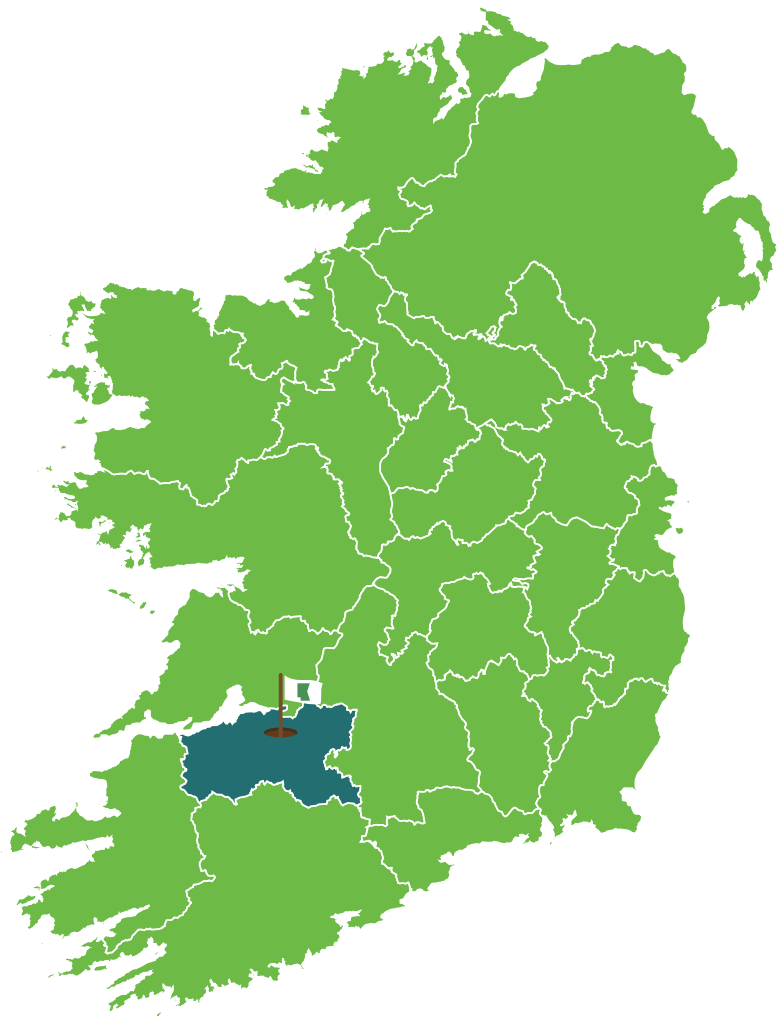




GOLF LIMERICK



WELCOME TO LIMERICK

In 2027, the picturesque heritage village of Adare, situated at the heart of County Limerick, will take centre stage as host of the Ryder Cup, marking a century since the first tournament in Massachusetts in 1927.

Few regions offer such a magical blend of city and county quite like Limerick. The county boasts some of the most outstanding countryside anywhere in Ireland, where the landscape is dotted with villages of character and great rural charm.

Limerick City, a short distance from Adare, is the perfect blend of energy, history, and modern edge. Ireland's third largest city sits only 25km from Shannon International Airport, making it the ideal starting point for visitors eager to explore Limerick and embrace the Wild Atlantic Way.

POPULATION SNAPSHOT

Island of Ireland: Over 7 million people

Limerick: 210,000 residents, between the city and county

Adare: 1,300 residents

In 2027, Adare will welcome more than 200,000 Ryder Cup spectators, with 50,000 fans per day across three days of competition, transforming the village into one of Ireland's most exciting sporting hubs.

A RICH HISTORY – SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Viking Origins

- After travelling up the River Shannon, Limerick was founded by the Vikings in 922 AD. Limerick then developed into an important trading port due to its strategic riverside location.
- The city celebrates its Viking heritage with its mascot, 'Val the Viking'.

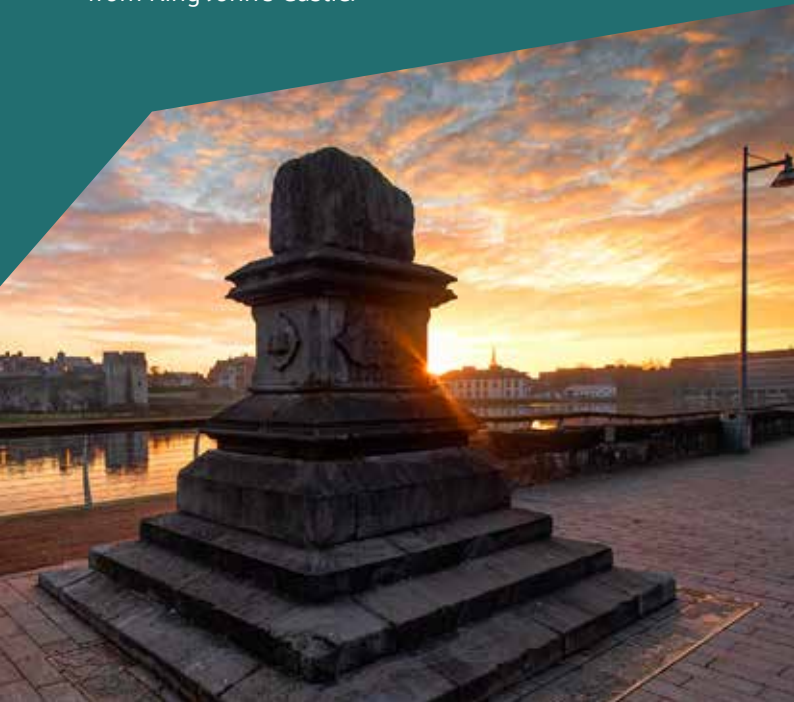
The Ardagh Chalice

- Dating from the 8th century, it is considered one of Ireland's greatest treasures and is housed in the National Museum of Ireland. Known for exceptional craftsmanship, comparable in significance to the Book of Kells, it was first discovered in 1868 by two young men digging for potatoes in Ardagh, County Limerick, about 20 km from Adare.
- The piece has inspired two major GAA trophies:
 - **Sam Maguire Cup** – awarded to All-Ireland Senior Football Champions.
 - **O'Duffy Cup** – awarded to All-Ireland Camogie Champions.



Treaty City

- Limerick is known as the Treaty City after the Treaty of Limerick, signed on 3 October 1691 ending the war between William III (William of Orange) and King James II, his father-in-law.
- The historic Treaty Stone, said to be the surface it was signed upon, remains on public display across the river from King John's Castle.



PEOPLE

Limerick has been home to many famous faces over the years:

The Cranberries: selling more than 50 million albums worldwide.

Richard Harris: Hollywood icon, best known for his roles in Camelot and Harry Potter.

Terry Wogan: broadcaster bestowed with the Freedom of Limerick City in 2007.

Frank McCourt: Pulitzer Prize winning author, best known for his book Angela's Ashes based on his experience growing up in Limerick City.

Kate O'Brien: author and playwright.

Paul O'Connell and Conor Murray: two British and Irish Lions' captains who hail from Limerick.

Declan Hannon: Adare native who captained the Limerick Senior Hurling team to a record five All-Ireland Hurling titles.

Steve Finnan: a key member of Liverpool FC's 2005 Champions League winning squad, born in Limerick City.

Neil Cusack: won the Boston City Marathon in 1974, and his name is still the only one in a long list of winners with 'Ireland' written next to it.

PRESIDENTIAL connections

Former US president John F. Kennedy's great grandfather, Thomas Fitzgerald (the man who provided the F in their name) hailed from Bruff, a small town in east County Limerick. JFK was awarded Freedom of Limerick when he visited in 1963.

Limerick is also the birthplace of the 9th President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, who served two seven-year terms as President of Ireland (2011-2025).



SPORT

Limerick is synonymous with sport. The county's hurlers, fondly known as the Treatymen or Shannonsiders, have enjoyed remarkable success in recent years, bringing the Liam MacCarthy Cup home multiple times and inspiring pride across the city and county.

Rugby also holds a special place in Limerick's heart. Often described as the spiritual home of Munster Rugby, the city still proudly recalls Munster's legendary victory over New Zealand in Thomond Park in 1978, a story retold with undimmed enthusiasm nearly half a century later!

This sporting spirit is captured in bronze on O'Connell Street, where a statue of a hurler and a rugby player, affectionately known locally as 'Ruck it and Puck it', celebrates Limerick's joy and identity in sport.

But in September 2027, the spotlight turns firmly to golf.

Adare Manor, which hosted the Irish Open in 2007 and 2008, won by Pádraig Harrington and Richard Finch respectively, will once again take centre stage. Meanwhile, Ballyneety Golf Course will make history as the host of the Junior Ryder Cup 2027, marking the first time the event has been held on Irish soil since its inception in 1997 in Sotogrande, Spain.



HAVE YOU HEARD OF LIMERICK?

To some, a limerick is a playful five line poem.
To others, the word is synonymous with Limerick lace,
the world renowned craft first produced in 1829.

But Limerick is far more than that. It is a city of global influence, fostering strong international partnerships.

Limerick is twinned with:

- **La Coruña**, Spain
- **Quimper**, France
- **Hohenlohe**, Germany
- **Birmingham**, England

Not to be outdone, Adare Village is also officially twinned with **Villecresnes**, France and **Buckow**, Germany; partnerships designed to foster cultural, educational, and community exchange.

Limerick is also twinned with several cities across the United States, including:

- **Austin**, Texas
- **Santa Clara**, California
- **Spokane**, Washington
- **Savannah**, Georgia
- **New Brunswick**, New Jersey



LIMERICK GOES STATESIDE

In the United States, there are 10 places named Limerick, found across **Georgia, Illinois, Louisville, Maine, Mississippi, New York, Ohio, South Carolina,** and **Pennsylvania.**



BIRTHPLACE OF THE IRISH COFFEE

Irish Coffee was first created in 1943 in Foynes, County Limerick by chef Joe Sheridan at the Foynes Flying Boat terminal. One freezing night, after a New York bound flight was forced to turn back, Sheridan warmed tired passengers with hot coffee blended with Irish whiskey and topped with fresh cream. When asked if he'd used Brazilian coffee, he quipped, "No – that was Irish Coffee!" And so, the iconic drink was born.

Ireland may not grow coffee beans, but it does export over €2 billion worth of Irish whiskey each year to meet rising global demand.



HOLLYWOOD STAR

Hollywood star Maureen O'Hara developed a close connection with Foynes, County Limerick, through her husband, aviator Brigadier General Charles Blair. She officially opened the Foynes Museum in July 1989 and remained a devoted patron of both the museum and the Irish Coffee Championships until her passing in 2015.

Visitors today can explore the Maureen O'Hara Exhibition at the Foynes Flying Boat and Maritime Museum and step aboard the Pan Am Boeing 314 Clipper, an aircraft similar to the flying boats that made Foynes the heart of transatlantic travel before Shannon Airport took over with its first transatlantic flight in 1945.





RIVER SHANNON

The River Shannon, stretching 360 km (224 miles) from its source in County Cavan, is the longest river in Ireland and the British Isles. It flows through the heart of the country before reaching Limerick, the Shannon Estuary, and ultimately the Atlantic Ocean.

Running right through Limerick, the river is tidal up to the city, shaping its daily rhythm. In 1929, hydroelectric power generated on the Shannon just outside Limerick supplied all of Ireland's electricity, a remarkable feat of engineering.





PIGTOWN

Limerick is sometimes referred to as Pigtown thanks to its historic pig trade. With four major bacon factories: O'Mara's, Matterson's, Denny's and Shaw's - the city built an international reputation for its ham and bacon, and the industry played a central role in local life.

Located at the heart of the Golden Vale, Limerick is surrounded by lush pastureland that produces the high quality milk used in Kerrygold Butter, one of Ireland's greatest food exports.

A true local institution, Limerick's Milk Market has evolved from a traditional dairy trading hub into a vibrant artisan market. Beneath its iconic all weather canopy, visitors can browse fresh local produce, delicious treats and unique crafts. It's best experienced on a Saturday morning, when it's at its liveliest.





LIMERICK'S MEDIEVAL QUARTER

Limerick's impressive medieval quarter is home to Saint Mary's Cathedral. Founded in 1168, it is Limerick's oldest continuously used building and remains a vibrant place of worship to this day. A few decades later, in 1200, construction began on King John's Castle, the westernmost Norman castle in Europe. Visitors can now explore 800 years of history through immersive displays and fascinating exhibitions here.. Despite commissioning it, King John is believed never to have visited the castle that bears his name.







GOLF LIMERICK



GOLF LIMERICK

Limerick continues to shine as one of Ireland's premier golfing destinations. Home to some of the country's most scenic and challenging courses, it offers everything from friendly parkland layouts to challenging courses that will test even the most seasoned players. Golfers from near and far are drawn to Limerick's lush countryside, warm hospitality and the exceptional quality of its seven 18 hole parkland courses.

Golf Limerick, a Limerick specific legacy to the Ryder Cup 2027, is an initiative of Limerick City and County Council, to highlight Limerick's golf offering.

Discover more and plan your perfect golf getaway on www.Limerick.ie/Golf

ADARE MANOR GOLF CLUB

Adare, Co. Limerick

Par 69 – 18 Hole Parkland – 5,807 yards

Situated in beautiful Adare next to its neighbouring course, The Golf Course at Adare Manor. This 18-hole parkland golf course is steeped in history and recognised as one of the best hidden gems on the island of Ireland. Desmond Castle (1200 AD) is a magnificent backdrop to the 1st and 15th greens, while the ruins of the Franciscan Abbey (1464 AD) dominate the centre of the course.

Golfing societies and all visitors are welcome and will find the tree-lined fairways a serious golfing challenge.

www.adaremanorgolfclub.com





BALLYNEETY GOLF CLUB

Ballyneety, Co. Limerick

Par 70 – 18 Hole Parkland - 6,748 yards

This championship golf course is set on 183 acres of rolling Irish countryside and was awarded Great Britain and Ireland Golf Course of the Year for 2025 by The Golf Course Awards.

On course, you can stroll up the gentle slopes of the fourth fairway and be rewarded by stunning views of Limerick City and County and even the Clare Hills. This 18 hole championship golf course has sand-based greens and tees all built to USGA standards. Co-designed by 2014 Ryder Cup Vice-Captain, Des Smyth and Irish amateur international, Declan Branigan, the course first opened for play in 1994. Ballyneety has invested in technology at its practice range, with the TrackMan Range, a cutting-edge radar tracking system that delivers instant feedback on every shot.

Selected as the host venue for the Junior Ryder Cup 2027, it is the first time the Junior Ryder Cup will be played on Irish soil. Limerick and Ballyneety look forward to extending a real Limerick welcome to the world's top emerging golf talent.

www.ballyneetygolfclub.ie



CASTLETROY GOLF CLUB

Castletroy, Limerick City

Par 72 – 18 Hole Parkland - 6,763 yards

An oasis just outside the city, nestled in Limerick's leafy suburbs, Castletroy Golf Club is set in mature parkland with a course that blends tradition with modern design. With mature tree lines fairways and strategic bunkers to challenge golfers of all abilities. The gentle rolling of the front nine, contrasts with the stern test that awaits on the back nine. The par 3, 11th hole played over water will test the nerve of most golfers.

www.castletroygolfclub.ie





LIMERICK GOLF CLUB

Ballyclough, Limerick City

72 par – 18 Hole Parkland - 6,500 yards

Nestled in the picturesque suburb of Ballyclough, just minutes from Limerick City Centre, Limerick Golf Club stands as one of Ireland's oldest and most prestigious golf clubs. Founded in 1891, this historic parkland course combines over a century of rich golfing tradition with modern facilities, making it a must-visit destination for both local and visiting golfers.

The 18-hole championship course is renowned for its beautifully manicured fairways, mature tree-lined avenues, and challenging yet enjoyable layout. Designed to test golfers of all skill levels, the course features a variety of strategically placed bunkers and water hazards, with the signature par-4, 18th hole offering a memorable finish in front of the impressive clubhouse.

www.limerickgolfclub.ie



NEWCASTLE WEST GOLF CLUB

Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

Par 71 – 18 Hole Parkland - 6,451 yards

Newcastle West's free-draining soil and USGA specification greens, present top quality playing conditions plus great value golf. The golf course is open for play all year round and is popular with societies and both Irish and international golf tours. Facilities include a driving range, pro shop, chipping green, practice putting greens and restaurant.

It is indeed a unique golf course, featuring well-designed risk and reward holes. The course has something for



every golfer, from h/cap 1-36, and including those in the plus-h/cap bracket. The course is playable all year round and is maintained to the highest standards.

With magnificent views across the countryside, the club house offers visitors the very finest of Irish hospitality.

www.newcastlewestgolf.com



RATHBANE GOLF COURSE, **Limerick City** (owned by the local authority)

Par 70 – 18 Hole Public Parkland – 6,253 yards

Situated on the outskirts of the city, Rathbane Golf Course is owned by Limerick City and County Council. Over 25 years, the course has facilitated over a million rounds of golf while proudly maintaining its 'Best Value Golf' reputation, with a warm welcome to all golfers in a relaxed and community-focused atmosphere.

The course serves all skill levels, providing a gateway to the world of drives and putts for novices and experts alike, with a staggering average of forty thousand rounds of golf played each year.

The course has evolved as a challenging terrain for low handicap golfers, while remaining accessible and fair to complete beginners. A significant milestone in Rathbane's history was reached in 2008, when Limerick City and County Council, in collaboration with the Department of Tourism, invested substantially in the course's redevelopment.

Additionally, Footgolf is available at Rathbane Golf Course. A fantastic way to get into golf while having fun, it combines the skill of golf with the energy of football and is great for kids, adults, families, and groups of all ages and abilities.

www.rathbanegolfcourse.com



THE GOLF COURSE AT ADARE MANOR

Adare, Co. Limerick

Par 72 – 18 Hole Parkland - 7,509 yards

JP McManus purchased the Adare Manor Hotel and Resort in 2015 from the previous owner, US businessman Tom Kane and his wife Judy. The golf course at the resort was originally designed by Robert Trent Jones Snr. back in 1995. When the McManus family acquired the property, the hotel underwent extensive refurbishment and the golf course was redesigned by renowned American golf course architect Tom Fazio, who took what was already an award-winning course and transformed it into a parkland paradise befitting a country in the top tier of global golfing destinations.

Masterfully designed, magnificently maintained, and perfectly set within the glorious estate of one of Europe's most spectacular manor house hotels, The Golf Course at Adare Manor has taken its place amongst the best championship courses in the world.

State of the art technology and course innovations create a challenging and characterful golfing experience with sub air systems in all greens to remove moisture and maintain firm conditions (not to be underestimated in the Irish climate).

www.adaremanor.com



GOLF COURSES IN LIMERICK

1. Adare Manor Golf Club
2. Ballyneety Golf Club
3. Castletroy Golf Club
4. Limerick Golf Club
5. Newcastle West Golf Club
6. Rathbane Golf Course
7. The Golf Club at Adare Manor

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GOLF LIMERICK



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