



# Donegal & The North West

Photo: Monicami/Shutterstock.com



NickKont/Shutterstock.com

Breathe in the ocean air as you embark on a journey along emerald scenery and rugged limestone cliffs. Donegal's windswept coastal landscape is a treasure trove for all those interested in history. The region is known for producing the finest of traditional tweed garments, as well as a few mythic tales. Wash it all down with a creamy Guinness and experience and sublime marine cuisine.



ianmitchinson/Shutterstock.com



grafxart/Shutterstock.com

## QUIZ

*What Type of Traveller  
Are You Based on  
Your Travel IQ?*

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

### Top 5



**Glenveagh National Park & ...**  
Ireland's second largest national park offers several walking and cycling tr...



**Malin Head**  
Malin Head, known locally as Banba's Crown, is Ireland's most northerly poin...



**The Art House**  
This cosy art gallery has a vast selection of Irish and international contem...



**The Silver Strand**  
A sheltered horse-shoe shaped beach with B&Bs and a coffee shop nearby, and ...



**Biddy's O'Barnes**  
Biddy's O'Barnes' origins date back to the 18th century, and it still is one...





## COUNTY DONEGAL



Phil Darby/Shutterstock.com

Sharing the province of Ulster with Northern Ireland, Donegal has always been considered an odd-out in the Republic—up here it's different, as local word has it. However, Donegal has had its fair share of the turbulences of Irish history: it was among the most hardily hit regions of the Great Famine in the 1840s, and also suffered as the forefront of the partition of Ireland in 1921.

From megalithic landmarks to the long-cherished traditions of the fishing and weaving industry, Donegal, home to the second largest Gaelic speaking community in the world, is a county where history is still stunningly alive today.

The region is considered as one of the most picturesque destinations one can visit in entire Europe, and so did think National Geographic when it selected Donegal as the Coolest Place on the Planet in 2017. Start the engine and see it for yourself: Donegal's rugged coastline awaits you with probably the most scenic stretch of the 2,500-km long Wild Atlantic Way, and wherever you are driving along the route, we made sure you'll also get your fix of entertainment, to top the admirable view.

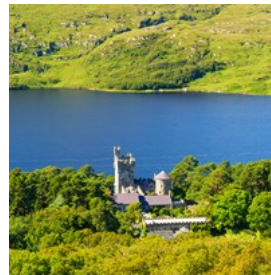
## TOP 5



gabriel12/Shutterstock.com

There's a lot to see in Donegal, from places of great natural beauty to adventure parks for the whole family.

### Glenveagh National Park & Castle



Ireland's second largest national park offers several walking and cycling trails for you to admire the scenic view and abundant wildlife, which also includes a remarkable red deer habitat. Stop for a tea and travel back in time at the 19th-century Victorian castle, also enjoyed by Great Garbo during her visit in Donegal.

Photo: alexilena/Shutterstock.com

Address: Church Hill, Letterkenny

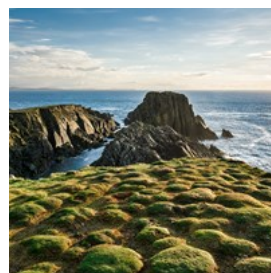
Opening hours: March to October 9.15-17.30, November to March: 9.00-17.00

Phone: +353 76 100 2537

Internet: [www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie](http://www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie)

Email: [glenveaghbookings@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:glenveaghbookings@ahg.gov.ie)

### Malin Head



Malin Head, known locally as Banba's Crown, is Ireland's most northerly point, and an area of great scenic beauty and historical,

scientific and ecological importance. Visit the old Radio Station, try to spot the wreckage of Twilight that never made it to Derry, and admire the stunning view of the endless sea embracing the Tory Island.

Photo: shawnwill23/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Malin Head, Inishowen  
Phone: +353 74 936 2600

### The Art House



This cosy art gallery has a vast selection of Irish and international contemporary art, including the works of Brian O'Doherty, who happens to own this studio, and loves to have a friendly chat with his visitors.

Photo: Denis Kuvaev/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Main Street, Dunfanaghy  
Opening hours: 9.30-18.30 daily  
Phone: +353 74 910 0552  
Internet: [www.dunfanaghy.info/places/The-Art-House/76](http://www.dunfanaghy.info/places/The-Art-House/76),  
[www.brianodoherty.com](http://www.brianodoherty.com)

### The Silver Strand



A sheltered horse-shoe shaped beach with B&Bs and a coffee shop nearby, and the views only Slieve League can provide. Maghera, on the northern

side of the peninsula, is also worth a dip.

Photo: Milosz Maslanka/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Malin Beg, Glencolumbkille

### Biddy's O'Barnes



Biddy's O'Barnes' origins date back to the 18th century, and it still is one of the most sought after watering holes of roadtrippers in Donegal, proudly drawing the best Guinness in the county.

Photo: /Pxfuel.com  
Address: Barnesmores Gap (between Croaghconnelagh and Croaghonagh)  
Opening hours: Mon to Thu: 11.00-23.30, Fri and Sat: 11.00-00.30, Sun: 12.30-23.00  
Internet: <http://biddysobarnes.com>

## DONEGAL TOWN



*PJ photography/Shutterstock.com*

Overshadowed by the Bluestack Mountains ("Croaghs"), Donegal Town was once the capital of a Gaelic kingdom. Nowadays, the town centre or "Diamond" is a hub of cultural activity for the Northwestern region. A seaside town, don't miss your chance to experience the magic of the Irish coast.

### Donegal Castle



Donegal Castle is a fascinating 15th century castle with a later Jacobean wing. Built by the (almost legendary) historical figure Red

Hugh O'Donnell in 1474, this castle was one of the strongest fortresses in Ireland. When the O'Donnell clan fled in 1607 (a period known as "The Flight of the Earls") the castle came under British control and a Jacobean wing was added. Today, the castle has been almost fully restored and is the site of regular Gaelic culture events.

Photo: noradoa/Shutterstock.com

Address: Donegal Town

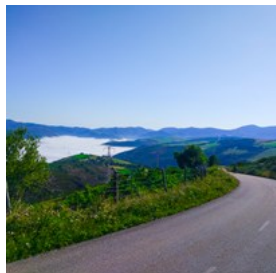
Opening hours: Easter to Mid September: 10.00-18.00. Mid September to Easter: Thursday to Monday 9.30-16.30

Phone: +353 74 972 2405

Internet: [www.heritageireland.ie/en/north-west/donegalcastle](http://www.heritageireland.ie/en/north-west/donegalcastle)

Email: [donegalcastle@opw.ie](mailto:donegalcastle@opw.ie)

## Lough Derg



Not to be mistaken with the larger lake of the same name on the River Shannon, Lough Derg in Co. Donegal is a renowned place of

pilgrimage. A traditional three day pilgrimage takes place each August, but the Lough is open to visitors (including anglers!) year round. The Lough is composed of over 30 islands and inlets, the most famous of which is Station Island - it is said that when St. Patrick traversed Ireland converting kings to Christianity, Jesus appeared to him here and revealed the entrance to Purgatory!

The Lough's name comes from the Irish word "dearg" (red) as a local legend holds a local mortal once called the magic powers of the lake to transform a worm in to a vicious cow. Once defeated, the red blood of the cow changed the colour of the rocks (which are in fact sandstone) to red.

Photo: Jesus Barroso/Shutterstock.com

Address: St. Patrick's Purgatory, Lough Derg, Pettigo

Opening hours: Open May-September, but office open all year round 9.00-17.00

Phone: +353 71 986 1518

Internet: [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org)

Email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

## Salthill Gardens



A stone's throw from the sea near Mountcharles, Salthill Garden is a verdant selection of perennials, vegetables and shrubs, individually styled by Elizabeth Temple. This walled garden also has a walking trail which can be fully explored within two hours.

Photo: Louise Price/Geograph.ie

Address: Salthill Demesne, Mountcharles, Co. Donegal

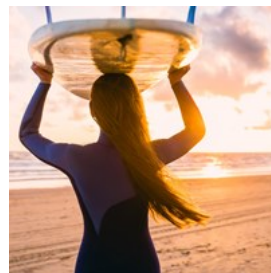
Opening hours: May to September: 14.00-18.00 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 973 5387

Internet: [www.donegalgardens.com](http://www.donegalgardens.com)

Email: [etemple@eircom.net](mailto:etemple@eircom.net)

## Bundoran Surf Co.



Toted as the surf capital of Ireland, make sure to catch some waves at Bundoran's surfing classes and rentals. Beginners should stick to the beach of Rossnowlagh, while seasoned surfers should make their way to the world-class waves at The Peak.

Photo: Wonderful Nature/Shutterstock.com

Address: Main Street, Drumacrin, Bundoran

Phone: (+353) 71 984 1968

Internet: <https://bundoransurfco.com/welcome-to-bundoran-surf-mobile>

Email: [info@bundoransurfco.com](mailto:info@bundoransurfco.com)



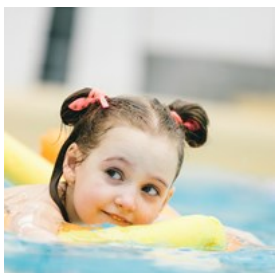
### Castle Adventure Farm



An interactive open farm with plenty of activities for the whole family: experience country living and try your hand at driving a go-kart or mini digger. Don't forget to feed the adorable goats! Both indoor and outdoor play areas make the farm an all-weather attraction for young families. For parents looking to relax, there is also a cafe with delicious cakes and sandwiches.

Photo: Steven Frame/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Ballymacaward, Wardtown Castle, Ballyshannon  
Opening hours: Sat and Sun: 10.00-17.00  
Phone: (+353) 71 985 2688  
Internet: <http://openfarm.ie>  
Email: [info@openfarm.ie](mailto:info@openfarm.ie)

### Waterworld



All goes swimmingly at this indoor aqua park. Attractions range from a toddler pool for the youngest visitors to gravity and twister pools for the most adventurous. Seaweed baths are also available for those weary travellers looking to relax after a long day.

Photo: PHOTOCREO Michal Bednarek/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Seafront, Bundoran  
Opening hours: April and May: 12.00-18.00 weekends only, June: 12.00-18.00 daily, July and August: 12.00-19.00 daily, first two weeks of September: 12.00-18.00 daily  
Phone: (+353) 71 984 1172  
Internet: [www.waterworldbundoran.com](http://www.waterworldbundoran.com)  
Email: [info@waterworldbundoran.com](mailto:info@waterworldbundoran.com)

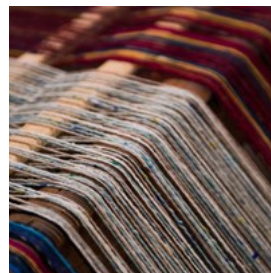
### Biddy's O'Barnes



For a classic Irish pub experience, look no further than Biddy's O'Barnes' in Barnesmore, Donegal. With origins dating back to the 18th century, Biddy's is still an iconic watering hole for roadtrippers looking to enjoy some of the best Guinness in the country. Think open fires, cozy seating, and traditional tunes.

Photo: /Pxfuel.com  
Address: Barnesmore Gap (between Croaghconnelagh and Croaghonagh)  
Opening hours: Mon to Thu: 11.00-23.30, Fri and Sat: 11.00-00.30, Sun: 12.30-23.00  
Phone: (+353) 74 972 2647  
Internet: <http://biddysobarnes.com>

### Donegal Craft Village



Ireland's craft tradition lives on in this magical village. Discover the most authentic Irish souvenirs, such as fine jewellery, and Donegal tweed. There is an on-site Glass studio for those interested in the craft, as well as a popular coffee shop.

Photo: ianmitchinson/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Lurganboy, Donegal  
Opening hours: Summer: Mon to Sat: 10:00-17:00. Winter: Tue to Sat: 10:00-17:00  
Phone: (+353) 74 97 23222  
Internet: [www.donegalcraftvillage.com](http://www.donegalcraftvillage.com)

### Magee 1866



Founded by John Magee in 1866, Magee's incorporates over 150 years of experience in to its internationally acclaimed tweed

collection.

Photo: Taz/ Flickr (image cropped)

Address: The Diamond, Donegal

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday:10:00-18:00, Sunday: 13:00-17:00

Phone: (+353) 74 972 2660

Internet: [www.magee1866.com](http://www.magee1866.com)

### Olde Castle Bar & Red Hugh's Restaurant



Nestled at the foot of the town's signature landmark, Olde Castle is a multi-award winner restaurant with a divine selection of lunch and dinner options, ranging from venison pie and chowder to locally sourced seafood. Craft beer aficionados won't want to miss Red Hugh, a speciality craft beer brewed exclusively for the visitors of Olde Castle.

Photo: Christopher Elwell/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tirconnell Street, Donegal

Opening hours: 12.00 till late, lunch is served until 17.00, dinner until 21.00

Phone: (+353) 74 972 1262

Internet: [www.oldecastlebar.com](http://www.oldecastlebar.com)

Email: [info@oldecastlebar.com](mailto:info@oldecastlebar.com)

### The Chasin' Bull



The Chasin' Bull is a proud family-run business with a non-stop atmosphere. The best of local live music can be heard here seven nights a week in summer, and the bar is the most popular spot in town to watch live sports. A mix of traditional brews as well as cocktails insure there is "craic" to be had by all.

Photo: [hxdbzxy/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com)

Address: Main Street, Bundoran

Opening hours: 11.00-02.00 daily

Phone: (+353) 71 984 1988

Internet: [www.thechasinbull.com](http://www.thechasinbull.com)

Email: [info@thechasinbull.com](mailto:info@thechasinbull.com)

### Ard Na Breatha Guesthouse & Restaurant



Ard Na Breatha is a cosy bed and breakfast for those seeking peace and relaxation. Homemade lunches served daily make this a good stopping point on any Wild Atlantic Way journey.

Photo: Aedka Studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: Middle Drumrooske, Donegal

Phone: (+353) 74 972 2288

Internet: [www.ardnabreatha.com](http://www.ardnabreatha.com)

Email: [info@ardnabreatha.com](mailto:info@ardnabreatha.com)

### The Restaurant at Harvey's Point



The Restaurant is located within Noel Cunningham's famed Harvey's Point Hotel. Enjoy a seven-course tasting menu or a casual lunch in an idyllic rural setting - the restaurant's views of Donegal are as unparalleled as its menu.

Photo: triocean/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Lough Eske Road, Donegal  
Opening hours: 12.00-21.00 daily  
Phone: (+353) 74 972 2208  
Internet: www.harveyspoint.com  
Email: stay@harveyspoint.com

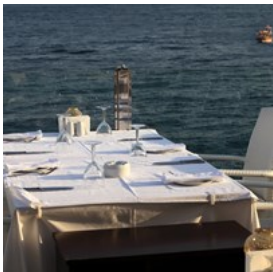
### The Reel Inn



A trip to Ireland wouldn't be completed without hearing some live music. This award-winning traditional Irish bar hosts nightly live music and is an excellent meeting point for both visitors and locals.

Photo: bbernard/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Bridge Street, Donegal  
Opening hours: 10:30-23:30  
Phone: (+353) 87 411 9994

### The Peak Restaurant



Nestled in the heart of Donegal Bay, this Bundoran restaurant is known as one of the finest restaurants in the region and offers a peaceful, intimate dining experience - with epic waterfront views. The a la carte menu features seafood which may have been caught just a few metres away!

Photo: Chubykin Arkady/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Eden Bay, West End, Bundoran  
Opening hours: 17:30 till late every day  
Phone: (+353) 71 984 1339

### The Blueberry Tearoom



After a visit to Donegal Castle, make sure to recharge at this cosy tearoom. The daily soup and quiche specials can be followed with a delicious chocolate or fruit-topped dessert.

Photo: Jacek Wojnarowski/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Castle Street, Donegal  
Phone: (+353) 74 972 2933

### The Salty Fox



Those with a sweet tooth should not miss this hidden gem in Bundoran. The Salty Fox is a lovely pastel café with a rich offering of sweet treats not limited to hot chocolate, pumpkin spice latte, scones, and ginger-coated cheesecake. The cafe is also a good resting point for parents, as there is a well-stocked play corner for kids.

Photo: Efetova Anna/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Tullan Strand Road, Bundoran  
Opening hours: 9:00 - 17:00 daily  
Phone: (+353) 83 058 7928



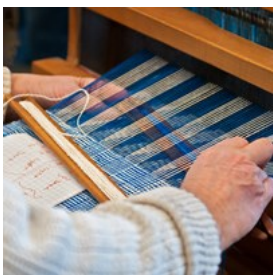
## SLIEVE LEAGUE



MNStudio/Shutterstock.com

Rugged and windswept, Slieve League has the highest sea cliffs in Europe. Take a spiritual journey through hundreds of years of tradition on the Pilgrim Path. To learn about the region's rich history and culture, join a guided offer at the local visitor centre.

## Killybegs Maritime and Heritage Centre



The Killybegs Maritime & Heritage Centre showcases the industries and rich crafts alive in this region. The intricate hand-knotted carpets are a fine example of the local weaving industry and make for fine souvenirs - they've even been scooped up by visitors from the venerable Buckingham Palace! With your new-found weaving know-how, try your hand at the world's largest loom, also on-site.

Photo: Holly Kuchera/Shutterstock.com

Address: Fintra Road, Killybegs

Opening hours: Easter to end of September: Mon to Fri:

10.00-18.00, Sat and Sun: 13.00-17.00

Phone: (+353) 74 974 1944

Internet: [www.visitkillybegs.com](http://www.visitkillybegs.com)

Email: [info@visitkillybegs.com](mailto:info@visitkillybegs.com)

## Triona Donegal Tweed Visitor Centre



Located in a prominent village of the Donegal tweed industry, here you will not only find the finest tweed garments to take home, but will also get an insight into weaving traditions through various displays, and the works of craftsmen still based here.

Photo: Zaitsava Olga/Shutterstock.com

Address: Main Street, Ardara

Opening hours: 9:00-18:00 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 95 41422

Internet: [www.trionadesign.com](http://www.trionadesign.com)

Email: [customerservice@trionadesign.com](mailto:customerservice@trionadesign.com)

## Studio Donegal



Studio Donegal preserves centuries-old craft traditions. Visitors will learn about the production and lore surrounding weaving, tour a genuine studio, and have a chance to pick up the finest tweed clothing and homewares at this unique giftshop.

Photo: aidart/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Glebe Mill, Kilcar

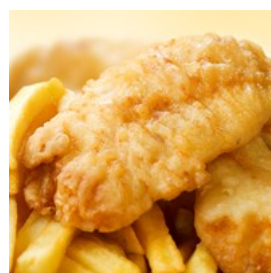
Opening hours: 9.00-17.30 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 973 8194

Internet: [www.studiodonegal.ie](http://www.studiodonegal.ie)

Email: [info@studiodonegal.ie](mailto:info@studiodonegal.ie)

## Charlie's West End Cafe



Good honest pub grub has made Charlie's a much-praised cafe and takeaway. Local flavour and character make this a good old reliable option



for any visitors to Ardara.

Photo: Subbotina Anna/Shutterstock.com

Address: Main Street, Ardara

Opening hours: 9:30-21:00 daily

Phone: +353 74 954 1656

Internet: [www.facebook.com/Charlies-West-End-Cafe-401461450058922](https://www.facebook.com/Charlies-West-End-Cafe-401461450058922)

### The Silver Strand



A sheltered horse-shoe shaped beach, The Silver Strand is a cove of serenity and inspiration. Maghera, on the northern side of the peninsula, is

also worth a dip.

Photo: Milosz Maslanka/Shutterstock.com

Address: Malin Beg, Glencolumbkille

### Nancy's Bar Ardara



Throughout its seven generation history, Nancy's has become a distinct landmark in the small seaside village of Ardara. Make yourself

comfortable, and grab a pint (or rather, a cake) of Guinness.

Photo: EddieHernandezPhotography/Shutterstock.com

Address: Front St, Drumbaran, Ardara

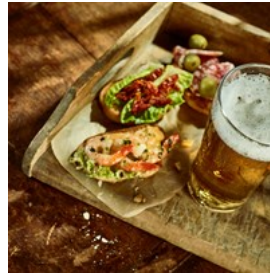
Opening hours: 12.00-0.00 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 954 1187

Internet:

[www.facebook.com/Nancys-Bar-Ardara-133942016677611](https://www.facebook.com/Nancys-Bar-Ardara-133942016677611)

### Hughie's Bar



Hughie's Bar has diverse offerings, from fresh seafood to great cocktails. Live music is frequently performed in the evenings, as well as unique events such as a vintage disco show!

Photo: stockcreations/Shutterstock.com

Address: 22 Main Street, Killybegs

Phone: (+353) 74 973 2876

Internet:

[www.facebook.com/Hughies-Bar-Killybegs-197537020278602](https://www.facebook.com/Hughies-Bar-Killybegs-197537020278602)

Email: [info@22mainstreet.com](mailto:info@22mainstreet.com)

### Ahoy Cafe



Embrace maritime vibes at this comfy seaside cafe. Overlooking Killybegs Harbour, offerings include a classic Irish breakfast, an apple tart, or a seafood lunch.

Photo: Elena Veselova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shore Road, Killybegs

Opening hours: Mon to Sat: 9:00 - 17:00, Sun: closed

Phone: (+353) 74 973 1952

## GAELTACHT



Patrick Mangan/Shutterstock.com

Gweedore ("Gaoth Dobhair") is a Gaeltacht region in County Donegal. Gaeltacht regions exist mainly on the West coast of Ireland and are preserves of traditional, Gaelic-speaking Irish culture. Lift the lid on old traditions and embrace a rich culture. The region is also home to Mount Errigal, a 751m high mountain, which provides ample views of the spectacular landscape.

### Ionad Cois Locha



Take a lake tour on the Dunlewey Lough and visit the historic homestead of world renowned weaver Manus Ferry. Tour guides weave magical tales of green ladies who haunt the nearby Guinness estate!

Landlubbers may prefer the family-friendly activities on offer: climbing frames, zip-wires, rodeo bull, pedellos, kayaks, and zorbing, as well as a playground and bouncy castle for the kids.

Photo: Gerry McNally/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Dunlewey, Gweedore  
Opening hours: 10.30-17.00 daily  
Phone: +353 74 953 1699  
Internet: [www.dunleweycentre.com](http://www.dunleweycentre.com)  
Email: [dunleweycentre@gmail.com](mailto:dunleweycentre@gmail.com)

## The Art House



This cosy art gallery boasts a selection of both Irish and international contemporary art, including the works of artist Brian O'Doherty - who happens to own this studio, and is more than willing to share his love of all things art with visitors.

Photo: Denis Kuvaev/Shutterstock.com

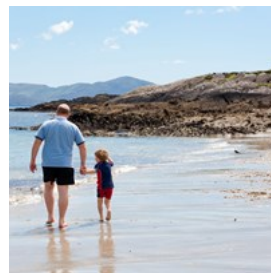
Address: Main Street, Dunfanaghy

Opening hours: 9.30-18.30 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 910 0552

Internet: [www.dunfanaghy.info/places/The-Art-House/76](http://www.dunfanaghy.info/places/The-Art-House/76),  
[www.brianodoherty.com](http://www.brianodoherty.com)

## Marble Hill Strand



Sheephaven's Bay's most protected, and indeed, most spectacular beach is known for its white sand and local eatery The Shack, a must-stop for artisan coffee and ice cream.

Photo: Janelle Lugge/Shutterstock.com

Address: Marble Hill

## Tory Island



Until the 16th century, Colmcille's monastery defined the island. In Toraigh, the most remote of all the inhabited Irish isles, tradition and high spirits abound. A Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking region), this island is fiercely proud of its folklore, music and dance. A haven for artists, the beauty of this small island has inspired the imagination for generations. Other landmarks of



note include the Lighthouse, the Wishing Stone, and Balor's Fort. An interesting fact is that this island traditionally elects its own king - the only place in Ireland to do so.

Photo: Julianne Ford/Wiki Commons (image cropped)

Address: Ferry leaves from Magheroarty

Phone: (+353) 87 199 3710

Internet: [www.toryferry.com](http://www.toryferry.com)

### The Lobster Pot



Winner of Irish Pub of Distinction award, the Lobster Pot exudes Irishness: fresh seafood, a fascination for Gaelic sports, and warm

hospitality! Unique dishes include the Titanic Platter.

Photo: Linus Strandholm/Shutterstock.com

Address: Burtonport

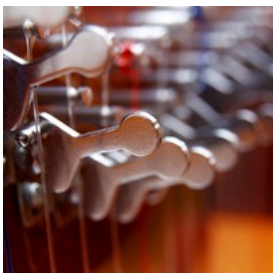
Opening hours: Specials served 12.00-14.00. À la carte begins at 18.00

Phone: (+353) 74 954 2012

Internet: [www.lobsterpot.ie](http://www.lobsterpot.ie)

Email: [tim@lobsterpot.ie](mailto:tim@lobsterpot.ie)

### Leo's Tavern



Fans of Enya and Clannad will revel in this chance to see the place that sparked their careers!

Leo's is a local treasure where a celebratory mood

reigns and Irish music is performed every night.

Food is also served daily.

Photo: Jozef Klopicka/Shutterstock.com

Address: Meenaleck, Crolly

Opening hours: Mon to Fri: 16:00-0:00, Sat: 13:00-0:00, Sun: 13:00-23:30

Phone: (+353) 74 954 8143

Internet: <http://leostavern.com>

### Buttermilk Art Café & Gallery



This coastal café combines sweet treats and sandwich specials with tranquil views of Portnablagh Bay. No doubt, this epic scenery

sparks the imagination. Art enthusiasts won't want to miss Throatlake Art Gallery, which promotes fine Irish art at reasonable prices.

Photo: marcin jucha/Shutterstock.com

Address: Rockhill, Portnablagh

Opening hours: Fri to Sun: 11.00-17.00

Phone: (+353) 74 913 8791

Internet: [www.buttermilk.ie](http://www.buttermilk.ie)

Email: [info@throatlake.com](mailto:info@throatlake.com)

### Muck n Muffins



Muck n Muffins is a classic small-town café, with the added benefit of jaw-dropping views of Horn Head. Irresistible home-made cakes and

tray bakes, as well as paninis, quiches, and jacket potatoes are the ultimate comfort food after a long day's sightseeing. The on-site gift shop also stocks a selection of local pottery and crafts, an ideal souvenir or gift idea.

Photo: cobraphotography/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Square, Dunfanaghy

Opening hours: 9.30-17.00 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 913 6780

Internet: [www.mucknmuffins.ie](http://www.mucknmuffins.ie)

Email: [mucknmuffins@hotmail.com](mailto:mucknmuffins@hotmail.com)

## INISHOWEN



*Ester Lo Feudo/Shutterstock.com*

At the northernmost tip of the island, the spectacular and almost eerie views of the Inishowen peninsula seem to spirit visitors away to the Other World. Explore the dramatic coast line to get a feel for the bewitching landscape which inspired countless myths and legends. Notable points include Malin Head, which featured in the Star Wars movie.

### Malin Head



Malin Head, known locally as Banba's Crown, is Ireland's most northerly point. A place of dramatic, otherworldly beauty, Malin Head is

also an area of historical as well as scientific and ecological importance. Visit the old Radio Station, spot the wreckage of Twilight that never made it to Derry, and admire the enthralling view of the endless sea embracing Tory Island.

Photo: shawnwill23/Shutterstock.com

Address: Malin Head, Inishowen

Phone: +353 74 936 2600

### Grianán of Aileach



An impressive ring fort constructed in the 6th century, Grianán is a remnant of the Iron Age, or more locally, the Kingdom of Aileach. Rife with legends, the fort teems with mystery and lore. If the thought of giants rumoured to be sleeping here don't scare you off, take a short drive (3 km) south of Burt, and experience breathtaking Inishowen peninsula views on your way.

Photo: ianmitchinson/Shutterstock.com

Address: Burt, Inishowen

### Doagh Famine Village



This open air museum transports you back to one of the most formative, and indeed tragic, periods of Irish history. The Great Famine devastated the country between 1845 and 1850. Explore this "Famine village", dotted with authentic Irish cottages still re-thatched every year. More macabre visitors may be interested to attend a traditional Irish wake, one of the many activities on offer which explore the Famine's effect on Irish society.

Photo: Linda Buckley/ Flickr (image cropped)

Address: Doagh Island, Inishowen

Opening hours: 17 March to 31 October: 10.00-17.00 daily

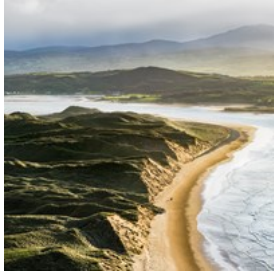
Phone: (+353) 74 937 8078

Internet: [www.doaghfaminevillage.com](http://www.doaghfaminevillage.com)

Email: [info@doaghfaminevillage.com](mailto:info@doaghfaminevillage.com)



### Five Fingers Strand



Just south of Malin Head, the Five Fingers Strand is a unique beach embedded between 30m dunes - some of the highest in Europe. The secluded, unspoilt nature of this beach will enable you to experience first hand the tranquillity and dramatic beauty of this corner of Ireland. As you explore the dunes, you may stumble upon a desolate but beautiful small church.

Photo: shawnwil23/Shutterstock.com

Address: Malin, County Donegal

### Inch Wildfowl Reserve



Located on the shore of Inch Lough, this reserve is a very important wetland site for migrating birds gathering here every year from various parts of the world. Take a walk along the scenic 8-km long trail, spotted with bird hides waiting to be explored.

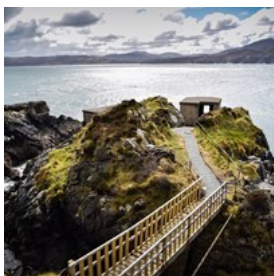
Photo: Mirko Graul/Shutterstock.com

Address: Grianan Farm, Speenogue, Burt

Opening hours: Open every day

Internet: [www.inchwildfowlreserve.ie](http://www.inchwildfowlreserve.ie)

### Fort Dunree Military Museum



Fort Dunree features one of the largest artillery gun collections in the world. As well as this, the centre offers diverse activities such as hiking, kayaking, and even exhibitions on wildlife. Afterwards, relax in what is regarded as the most

scenic coffee shop in Ireland!

Photo: shawnwil23/Shutterstock.com

Address: Linsfort, Buncrana

Opening hours: Mon to Fri: 10.30-16.30, Sat and Sat: 10.30-18.00

Phone: (+353) 74 936 1817

Internet: [www.dunree.pro.ie](http://www.dunree.pro.ie)

Email: [dunree@eircom.net](mailto:dunree@eircom.net)

### Dunfanaghy Gallery



Dunfanaghy Gallery features some of the most-acclaimed Irish watercolour paintings and antiques, housed in a 19th century building.

The region also sparked the imagination of Frank Egginton, the famous landscape artist. With free admission, and an impressive gift shop.

Photo: PowerUp/Shutterstock.com

Address: Figart, Dunfanaghy

Phone: +353 74 913 6224

Internet: [www.thegallerydunfanaghy.com](http://www.thegallerydunfanaghy.com)

Email: [thegallerydunfanaghy@yahoo.ie](mailto:thegallerydunfanaghy@yahoo.ie)

### Flight of the Earls Heritage Centre



Located in a historic British defensive gun battery, this museum explores the dramatic "Flight of the Earls", a key event in Irish history.

Be transported back to the 17th century and learn about the famous Earls, who fled their clan lands following invasion and prolonged battle with English forces.

Photo: Kenneth Allen

Address: Rathmullan Heritage Centre, Rathmullan

Opening hours: June to mid September: 10.00-17.00, Sunday: 12.00-17.00

Phone: (+353) 74 915 8131

Internet: [www.flightoftheearls.com](http://www.flightoftheearls.com)

### Ballyliffin Golf Club



Two scenic links courses and 36 holes await you at Ireland's finest golf club. Equipment adjustment services and lessons are also available.

Photo: ZoranOrcik/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ballyliffin, Inishowen

Phone: (+353) 74 937 6119

Internet: [www.ballyliffingolfclub.com](http://www.ballyliffingolfclub.com)

Email: [info@ballyliffingolfclub.com](mailto:info@ballyliffingolfclub.com)

### Glendowen Craft Shop



Ann McGonigle's craft shop is a step in to the Old World. With a vivid selection of tweed garments and jewellery, this shop has all you need to add a unique stamp to your style. Old family traditions and quality craftsmanship inspire the range of products which includes gift ideas like lamps and blankets.

Photo: Rido/Shutterstock.com

Address: Meentagh Glen, Clonmany

Opening hours: Mon to Sat: 10.30-17.30

Phone: (+353) 74 937 6265

Internet: <http://glendowen.com>

Email: [glendowen@eircom.net](mailto:glendowen@eircom.net)

### The Rusty Nail



Just a short walk from the golden sands of northerly Tullagh Bay, the Rusty Nail is a friendly restaurant with fresh food specials multiple times a week, and music sessions on weekends.

Photo: Alex Staroseltsev/Shutterstock.com

Address: Clonmany

Opening hours: Fri and Sat: 16.00-0.30, Sun: 14.00-23.00

Phone: +353 74 9376116

Internet: [www.facebook.com/The-Rusty-Nail-Crossconnell-2101146673481251](https://www.facebook.com/The-Rusty-Nail-Crossconnell-2101146673481251)

### An Bonnan Buí



Since 1993, An Bonnan Buí ("The Yellow Bittern", from a classic Irish poem) has offered quality food using the freshest ingredients, direct from sea to table.

Photo: Ildi Papp/Shutterstock.com

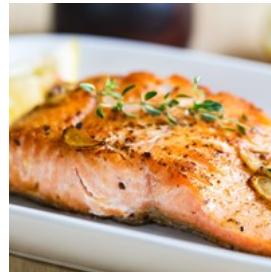
Address: Pier Road, Rathmullan

Opening hours: 11:00 till late, Tue, Wed: closed

Phone: (+353) 74 915 8868

Internet: [www.anbonnanbui.com](http://www.anbonnanbui.com)

### Kealy's Seafood Bar



Experience an authentic Irish fishing village in Greencastle. Breathe in the ocean air as you enjoy fresh and locally sourced seafood. Early Bird menu between lunch and dinner from 17.00 to 18.30!

Photo: vanillaechoes/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Harbour, Greencastle

Opening hours: Lunch Thu to Sun: 12.30-15.00, dinner: 17.00-21.30

Phone: (+353) 74 938 1010

Internet: [www.kealysseafoodbar.ie](http://www.kealysseafoodbar.ie)



### The Singing Pub



Fuel up for the rest of your Wild Atlantic road trip at one of Ireland's oldest pubs! Wholesome specialities like the beer battered Atlantic haddock

will provide much-needed nourishment after a day's exploring. This pub also shows all major sports events (a great way to experience everyday Irish culture!) as well as live traditional music.

Photo: shutterupeire/Shutterstock.com

Address: Clontallagh Downings

Phone: +353 74 915 5176

Internet: [www.thesingingpub.ie](http://www.thesingingpub.ie)

Email: [singingpubdownings@gmail.com](mailto:singingpubdownings@gmail.com)

### O'Flaherty's



A fun Irish pub on the Inishowen peninsula, with board games and quiz nights held regularly. Consider branching out from the classic Guinness

here: O'Flaherty's has a remarkable selection of local and international options!

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: 41 Upper Main Street, Buncrana

Opening hours: 11:30 - 23:30 daily; Fri and Sat: until 00:30

Phone: (+353) 74 936 1305

Internet: [www.facebook.com/OFlahertysBar](http://www.facebook.com/OFlahertysBar)

### Lily's Bar & Tea Rooms



A quaint café where the Guinness is just as creamy as the warm fresh coffee, this bar and tea rooms offers a cheerful atmosphere and a chance

to mingle with locals.

Photo: Denys Bogdanov/Shutterstock.com

Address: McGonagles, Malin Diamond, Malin Town

Opening hours: Sun to Thu: 12:00-0:00, Fri and Sat: 12:00-1:00

Phone: (+353) 74 933 2969

Internet: <https://lilys-bar-malin-town.business.site>

### Gap Coffee Co.



Multilayered sandwiches with home-made piccalilli, extra creamy artisan coffee, and freshly baked goodies.

Photo: bogdanhoda/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bridgend, Inishowen

Opening hours: Mon to Sat: 8.30-17.30, Sun: 10.30-17.30

Internet: <http://gapcoffeeco.com>

Email: [gapcoffee@hotmail.com](mailto:gapcoffee@hotmail.com)

### LETTERKENNY



Kingfort Studios/Shutterstock.com

Often nicknamed the Cathedral Town, Letterkenny is the largest town in Donegal and bursting with culture. Nestled in the wild emerald countryside, the town is a lively place with a unique spirit.

### Glenveagh National Park & Castle



Ireland's second largest national park is a must-see for visitors to this region. There is no better way to admire the scenic views than by following one of the many walking or cycling trails. The park is also a red deer conservation ground.

If you work up an appetite, stop for a snack at the 19th-century Victorian castle - as did Greta Garbo during her 1967 visit to Donegal.

Photo: alexilena/Shutterstock.com

Address: Church Hill, Letterkenny

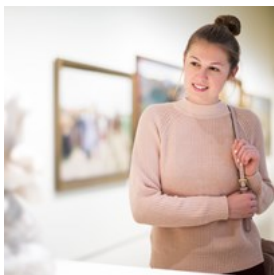
Opening hours: March to October 9.15-17.30, November to March: 9.00-17.00

Phone: (+353) 76 100 2537

Internet: [www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie](http://www.glenveaghnationalpark.ie)

Email: [glenveaghbookings@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:glenveaghbookings@ahg.gov.ie)

### Donegal County Museum



Located in the famine-era Warden's House, this museum offers a collection of artefacts and exhibitions showcasing the county's history.

Admission is free.

Photo: Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com

Address: High Road, Letterkenny

Opening hours: Mon to Fri: 10.00-16.30, Sat: 13.00-16.30, Sun: closed

Phone: (+353) 74 912 4613

Internet: [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

Email: [museum@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:museum@donegalcoco.ie)

### Oakfield Park



Oakfield Park is a family-friendly park, regarded as one of the best in Ireland. A place of verdant beauty, make sure to take a stroll

among the ponds and sculptures, have a ride on the narrow gauge train, admire the Longsleeper monument, and even make a wish under the Faerie tree! For dining options, visit the Buffers on site.

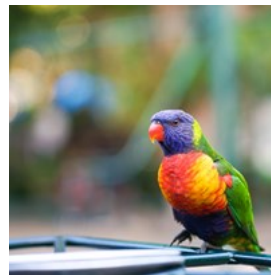
Photo: Pascal Raymond Dorland/Shutterstock.com

Address: Oakfield Demesne, Raphoe

Phone: (+353) 74 917 3068

Internet: [www.oakfieldpark.com](http://www.oakfieldpark.com)

### Alcorn Garden Centre



Alcorn's is not only a garden shop with an impressive plant selection, but also a Tropical Zoo with colourful birds and

butterflies, as well as lemurs! For refreshments, check out the earthy café ThymeOut on site.

Photo: enchanted\_fairy/Shutterstock.com

Address: Hazelwood House, Loughnagin, Glebe, Letterkenny

Phone: +353 74 912 1541

Internet: <https://alcorns.ie>

More Info: Closed for winter until April 2019

### The Lemon Tree Restaurant



A widely acclaimed inland restaurant with an extensive Early Evening Menu. Signature dishes include the Donegal pork hash and the

cheddar-filled steak burger, as well as heavenly desserts that delight the senses.



Photo: Marian Weyo/Shutterstock.com

Address: The Courtyard Shopping Centre, Lower Main Street, Letterkenny

Opening hours: 17.00-21.00 daily

Phone: (+353) 74 912 5788

Internet: [www.thelemontreerestaurant.com](http://www.thelemontreerestaurant.com)

Email: [lemontreerestaurant@hotmail.com](mailto:lemontreerestaurant@hotmail.com)

### The Restaurant at the Castle Grove



Set in an elegant Georgian house, Castle Grove's restaurant serves the finest of seafood, game and vegetarian alternatives - embracing

locally grown ingredients. The à la carte menu is famed for its specialities such as the Slaney Valley lamb, and afternoon teas are a treat - everything from homemade scones to oak smoked salmon.

Photo: Ingus Krukltis/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ramelton Road, Letterkenny

Phone: (+353) 74 915 1118

Internet: [www.castlegrove.com/restaurant](http://www.castlegrove.com/restaurant)

Email: [enquiries@castlegrove.com](mailto:enquiries@castlegrove.com)

### Sister Sara's



Sister Sara's is where it all happens: spread over three floors, there are events every Thursday and Saturday night.

Photo: Shyripa Alexandr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Port Road, Letterkenny

Phone: +353 74 9122238

Internet: [www.sistersaras.com](http://www.sistersaras.com)

Email: [sistersaras@gmail.com](mailto:sistersaras@gmail.com)

### Bonnors Corner Bar



A quaint Irish pub with great offers on Guinness. Enjoy the live music or steal the show on the karaoke nights!

Photo: Patricia Hofmeester/Shutterstock.com

Address: Glenfin Street, Ballybofey

Opening hours: Mon to Thu: 12:00-23:30, Fri and Sat: 12:00-01:30, Sun: 12:30-23:00

Phone: +353 74 913 1361

### Letterkenny Shopping Centre



Donegal's premier shopping mall offers a selection of shops, services, and cafés. Easy access with free parking and WiFi connection.

Photo: Monkey Business Images/Shutterstock.com

Address: Port Road, Letterkenny

Opening hours: Mon to Wed: 9.00-18.00, Thu and Fri: 9.00-21.00, Sat: 9.00-18.00, Sun: 12.00-18.00

Phone: +353 74 912 3094

Internet: [www.letterkennysc.com](http://www.letterkennysc.com)

Email: [manager@letterkennyshoppingcentre.com](mailto:manager@letterkennyshoppingcentre.com)

## TOURIST INFORMATION



MNStudio/Shutterstock.com

### Best Time to Visit



Influenced by the Gulf Stream, Ireland has a mild and wet climate, which means that regardless of the month selected, rainfall is to be

expected all year round, but temperatures rarely ever drop below zero. Summer is considered to be the high season, but one might want to consider a visit during the grandiose St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Photo: VectorA

### Passport / Visa



Ireland's passport and visa requirements vary for different nationalities: if you are a UK citizen, you can just use official photo identification,

whereas if you are an EU citizen, you just need a national identity card. Visitors from EU countries (including Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein), USA, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, don't need a visa to visit the Republic or Northern Ireland. South African visitors can visit the

Republic of Ireland visa-free, but they need a UK visa in order to enter Northern Ireland. If you're not sure whether or not to apply for a visa, we recommend that you contact the embassy or consulate in your country.

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

### Donegal Airport (CFN)



Donegal Airport is approximately 15 mins drive from Dungloe and Gweedore, and 45 mins from Letterkenny. For transfer to/from the

airport, contact Hughes Taxi +353 87 261 8885, or Cronan Mac +353 87 237 8888. The closest major airport is Belfast International Airport.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Carrickfinn, Kincasslagh

Internet: [www.donegalairport.ie](http://www.donegalairport.ie)

### Public transport



The national bus service provider in Ireland is Bus Éireann. Further providers of coach service within the County and/or the island are John Mc

Ginley, Lough Swilly, Paddy Gallagher, Feda O Donnell, McGeehan Coaches, North West Busways. <https://www.donegal.ie/bus-services>

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Phone: +353 1850-836-611 (08.30-18.00 daily)

Internet: [www.buseireann.ie](http://www.buseireann.ie), [www.irishrail.ie](http://www.irishrail.ie)

## Taxi



Glencar Cabs (based in Letterkenny, airport transfers) +353 87 685 6676  
Haughey Coaches (Southwest) +353 87 671 1944

Photo: Taxi

## Post



Postal services in Ireland are provided by An Post, which has several branches across County Donegal. Use the link below to locate the office

nearest to you.

Photo: Andy Fuchs

Address: Letterkenny: Annagry Post Office, Teach Na Rossan.

Donegal: Tirchonaill Street

Opening hours: Mon to Fri: 9:00-17:30, Sat: 9:00-13:00

Phone: Letterkenny: +353 74 954 8101, Donegal: +353 74 972 1024

Internet:

[www.anpost.ie/AnPost/at+your+local+Post+Office.htm](http://www.anpost.ie/AnPost/at+your+local+Post+Office.htm)

## Telephone



Country Code: +353 Area Code: 074 (Donegal, Letterkenny, Dungloe, Buncrana)

Photo: Jardson Almeida

## Electricity



In Ireland the standard voltage is 230 V. Socket type: G

Photo: Stirling Tschan

## Population

158,755

## Currency

Euro (EUR) 1 € = 100 cents

## Opening hours

Business hours are from 09.00 to 18.00. Many shops have extended opening hours on Thursdays.

## Newspapers

Donegal News  
[donegalnews.com](http://donegalnews.com)

Donegal Democrat

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

Donegal Daily

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

## Emergency numbers

112, 999

+353 74 917 2288 (Roads Service)

## Tourist information

Donegal Discover Ireland Centre

The Quay

Donegal Town

+353 74 972 1148

[donegal@failteireland.ie](mailto:donegal@failteireland.ie)