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THOMOND

Counties Limerick and Clare

Separated only by the broad swathe of the Shannon Estuary, counties Clare and Limerick are certainly different, but each offers a complementary version of the very best Irish landscapes and traditions, from the weather-beaten coastlines and musical traditions of County Clare to the rich farmland and ancient sites of County Limerick.

County Clare is the Irish wild west in all its windswept glory. Its best-known natural attraction are the **Cliffs of Moher**, a series of dark limestone heads that plunge 214m into the churning Atlantic below. but there's much more to discover besides. South of the cliffs, beyond the surfing hotspots of Doonbeg, Milltown Malbay and Lehinch, is the slender finger of Loop Head, lighthouse-tipped headland buttressed by sheer cliffs and a feeling that you've come to the end of the world. North of the Cliffs of Moher is the bare, rocky **Burren**, a 250 sg, km lunar-like landscape of grey limestone punctured in spring by wildflowers including 24 species of orchid

It's a hard land, but it cradles a thriving culture of Irish traditional music. 'ou'll hear some of the very best traditional sessions in villages and towns throughout the county, especially in **Ennis, Ennistimon, Kilfenora** (the set dancing in the barn next to Vaughan's is well renowned), Miltown Malbay (host of the annual Willie Clancy Summer School, one of the best traditional festivals in the country) and **Doolin**, whose pubs and music houses are famed throughout Ireland for the quality of the music played there.

County Limerick is closely tied to its namesake city, a thriving centre with a rich cultural heritage evidenced by its brooding Norman castle and fine collection of museums and art galleries. Surrounding Ireland's third-largest urban centre is a pastoral idyll of low-lying farmland and lush greenery that gently rises into the uplands and mountains that frame the entire county from the Slieve Felims and Galtees in the east and the Ballyhoura and Mullaghareirk mountains in the south and west, each a wonderland of hiking trails and great views.

A short distance south of Limerick City is beautiful Adare village, its eyecatching collection of thatched cottages justifiably famous throughout Ireland. Southeast of here is Lough Gur, a picturesque horseshoe lake surrounded by ancient sites, from the Neolithic era to the Middle Ages.







& Clare

Visitor Map

Limerick

Taste The Burren Events

The Burren Food Trail members organise an annual series of Long table events, taking place at unusual locations around the Burren, Co Clare. The Slow Food Festival takes place in May each year and the Burren Food Fayre closes of the season during the October Bank Holiday Weekend. www.burren.ie

Loop Head Food Circle

Members have created this local food community, aspiring to the ethos of sustainability, with a strong commitment to sourcing as many of their ingredients as possible from the local area. The Loop Head Peninsula has been named as one of the Top 10 Foodie Towns in Ireland. www.loophead.ie

A Taste of Lough Derg

A Summer Series of food events where food producers and restaurant owners surrounding Lough Derg Lakelands join forces to promote the region as a food tourism destination. www.discoverloughderg.ie

Visitor Attractions, County Clare

14 Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

15 Atlantic Airventure

Experience aviation with an

www.atlanticairadventures.com

educational and enjoyable day out.

engines, gliders. Test your skills in the

See jet fighters, airline cockpits,

16 Craggaunowen - The

Living Past Experience

www.shannonheritage.com

Set on 50 acres, Craggaunower

interprets Ireland's prehistoric and

early Christian eras. Explore the

Aviation Centre

flight simulator.

buildings.

BRIEN'S TOWER, CLIFFS OF MOHER, COL

www.shannonheritage.com Explore 15th century Bunratty Castle that features 6,000 years of Clare's featuring furnishings and tapestries.

A stunning recreation of the 19th Faith and Water. century Irish life, featuring over 30

Century Franciscan www.heritageireland.ie Clare.

17 Clare Museum

19 Vandeleur Walled

www.vandeleurwalledgarden.ie Craggaunowen Castle built in 1550. area.

20 Scattery Island Visitor

24 Doolin Cave

www.doolincave.ie

25 The Burren

Furone

Centre

Knowledge.

Parlour

Centre

Doolin Cave and visitor centre is

home to the Great Stalactite, the

Smokehouse Visitor

Discover the mystery of

of how smoked salmon is

handcrafted. Enjoy mosaics

www.burrensmokehouse.com

salmon smoking and the secret

telling the story of the Salmon of

26 The Burren Centre

www.theburrencentre.ie

and Kilfenora Céilí Band

The visitor centre lies in the heart

and boasts a fantastic exhibition, an

audio-visual theatre and local craft

of the historic village of Kilfenora

27 Dysert O'Dea Castle

and Clare Archaeology

A restored Gaelic Tower House built

www.dysertcastle.com

longest free-hanging stalactite in

www.heritageireland.ie Explore the ancient ruins of Saint Senan's Monastery and marvel at the 85 foot tall round tower. Take a guided tour to learn about the Island's folklore.

21 Loop Head Lighthouse

www.loophead.ie Visitors are guided to the top of the lighthouse to enjoy the magnificent views. The Lighthouse Keepers Cottage hosts an exhibition on the history of Irish Lighthouses.

22 Moher Hill Open Farm www.moherfarm.com Come and visit the wide range of animals. Whiz on the outdoor go

karts, have fun in the indoor play areas and bouncy castle. 23 Cliffs of Moher Visitor

Experience www.cliffsofmoher.ie

The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience located almost midway along the spectacular cliffs is home to a visito centre set into the hillside, O'Brien's Tower and 800 metres of protected cliff side pathways.

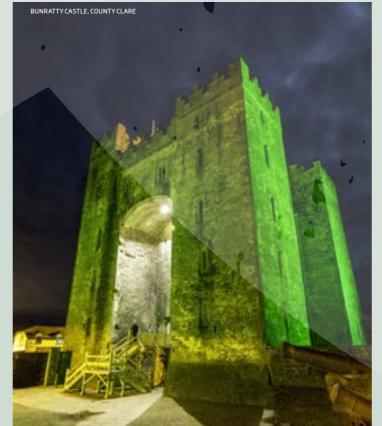
in 1480 by the O'Dea clan, displaying local artefacts, audio visual presentation.

28 The Farmyard www.thefarmyard.ie An activity farm for groups p a healthy and active way of living through fun farm activities and educational workshops.

29 Michael Cusack Centre www.michaelcusack.ie A centre dedicated to Michael Cusack founder of the GAA. Enjoy the famine era cottage and exhibition. Walk the Burren Walking Trail.

30 Caherconnell Fort and heepdog Demonstrations www.caherconnell.com Caherconnell Fort is one of the best preserved stone forts in the Burren with on-going excavations each summer. Daily sheepdog onstrations during the season.

31 Aillwee Cave and Birds of Prey Centre www.aillweecave.ie Explore one of Ireland's ancient caves, watch eagles in flight and



Centre

www.clarelibrary.ie Visit the Riches of Clare exhibition history. The exhibition is displayed using the themes of Earth, Power,

¹⁸ Ennis Friary – 13th Ennis Friary, founded in the 1240's is the burial place of the O'Brien and McMahon families - ancient Kings of

Garden

This beautiful garden with a maze, giant chess game and Victorian-style glass house specialises in many unusual and tender plants. Facilities include bistro, gift shop, collection crannog, ring fort, 'Brendan Boat' and of old farm-machinery and kids play



sample delicious local food products in the nearby farm shop **32** Burren Perfumery and

Floral Centre www.burrenperfumery.com Home to an outstanding audio-visual presentation and photographic exhibition. The organic herb garder set in an idyllic setting produces a large range of native organic herbs used in hand-made soaps and aromatherapy products.

33 Irish Seed Savers Association

www.irishseedsavers.ie 20 acres of beautiful organic seed gardens, heritage orchards and native oodland trails

34 Holy Island/Inis Cealtra www.holyisland.ie

Holy Island on Lough Derg and the river Shannon is one of the most famous monastic sites in Ireland. Its many attractions include a wellpreserved Round Tower. Boat trips and guided tours available

www.WildAtlanticWay.com

Visitor Attractions, County Limerick

01 Limerick City Museum **06** The Frank McCourt www.limerick.ie/limerick-museum The collection illustrates the history of Limerick and its people. Displays include archaeological artefacts, Limerick silver, Limerick lace, military artefacts and much more.

02 The Hunt Museum

www.huntmuseum.com Exhibiting the original artefacts gathered over a life time, by John and Gertrude Hunt in an 18th century Custom House setting. Also displaying its own collections, as well as visiting exhibitions of local, national and international significance.

03 St. Mary's Cathedral

www.saintmaryscathedral.ie Founded in 1168 standing majestica over Limerick City on the banks of the River Shannon. One of the nost important medieval buildings surviving intact in Ireland performing its original function.

04 King John's Castle onheritage.com

The stunning exhibition brings to life over 800 years of King John's Castle and Limerick City's dramatic history, through technology which will onnect visitors to tales of siege and

05 Thomond Park Stadium

and Museum Tours www.thomondpark.ie Home ground of Munster Rugby, a famous venue, renowned internationally for its unique history and atmosphere.



www.frankmccmuseum.wixsite

A museum dedicated to the Pulitze

Ashes, Frank McCourt which is based

prize-winning author of Angela's

in Frank's former school in the

Georgian Quarter of Limerick City.

com/frankmccourtmuseum

All-weather venue in Limerick City established in 1852. Experience the weekly Friday Street Food Market, Saturday Famous Farmers Market and Sunday Soul Market with the best of local artisan food, crafts, fashion and family activities.

09 Stonehall Wildlife Park www.stonehallvisitorfarm.com A wildlife park and zoo for family's to experience fun and education within a natural flora and fauna setting.

10 Adare Heritage Centre www.adareheritagecentre.ie Historical exhibition, a reconstructio of Adare's unique past from the arrival of the Normans to the ancient Abbeys of the Middle Ages.

Lough Gur Heritage

Centre www.loughgur.com A visit to the iconic site of Loug Gur allows the visitor to follow a trail on arrival that will take you on a walk to some of the most ancient monuments and historic

12 Desmond Hall www.heritageireland.ie

in Ireland.

An imposing two-storey structure once used by the Earls of Desmon The Hall, vaulted lower chambe

Activities & Adventure, County Limerick

Land & Water Based Activities

Basecamp Adventure Park www.basecampadventurepark.ie

Paintballing, archery, splatball, bush craft. Shanagolden, County Limerick. **Delta Karting** www.deltakarting.ie

Limerick City. Get West

www.getwest.ie water zorbing, hoverball archery, Limerick City.

Kilcornan Karting www.limerickkarting.com Kilcornan, County Limerick.

Kilfinane Outdoor Education Centre www.kilfinaneoec.com Canoeing, surfing, hill walking, rock climbing, mountain biking. Kilf

County Limerick. Lazy Dog Clay Bird Shooting

www.lazydogshooting.ie Knocklong, County Limerick. Limerick Carriage Tours www.limerickcarriagetours.com

Luxurious horse drawn carriage tour Adare, County Limerick. Limerick Greyhound Stadium Train tours to Clare and Galway,

www.igb.ie Limerick City. Limerick Racecourse

www.limerickraces.ie Patrickswell, County Limerick National Kart Centre Limerick

www.nationalkartcentre.ie Corbally, County Limerick.

adjoining tower were all constructed during the 15th century. Medieval features include an oak musicians gallery and a limestone hooded

13 Foynes Flying Boat and Maritime Museum

www.flyingboatmuseum.com Award winning museum dedicated to the history of the Flying Boats and passenger travel across the Atlantic rom 1937-45. Board the World's only full-size Boeing 314 Flying Boat.

For further information please visit www.WildAtlanticWav.com

Nevsail www.nevsailwatersports.com Kayaking, surfing, sailing, indsurfing, rock-climbing, powe

boating, coasteering, Limerick City. Roller Jam www.rollerjam.ie Indoor skating rink, Limerick City.

Tours

Adare Walking Tours Adare, County Limerick Stand Up Paddle boarding, kayaking, Askeaton Walking Tours

Askeaton, County Limerick. **Barratt Tours** www.4tours.biz Tours to Clare and Cork, Limerick

Kilmallock Walking Tours

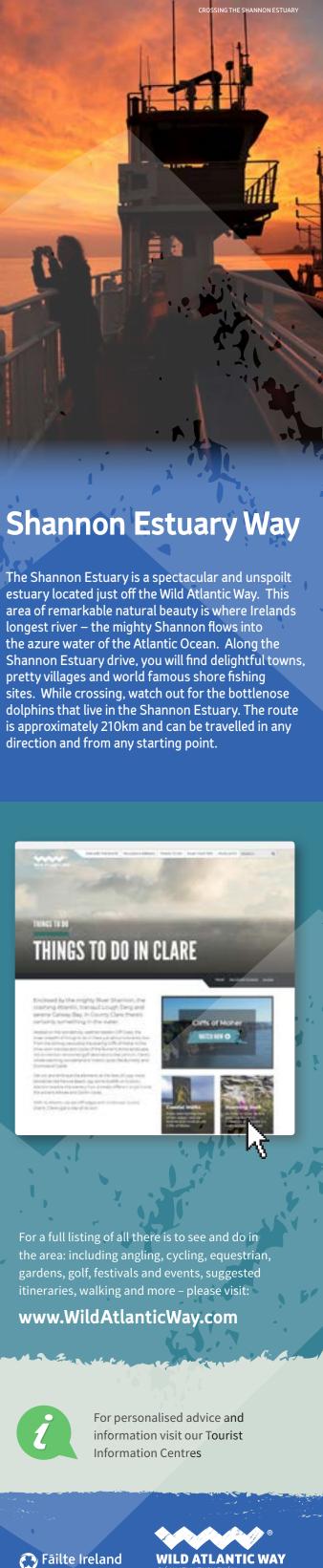
Kilmallock, County Limerick. Limerick City Walking Tours www.limerickcivictrust.ie Limerick City.

Paddywagon Tours www.paddywagontours.com Bus tours to Kerry and Clare, Limerick City.

Railtours www.railtoursireland.com Limerick City.

Shannonside Walking Tours Limerick City, County Limerick.

For a full listing of all there is to see and do in the area including angling, cycling, equestrian, gardens, golf, walking and more – please visit www.WildAtlanticWay.com



direction and from any starting point.





Ennis Town Centre

Activities & Adventure, County Clare

18

Boat Trips Cliff of Moher Cruises www.cliffofmohercruises.ie Doolin, County Clare

Derg Boat Trips www.dergboatrips.ie Lough Derg. Scariff, County Clare.

Dolphin Discovery www.discoverdolphins.ie Kilrush, County Clare. Dolphinwatch

www.dolphinwatch.ie Carrigaholt, County Clare. Doolin Ferry Company with

Bill O'Brien www.doolinferry.com Aran Islands and Cliffs of Mohe cruise. Doolin, County Clare.

Doolin2Aran Ferries www.doolin2aranferries.com Aran Islands and Cliffs of Moher cruise. Doolin, County Clare. **Killaloe River Cruises**

www.killaloerivercruises.com Lough Derg. Killaloe, County Clare.

Scattery Island Tours www.scatteryislandtours.com Kilrush, County Clare. Secret Ireland Escapes

www.secretirelandescapes.com Lough Derg. Killaloe, County Clare. Land & Water Based

Activities Adventure Burren

Rock climbing, hiking, walking. Carron, County Clare Find us on Facebook **Aloha Surf School**

www.surfschool.ie Fanore, County Clare. Ben's Surf and Rock

Climbing Clinic www.lahinchadventures.com Lahinch, County Clare.

Burren Outdoor Education Centre www.burrenoec.com

Snorkelling, kayaking, rock climbing, hill walking. Bellharbour, County Clare

Clare Kayak Hire www.clarekayakhire.com Lahinch, County Clare.

Clare Paintball www.clarepaintball.ie Quin, County Clare. **Clare Surf Safari**

www.claresurfsafari.com Mobile Surf School, County Clare.

Climb It www.climbit.ie Rock climbing and hill walking. The

Burren, County Clare. Dive Academy Scuba Diving School

www.diveacademy.info Lahinch, County Clare.

Get West Killaloe Kayak Tours www.getwest.ie Killaloe, County Clare.

GoGaelic www.gogaelic.ie Experience Hurling and Gaelio

football on a fun level. Ennis, County Clare. Lahinch Surf Experience

Lahinch, County Clare.

www.lahinchsurfexperience.com Lahinch, County Clare. Lahinch Surf School www.lahinchsurfschool.com

Nevsail

www.nevsailwatersports.ie Kayaking, surfing, sailing, windsurfing, rock-climbing, powerboating, coasteering. Kilkee, County

North Clare Sea Kayaking www.northclareseakayaking.com Doolin, County Clare. Ocean Scene Surf School www.oceanscene.ie Lahinch, County Clare.

Soul Kite www.soulkite.ie Kitesurfing and Stand Up Paddle boarding. Lahinch and Killaloe,

County Clare. The Green Room Surf School www.thegreenroom.ie Lahinch, County Clare.

Tullassa Range Clay shooting and archery. Ennis County Clare. Find us on Facebook

UL Sport Adventure Centre www.ulac.ie Sailing, kayaking, Stand Up Paddle boarding, high ropes. Killaloe,

County Clare. White Water Surf School www.whitewatersurfco.com Miltown Malbay, County Clare.







Explore County Limerick

Often referred to as 'Ireland's prettiest Village' where traditional thatched cottages and ancient stone walls preserve the spirit of an unspoiled Ireland. The very definition of postcard perfection, Adare is a picturesque oasis. Take an www.coillteoutdoors.ie afternoon to explore the mysterious ruins and churches which surround the village and whisper of its rich history.

Askeaton

This medieval village on the scenic N69 driving route and Shannon Estuary Way was once a stronghold of the Anglo-Norman Earls of Desmond. Today, the impressive ruins of Askeaton Castle and Franciscan Friary dominate the town. It is believed that William de Burgo established the property around 1199.

Ballyhoura Mountain Trails

Undulating green pastures, area which sits on the Cork/Limerick to Abbevfeale. The route makes recreation hub. There are numerous looped walks in varying lengths: Blackrock loop (11km), Darragh Hills in towns and villages along the Loop (10km), Canon Sheehan Loop (7km) www.visitballyhoura.com

Curraghchase Forest Park 300 hectares of mixed woodland and parkland. Attractions include way marked walks, family cycling, playgrounds, historic house, arboretum, pet cemetery, lake and

specimen trees.

Clare Glens This forest park is situated in a quite hilly area. It has beautiful nature trails, which are well signposted and incorporate lots of the other attractions, such as the natural rock pools, rapids and waterfalls. There is an abundance of natural flora and an abundance of indigenous birds and other wildlife. This is an extremely picturesque location, which has become very popular due to its natural beauty.

Great Southern Greenway In County Limerick, approximately 40km of the Great Southern Trail has now been developed for off road woodlands, hills and mountain, this walking and cycling from Rathkeale border is a well-established outdoor its way through the West Limerick countryside giving the walker and cyclist the opportunity to stop off route including Rathkeale, Ardagh, Newcastle West, Templeglantine and Abbeyfeale. www.southerntrail.net

Explore County Clare

Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark The Burren means 'great rock' and in this karst limestone you will find the iconic Poulnabrone Dolmen, the longest cave system in Ireland, the largest stalactite in Europe, the Burren National Park, the Carron Nature Reserve, and a host of wild flora and fauna waiting to be discovered. www.burrengeopark.ie

Lough Derg Blueway Consisting of 13,000 hectares of beautiful clear waters and touching on three counties (Clare, Galway and Tipperary), Lough Derg is ded by some stunning countryside. Enjoy numerous trails on both land and water, which provide adventure enthusiasts with plenty to enjoy. www.BlueWaysIreland.org

Wild Atlantic Way Signature Points Iconic must-see sights

Loop Head

Loop Head is a slim finger of a

Clare, set between the Atlantic

breath-taking views, Visi

Head Lighthouse, go dolphin

more on the Wild Atlantic Way.

peninsula pointing out to sea from

the most westerly corner of County

Ocean and Shannon Estuary, with

watching, bird watching, fishing and

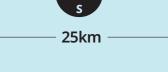
Cliffs of Moher

The iconic Cliffs of Moher are one of Ireland's most visited natural attractions. Stretching for 8km along the Atlantic coast of Clare, the cliffs reach 214m at their highest point at Knockardaki Midway along the cliffs you'll find the environmentally friendly visitor centre set into the hillside. Here, you can also discover O'Brien's Tower a 19th-century viewing tower, and access 800m of protected cliff-side pathways with viewing areas.

25km

Limerick and Clare

County Map





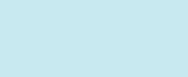






BAY COAST

(NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN)



CLIFF COAST (NORTH ATLANTIC

OCEAN)

Kilkee Cliffs

Droichead Charraig

INIS MÓR (INISHMORE)

Inis Mór (seaport) 📕

CLIFF COAST

(NORTH ATLANTIC

OCEAN)

Inis Mór (airport)

Calafort Ros an Mhíl

Trá an Dóilín

Céibh Bhaile na hAbhann Aerfort Réigiúnach Chonamara

Inis Meáin (seaport)

Inis Oírr (seaport) 📕 🏹 Inis Oírr (airport)

INIS MEÁIN (INISHMAAN)

Inis Meáin (airport)

Cliffs of Moher



Loop Head

CLIFF COAST (NORTH ATLANTIC

OCEAN)

Ballyheigue Beach Ballyheigue

Banna Strand 📑

Samphire Island

KERRY HEAD

Ballybunnion Beach



Lyracrumpane Knocknagashel P Stack's County Kerry

(C

An Clochán R560 Aughacasla Brandon Creek ACTIVITIES & ADVENTURES COUNTY CLARE CONTINUED

Srón Bhroin

Cé Bhréanainn

Tours

Barratt Tours www.barrattstours.ie Bus tour to Clare and Cork. Ennis. County Clare.

Burren Experience Guided Walks

www.mullaghmore-burren.com The Burren. Corofin, County Clare.

Burren Guided Walks and Hikes

www.burrenguidedwalks.com The Burren. Fanore, County Clare.

www.homepage.eircom. net/~burrenhillwalks/ The Burren. Ballyvaughan, County Clare.

Burren Hill Walks

Castl

Beach

Castlegregory

Burren Mountain Walking Tours

Mini bus and hill walking tour. Fanore, County Clare. Find us on Facebook

Burren Way Mountain Biking Tours www.burrenwaymo Doolin, County Clare.

Clare Walking Tours www.clarewalkingtours.ie Tuamgraney, County Clare.

Cliffs of Moher Walking Tours

Tralee Bay Nature Reserve

N85 V

www.cliffsofmoherwalkingtours.com Extended hike along the Cliffs. Liscannor, County Clare.

Doolin2Aran Ferries www.doolin2aranferries.com Bus and Boat to Cliffs of Moher and Aran, Ennis, County Clare,

Doolin Cliff Walks www.doolincliffwalk.com Guided cliff walk from Doolin to Cliffs of Moher.

Ennis Walking Tours www.enniswalkingtours.com Ennis, County Clare.

E-Whizz www.e-whizz.com

Electric Bike hire and tours. Kilfenora, County Clare.

Ollie's Walking Tours www.olliestours.com Ennis, County Clare.

Rural Irish Holidays www.ruralirishholidays.com Activity holidays around Lough Derg.

Mountshannon, County Clare. The Celtic Connexion www.thecelticconnexion.com

Escorted hiking holidays. Killaloe,

County Clare.

For a full listing of all there is to see and do in the area including angling, cycling, equestrian, gardens, golf, walking and more - please visit www.WildAtlanticWay.com

Ted Tours www.tedtours.com Father Ted (TV series) locations. Kilfenora, County Clare.

Abbeydorney 000 Fenit Harbour

-

á

Doolin Pier

Clahane

iveran)

Fanore Beach

Lehinch

Kilmihi

Spanish Point

Doughmore Bay

Cooraclar

Kilmurry McMaho Marina 🌢 Killimer

Port Cappagh Pier N67 Scattery Island 📕

Carrigafoyle Tarbert Port Beal Carrigaholt Strand

Ballylongford

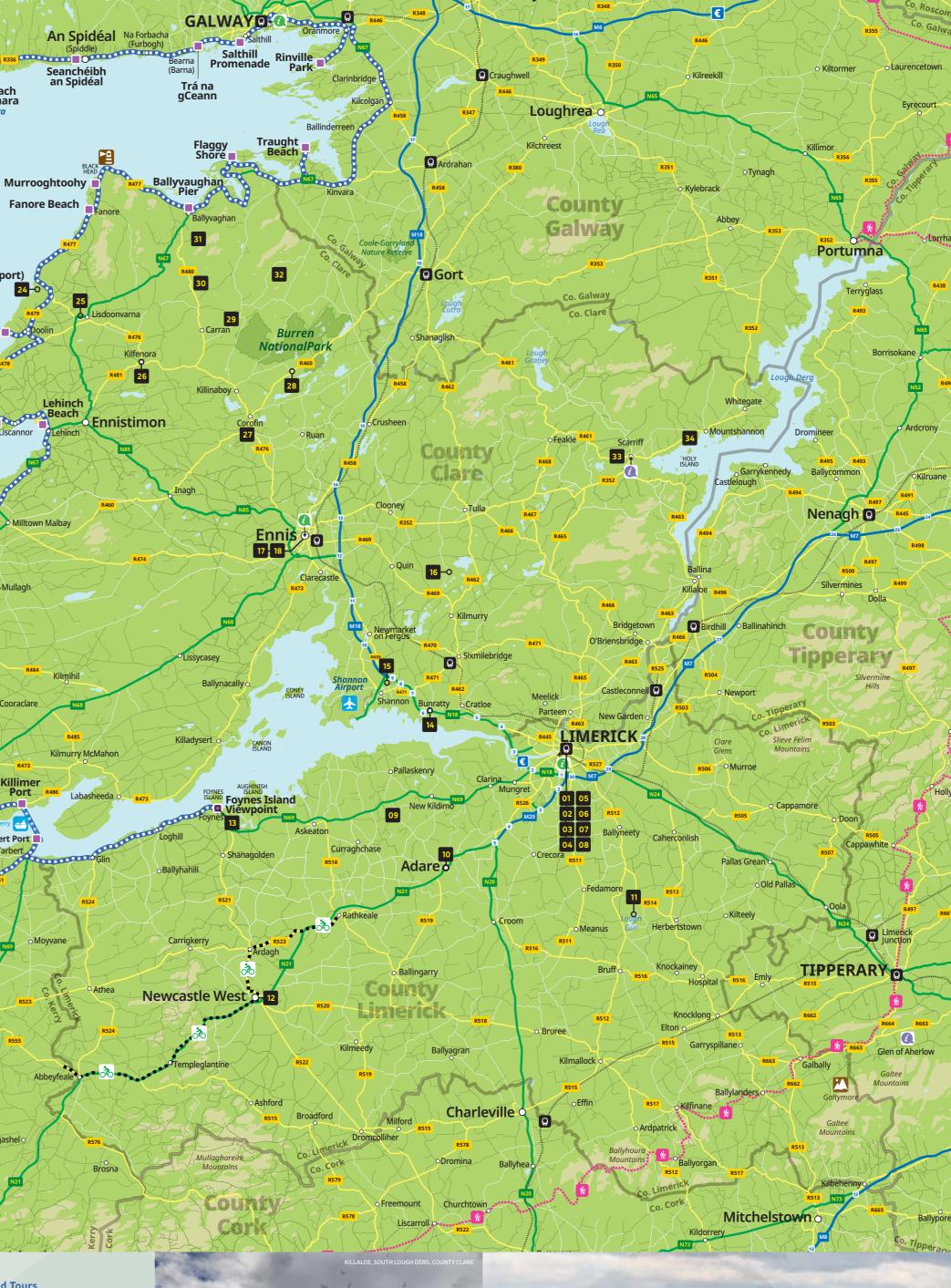
Ballybunnion

Listowel

Lixnaw

Walking Tour with Benoni at 'B' Art Studio Ennis, County Clare, **Find us on Facebook**

West Coast Cycle Tours www.westcoastcycletours.ie The Burren, County Clare.



Key for Town/City Centre and County Regional Maps



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Practical Information

Public Toilets

www.irish	Iarnród Éireann) Irail.ie Rail Service
Bus Bus Éirear	n

National Bus Service Local Link www.locallink.ie Rural community bus servi

Private Bus Operators Please ask in your local Tourist Office for details on numerous private bus services na Air

Shannon International Airport www.shannonairport.ie Shannon, County Clare. International Flights.

Boat Shannon Ferries www.shannonferries.com Ferry from Killimer, County Clar to Tarbert, County Kerry.

Driving Driving is on the left hand side of the road & safety belts must be worn at all times. The M50 motorway around Dublin is a barrier-free toll road, tolls can be paid on www.eFlow.ie or at any outlet with a Payrane sign

outlet with a Payzone sign. National Transport

Driving: www.rsa.ie www.transportforireland.ie







Centres

Centre

Limerick City,

Visit us at: