit single, 'Zombie.' To date, the band has had hit the Top 20 on the Billboard 200 with four of their albums and has had eight top 20 singles on the US Modern Rock Tracks chart, as well as significant success worldwide. In 2003, The Cranberries went on hiatus but reunited in 2011 to record a sixth album, *Roses*, which was released in 2012. The band released an acoustic album titled *Something Happens*, in 2017. Unfortunately Dolores passed away in January 2018 while in London for a recording session, leaving the band without its lead singer. She had previously recorded vocals for a new album which the rest of the band hope to finish and release in 2019.

## OTHER:

General Post Office  
Lower Cecil Street

See [www.anpost.ie](http://www.anpost.ie) for a full list of post offices and services in Limerick.



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THE OFFICIAL GUIDE  
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Discover,  
Be Inspired!



Limerick  
Purple Flag  
award winner



"Gold Standard"  
night-time  
destination!



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