

The Blackwater Region

The Blackwater Region

Heritage Guide

Heritage Guide

www.visitblackwaterregion.com



Project part financed
by the European Union

Blackwater Regional Partnership is part-financed by the European Union through the Interreg IIIA Programme managed for the Special EU Programmes Body by the ICBAN Partnership.

Heritage in Armagh, Monaghan and Dungannon & South Tyrone

Discover the Blackwater region for yourself
www.visitblackwaterregion.com

escape to the country

It's time to relax. It's time to escape to the Blackwater region.

The green tapestry of the Blackwater countryside is renowned for its variety of scenery and ruggedness of landscape. Nestled among a luscious rural environment is a wealth of cultural and heritage sites, each with their own personality, their own unique characteristics, their own legend.

Why not spend a day learning of Saints' miraculous powers, and see the ornate shrines erected in

bygone eras to commemorate their work? Be star-gazing one moment, and hiking an eco-trail the next? Or be mystified by the bizarre rock wells that amazingly never run dry? In an area where landscape and history go hand-in-hand, you can visit monastic towers, Neolithic cairns, and the thousand-year-old burial site of Brian Boru, High King of Ireland at St. Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral.

Deposited in ancient times and having weathered hundreds of years of wear and tear, these sites will take you on fascinating trips back in time. If you listen closely, you will hear their story.

The Blackwater region - a world away that's closer than you might think.



The Blackwater Region

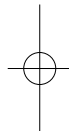
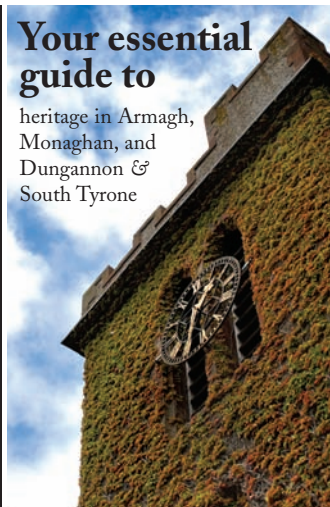
- a world away that's closer than you might think

Contents

- Map of the region - 03
- Crosses - 07
- Graveyards & Old Churches - 11
- Cairns - 15
- Wells & Round Towers - 17
- Man-made Attractions - 21
- Genealogy & Ancestral Research - 57
- Conservation Areas - 63
- Annual Events - 75
- Heritage Trails - 77
- Tourist Information - 89

Your essential guide to

heritage in Armagh, Monaghan, and Dungannon & South Tyrone



The Blackwater Regional Partnership traverses the districts of Armagh, Dungannon & South Tyrone, and Monaghan. It markets the Blackwater region through publications and the website www.visitblackwaterregion.com

Note: The Blackwater Regional Partnership is comprised of Armagh City and District Council, Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council, and Monaghan County Council. The information provided in this

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Blackwater Region Map



Blackwater Region



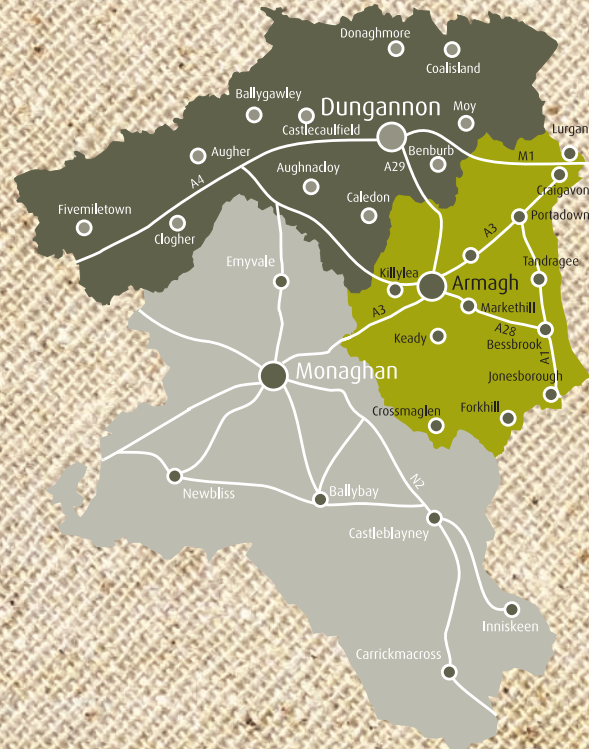
Monaghan



Armagh



Dungannon & South Tyrone



Please note:
Map is for illustrative purposes only and is not to scale

“Deposited in ancient times and having weathered hundreds of years of wear and tear, these sites will take you on fascinating trips back in time.”



St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral,
Armagh City

Tynan Crosses, Tynan, Co. Armagh

Located in Tynan village, west of the Church of Ireland Parish Church, the Parish of Tynan is of great antiquity. This picturesque village is home to a group of four High Crosses, known as the Tynan Crosses, which date from the 10th Century. Two are indigenous and are believed to have belonged to the monastic term of Saint Vindic, now the site of the parish Church of Ireland.

Sir John Stronge imported two additional crosses from Co. Tyrone in 1840 for use as garden ornaments.

Near the site of the hilltop Parish Church was an Early Christian monastery associated with Saint Vindic. Little is known of its early history, but two stone crosses survived; the Village Cross and Terrace Cross (the latter is now at Tynan Abbey and not for public access), as well as fragments built into the graveyard wall. On the nearby graveyard gatepost is an unusual hallowed stone, a 17th Century sundial.

The Village Cross has suffered from weather, Puritans and Cromwellian soldiery, and has been moved at least twice. It is made up of at least two different crosses; the base and lower shaft of one, with the upper shaft and head of another. The centre panel of the Village Cross depicts the story of Adam and Eve.

Donaghmore High Cross, Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone

Donaghmore is the place where Saint Patrick is said to have founded a religious establishment in the 5th Century. Donaghmore's High Cross has been described as one of Ulster's finest early Christian monuments. Standing impressively at the end of the village is the six-metre-tall sandstone cross dating from the 9th Century. It is said that the cross was thrown down in the 17th Century, and is believed to be two separate fragments of the same cross, with part of the shaft missing.

The east face bears scenes from the Bible that are linked to the High Cross in Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Also take time to view a stone pillar in the Churchyard to the memory of the great Hugh O'Neill, 3rd Earl of Tyrone, erected by one of his descendants, a professor at Aberdeen University.

Crosses

Tynan Cross,
Tynan, Co. Armagh

The North Cross and The South Cross, Eglish, Co. Armagh

Located on Cathedral Road, the small village of Eglish is en-route to Dungannon. The name Eglish is from the Irish, "An Eaglais", which means "the Church". There are precious survivals here from an important early Church site that had the necessary patronage to be able to commission at least two stone crosses over 1,000 years ago.

The North Cross

Some time in the 1970s, the North Cross was knocked over and damaged, and both crosses eventually came into state care in 1989. The head of the North Cross was restored at the time; it was also given a simple shaft, reset in the base, and re-erected in the graveyard. The North Cross head had a ring with circular projections in the inner circumference, and the stone within the ring is un-pierced, but deeply sunken on the north side. Fine overall interlace creates a cross at the centre, which links the North Cross with others in the Blackwater Valley area giving it a probably creation date of the late 9th or 10th Century.

The South Cross

First noted in 1930, lying loose in the graveyard, it is now mounted on a plinth. The broken cross head is similar in form to the North Cross, but at the edge, mouldings run off the top. The South Cross originally had a separate stone finial.

Clones, Co. Monaghan

The 10th Century sandstone cross standing on the Diamond in Clones is a combination of two separate crosses consisting of the head of one cross and the shaft of another.

The two cross fragments stand to a height of 4.57 metres and are amongst the remains of a monastery founded in Clones by Saint Tiernach in the 6th Century.

While in Clones, take time to visit the round tower and Shrine of Saint Tiernach which are located in a graveyard 100 metres from the Diamond.

Errigal Kerrogue Cross, Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Located in Clogher, this ancient ecclesiastical site provides a splendid view over the Clogher Valley from a prominent hill on its northern flank. It had Saint Ciaran as its patron saint, though it is believed to have been founded by St. Mac Cairthenn, who died in 506.

The main item of interest is a stone cross having the features of a Celtic Cross inscribed on one face of its imperforate ring, while the other face bears a cross. The cross may never have been finished. Built into the interior north wall of the dilapidated medieval church close by is the replica of a medieval effigy of an apparently male figure whose head, made of a different material and now lost, was sunk into its surface; it may have represented the local saint rather than having been a tombstone.



Graveyards and old churches are seen as an integral part of the Irish landscape, found in a range of different settings. Each has its own collection of headstones and can be a wonderful place to find out more about our heritage.

Within this guide we can only provide you with a flavour of some of the graveyards that you may wish to visit while in the Blackwater Region.

Errigal Old Church and Holy Well

Location: Emyvale
Co. Monaghan

Travelling north from Emyvale on the road to Aughnacloy, follow the signs. Just beyond this Church of Ireland Church is Errigal Graveyard and the ruin of St. Mellan's, a 10th Century church. One of the oldest headstones dates back to 1670. The graveyard contains many gravestones engraved with the ancient McKenna coat of arms.

During the 18th Century, upright headstones came into fashion and many of these were decorated in a very ornate and stylised way. As the sandstone used was of local origin and they are of the same cut, it is probable that the stones were blanks cut by the McKays of Glennan of Glaslough, who were stone-cutters registered in the Coote Statistical survey of 1801. They form part of an extremely distinct group carved in North Monaghan, South Tyrone and East Fermanagh between circa 1720 and 1780, and are probably the work of a single workshop of stone-cutters, wandering journeyman who did their work in the area as required.

Graveyards & Old Churches

Carniteel Graveyard,
Carniteel, Dungannon

Tydavnet Old Graveyard

Location: Tydavnet
Co. Monaghan

Dating back to Early Christian time, Tydavnet Graveyard has been divided into three parts, with the west pre-dating 1818 and the west extension added in 1910. At the old graveyard you can view the table tombs and recumbent stones on upright bullion stone.

Carnteel Graveyard

Location: Carnteel
Aughnacloy
Dungannon

The ancient village of Carnteel lies just off the Aughnacloy to Dungannon road, about two and a half miles from Aughnacloy. It takes its name from the Cairn of Siadhail, Sheil or Sedulius.



Clogher Graveyard,
Clogher

Corracrin Church

Location: Emyvale
Co. Monaghan

South of the village of Emyvale on the Dublin Road is Corracrin Church. Buried in the churchyard is Canon Patrick Moynagh, a priest who orchestrated emigration from here to Prince Edward Island in Canada in the years immediately preceding the famine of 1845. Strong ties between Emyvale and Prince Edward Island exist to this day.

Donagh Parish Church

Location: Glaslough
Co. Monaghan

Further along Emyvale Road is the parish church of Donagh. William Carleton, the novelist, went to hedge school here. Hedge schools were formed during the times of the Penal Laws to covertly educate a population which had no state recognition.

Carleton was born in Clogher, Co. Tyrone, and his novels include 'The Fair of Emyvale', and often depict colourful local characters of his time.

Clogher Cathedral

Location: Clogher
Co. Tyrone

This cathedral is situated in the small town of Clogher on the south side of the main road leading from the Ballygawley roundabout to Enniskillen. This is a site of some antiquity, and there has been a graveyard here from the beginning of the 6th Century. A cathedral was built on this site in the late 13th Century. In 1622, the original cathedral was described as "altogether ruined", and the present cathedral was built in 1744 by Bishop John Stearne. For the last 400 years, the graveyard has been used by both Protestant and Catholics, and in 1786 it was enlarged to its present two acres.

Cairns



Knockmany Cairn,
Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Knockmany, Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Just north of Augher is the Knockmany Forest, a government-run forestry plantation on Knockmany Hill. At the top, lies the Knockmany Chambered Cairn, said to be the burial place of Queen Aine, Queen of Oriel, a 6th Century kingdom whose centre was Clogher. The cairn is a passage grave dating from Neolithic times. This type of monument consists of a stone built passage leading to a terminal chamber, often cruciform in shape, and covered by a mound or cairn of stones.

The remarkable thing about this grave is its incised decoration, in concentric circles, zig-zags and other designs, which are similar in style to the great earthworks in the Boyne Valley, Co. Meath. The cairn is opened by appointment.

This countryside, besides being a fisherman's haunt, is well forested. The 19th Century landlords who once owned vast tracts of land have disappeared, but there are old estates, such as Favour Royal and Fardross, which give their names to public parkland and forests where it is possible to camp and have picnics.

Mullyash, Co. Monaghan

This cairn is about 8km south south-west of Monaghan on top of a drumlin, beside an old laneway leading from a by-road from which the tomb is visible. This tomb is ruined but interesting. It is built of large stones, and has a gallery 7.5m long, with remains of double-walling on the south side. Roof stones have been displaced. To the south of the entrance, and within the area of the cairn (some of which survives), is a large and tall stone of unexplained significance.

Mullyard, Co. Armagh

A fine standing stone about 2m high on top of a hillock, which seems to be the only survivor of an alignment.

This stone, like many, looks quite different from different sides.

Saint Patrick's Chair and Well, Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Located in Altadaven Forest in Altadaven, Clogher, this magnificent chair and well is carved from stone. Reputably built for Saint Patrick on his journey through the Clogher Valley, it enjoys a reputation for having mystical powers, and the area has been called an ancient druidic centre.

Saint Patrick's Chair is a rock-cut throne that sits on top of a ridge above the 'well'. Together with the collection of other seat-shaped rocks, it looks more like 'Saint Patrick's Three Piece Suite'.

The Well is actually the bullaun stone, which is said "never to run dry" - this is not surprising as the site is like a mini-rain forest. The little grove has many ferns, and every rock drips with water. It consists of a single bullaun cut into the top of a corner of a large rock outcrop. Between it and the 'chair' above are two Rag Trees, where people have left many offerings.

As was common with a bullaun stone, the site was originally dedicated to St. Bridid, and probably the goddess Brigid before that. The water from the bullaun is credited with all sorts of cures, but like most it is mainly a wart-removal machine.

To find the chair and well from the car park, follow the track to the gate and then take the path down to the right and then go up the steps and along the ridge.

Saint Bridget's Well, Armagh City, Armagh

Saint Bridget's Well is situated beside the Rugby Club and is accessible via the rugby grounds. This well is said to have healing powers for eye problems and was recommended by Lady Ann (Sister of Archbishop Beresford) to a friend who was cured.

Wells & Round Towers

St. Patrick's Chair & Well,
Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Saint Mochua's Well, Derrynoose, Armagh

Located 4 miles from Keady heading towards Castleblayney through Derrynoose, St. Mochua's Well (or Cronan Mac Lonain which was its real name) is the centre of visitations by the sick and pious. The area is the centre of an annual pilgrimage and procession in honour of St. Mochua, a 6th Century monk.

According to legend, St. Mochua was undecided as to where to build his church. When the tongue of his bell fell out at Derrynoose, he took this as a sign and built the church on the spot. The well is said to cure eye ailments. Pilgrims arrive on three successive evenings after sunset, bathe in the waters and make devotion to the Saint.

It is customary to leave an article at the well, generally the piece of cloth used in bathing. Tradition or folklore states that the well was formerly on the opposite or south side of the road to where it is currently located, but that some "malefactors" filled it with filth, whereupon it burst out on the opposite side of the road. It is also said that there is no spring in the well, but that it has never been known to go dry, even in periods of prolonged drought as in 1976.

Saint Patrick's Well, Armagh City, Armagh

Situated on the Killylea Road approximately 1 mile from Armagh City Centre, the Well is in the St. Patrick's Park housing development. The well is reputed to have healing powers, and local residents visit on 29 June when it is claimed that the waters rise at 12.00 o'clock.



Round Towers

Round Towers are found throughout Ireland, and while many are in disrepair, quite a few remain in good condition. Almost all built between the 9th and 12th Centuries, they are invariably part of larger monastic settlements, usually close to a church. Good examples of Round Towers in the Blackwater Region include the Clones Road Tower and Inniskeen Round Tower, both found in Co. Monaghan.

Inniskeen Round Tower, Inniskeen, Co. Monaghan

The remains of Saint Daig's monastery at Inniskeen are to be found in the church cemetery. The first reference to the existence of a monastery here is in 685, and the death of the last recorded monk took place in 1085. Saint Colmcille is said to have been present at the foundation and blessed the monastery. Saint Daig studied under Saint Ciaran at Clonmacnoise in County Offaly.

Clones Round Tower, Clones, Co. Monaghan

This round tower is 75 feet high, with retained square-headed door and windows. Nearby is Saint Tiernach's Shrine, which is carved out of stone in the shape of a house with interesting finials. Saint Tiernach founded a monastery in Clones in the 6th Century to which the tower belongs.

Man-made Attractions

The Argory,
Moy, Dungannon

Armagh

Armagh Observatory

Location: College Hill
Armagh
BT61 9DG

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 2928

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 7174

E-mail: meb@arm.ac.uk

Website: <http://star.arm.ac.uk> or <http://climate.arm.ac.uk>

Opening: Observatory gardens open to the public 9.30am - 4.30pm.
Visits to the Observatory by appointment only.

The Armagh Observatory, which was founded in 1870 by Archbishop Richard Robinson, is situated close to the centre of Armagh City. The Observatory is one of the principal providers of astronomical research in Northern Ireland, with interests focusing on stellar astrophysics, solar system astronomy and solar system terrestrial relationships.

There are scale models of the Solar System and the Universe, two sundials and historic telescopes, as well as telescope domes and other outdoor exhibits. A new facility, the Human Orrery, is located close to the main building of the modern Observatory. The Observatory's specialist library and archives, and collections of scientific instruments and artefacts associated with the development of modern astronomy, represent one of the leading collections of its kind in the UK and Ireland.



Armagh Planetarium

Location: College Hill
 Armagh
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 3689
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 6187
Website: www.armaghplanet.com

Opening: Please contact the Planetarium for opening times as times change according to season and demand.

Armagh Planetarium is a world-renowned astronomical educational establishment, established in 1968 to complement the research work of Armagh Observatory. Its purpose is to bring astronomy and related sciences to a wider audience.

The Planetarium is a multi-faceted organisation dedicated to astronomy education for all levels. It is the Planetarium's unique ability to adapt to changing audience needs that has enabled it to stay at the forefront of science education.

On-site activities include interactive workshops on a variety of subjects such as rocket building, meteorite impacts, solar viewing and space robots, as well as other science topics such as dinosaurs and electricity.

Regular telescope nights are held during the year when members of the public can visit the planetarium and use Ireland's largest public telescope to view some of the breathtaking sights in the night sky. Booking essential for shows.

Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum

Location: Sovereign's House
 The Mall
 Armagh
 BT61 9DL
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 2911
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 2911
E-mail: fusiliersmuseum@aol.com
Website: www.rirfus-museum.freeseerve.co.uk

Opening: **Mon to Fri:** 10am - 12.30pm
 1.30pm - 4pm

This elegant Georgian residence houses the collections of the 'Eagle-Takers' who were the first regiment to capture one of Napoleon's Imperial Eagle Standards in 1811 - later known as the Royal Irish Fusiliers. The displays tell the story of this fine regiment and the Armagh, Cavan and Monaghan Militias from 1793 to 1968.



Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum,
 Armagh

Armagh County Museum

Location: The Mall East
Armagh
BT61 9BE
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 3070
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 2631
E-mail: acrn.um@nics.gov.uk
Website: www.magni.org.uk

Opening: **Mon to Fri:** 10am - 5pm
Sat: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Located near the centre of St. Patrick's cathedral city, a visit to Armagh County Museum is an ideal way to experience a flavour of the orchard county. The unique characters of the museum's architecture make it one of the most distinctive buildings in the city. Its collection reflects the lives of those people who have lived and worked in or are associated with the county.

There are military costumes, wedding dresses, ceramics, natural history specimens and railway memorabilia. An impressive art collection includes works by many well-known Irish artists.

Designed similarly to a small Greek temple, this museum features an extensive collection of specimens, documents and artefacts that reveal the rich and varied history of the County of Armagh, from prehistoric time to present day.

“...this museum features an extensive collection of specimens, documents and artefacts that reveal the rich and varied history of the County of Armagh”



Armagh County Museum,
Armagh

Palace Stables Heritage Centre

Location: The Palace Demesne
Armagh
BT60 4EL

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1801

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 0180

E-mail: stables@armagh.gov.uk

Website: www.visitarmagh.gov.uk

Opening: Weekends - April, May & September

June, July & August
Mon to Sat: 10am - 5pm **Sun:** 12noon - 5pm
 Grounds and Restaurant open all year
 Guided tours available June, July & August

The Palace Stables Heritage Centre is a restored Georgian stable block set in the Palace Demesne in the heart of Armagh City. The Centre is situated next to the impressive Primate's Palace, formerly the home of the Archbishops of the Church of Ireland from 1770 until the 1970s.

Guided tours are available in June and August, which tell the story of the Demesne through Living History costumed interpreters who recreate both the grandeur and the squalor of the Georgian Period. The tours also give you access to the Chapel, School Room, Withdrawing Room and Tack Room.

Also in the Palace Demesne is the Archbishop's Palace. It was erected in 1770 by Architect Thomas Cooley for the Archbishop Richard Robinson. It is now the offices of Armagh City and District Council.



Palace Stables Heritage Centre,
Armagh City



Palace Stables Heritage Centre,
Armagh City



Address House,
Annaghmore

Address House

Location: Annaghmore
BT62 1SQ
Tel: +44 (0)28 3885 1236
Fax: +44 (0)28 3885 1236

Opening: March - September
2pm - 6pm Weekends, public & bank holidays

Address House was originally a modest farmhouse which was transformed in 1760 by Dublin Architect, George Ensor. There are excellent examples of 18th Century furniture and a good display of paintings. Amongst its many features is the plasterwork in the drawing room by Michael Stapleton, dating back to 1780. The farmyard and outbuildings show aspects of farming history with a display of farm implements. There is a pleasant garden with examples of early types of Irish rose. The 'Ladies Mile' is a woodland walk around the estate.

Dan Winter's Ancestral Home (in the Farmyard)

Location: 9 Derryloughan Road
The Diamond
Loughgall
Armagh
BT61 8PH
Tel: +44 (0)28 3885 1344
E-mail: winter@orangenet.org
Website: www.orangenet.org/winter

Opening: **Daily:** 10.30am - 5.30pm (Summer time open to 8.30pm)
Sun: 2pm - 5.30pm (Summer time open to 8.30pm)
Evening visits by appointments

The home of the Winter family from before 1700, an oak beam has been Dendrochronologically dated to 1703. This old thatched cottage which dates back to pre 1750 consists of living quarters, spirit grocers and weaver's quarters with a full working loom. It is a listed building (an 18th Century vernacular thatched farmhouse) and is recognised in its listing as "The meeting place following the Battle of the Diamond, where the decision to form the Orange Order was made". It was re-thatched and restored in 2000, with a large proportion of the original fabric being conserved. Its timbers still bear the scorch marks from when the house was set alight during the battle. In the farmyard are displays of vintage farm machinery.

At 94ft long it is believed to be the longest thatched cottage in Ireland. Group visits to the Sloan's House Orange Museum, Loughgall can be arranged.

Navan Centre, Fort and King Stables

Location: 81 Killylea Road
Armagh
BT60 4LD

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1801

Fax: +44 (0)28 3751 0180

E-mail: navan@armagh.gov.uk

Website: www.visitarmagh.com

Opening: Weekends - April, May & September
June, July & August
Mon to Sat: 10am - 5pm Sun: 12noon - 5pm

The Navan Centre interprets one of Ireland's most important ancient monuments, Navan Fort. This was the royal seat of the Kings of Ulster and Province's ancient capital. Start your tour in the 'Vanished World' of lost myths, travel into the 'Real World' of archaeology, and then enter the 'Other World' to hear the legends of the Ulster Cycle. Visit the Iron Age dwelling and, through Living History interpretation, learn about the way of life. Finally, walk the path of history to the great Ancient Seat of Kings, Navan Fort.

Navan Fort, the ancient Emain Macha of Irish history and legend and the earliest capital of Ulster. This ancient site sets the tales of Macha, Cuchulainn, Deirdre and heroes of the Red Branch Knights.

According to the early Christian scribes, Irish history began with the founding of Emain Macha. Archaeologists have made many fascinating discoveries at Navan, including the traces of giant Celtic temple.

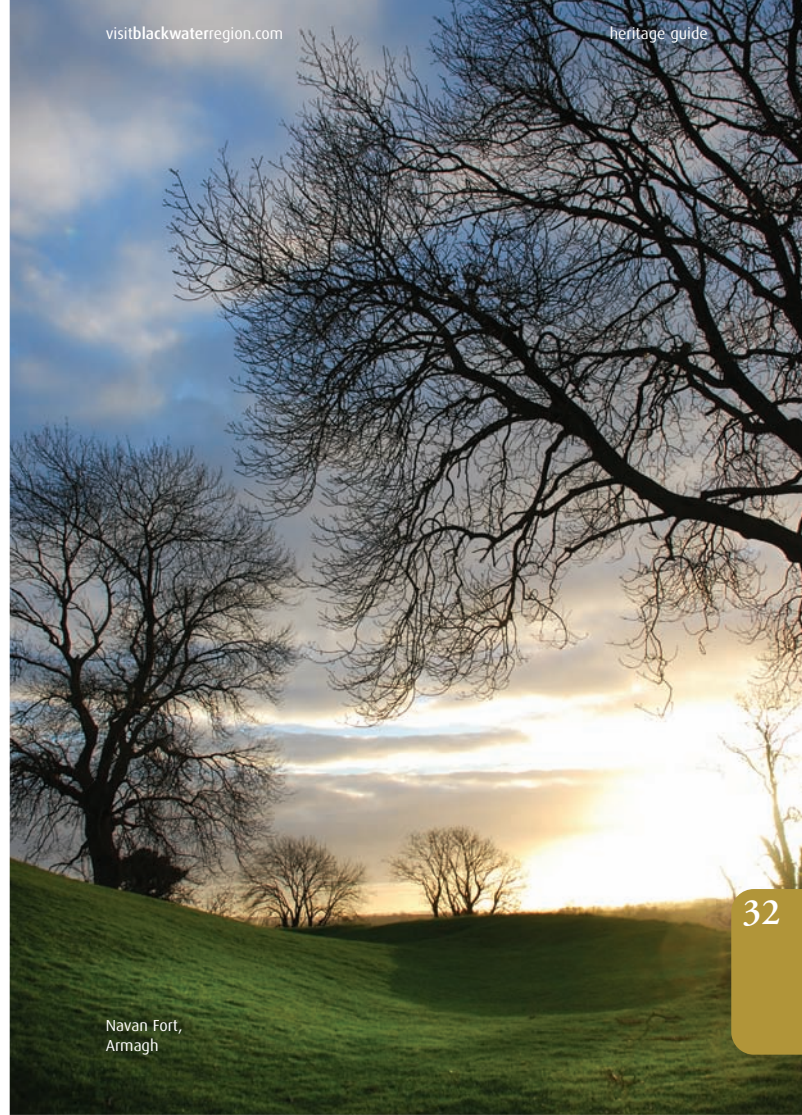
Considered one of the most important ancient monuments in Northern Ireland, this historical structure is identified as Emain Macha, the seat of the ancient Kings of Ulster, and named after the Princess Macha.

The King's Stables

An artificial pool from the Bronze Age. The finds, including a human skull and animal bones suggest it was a place for ritual offerings of gifts to the Gods.

Haughey's Fort

This site was surrounded by three ditches (not visible). A small excavation discovered the skull of a Barbary Ape which would suggest a person of high status lived there.



Navan Fort,
Armagh



St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral,
Armagh City

St. Patrick's Cathedral (Catholic)

Location: Cathedral Road
Armagh
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 2802
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 2245
Website: www.armagharchdiocese.org

Opening: Mon to Sat: 7.30am - 8.15pm
Sun: 7.30am - 6.00pm

The imposing twin spires of the Catholic Cathedral overlook the City on an elevated site. It was on the hill on 17 March, 1840 that the foundation stone for St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral was laid by Archbishop Crolly. It was over 60 years before the Cathedral was completed with consecration on 24 July, 1904.

There are two statues, one on each side of the great entrance door to St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral, Armagh. On the left is St. Patrick, apostle of Ireland and Armagh's first bishop. The other statue is St. Malachy, native of Armagh City and the Irish Church's zealous 12th Century diocese, St. Oliver Plunkett, martyred at Tyburn in 1681. At the rededication of the Cathedral on 13 June, 1982 an historic feature of the ceremony was the placing of a portion of St. Malachy's relics from France together with the relic of St. Oliver Plunkett on the new altar.

St. Patrick's Cathedral (Church of Ireland)

Location: Cathedral Close
Armagh
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 3142
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 4177
E-mail: admin@armaghpubliclibrary.co.uk
Website: www.saintpatrickscathedral-armagh.org

Opening: April to October: 9.30am - 4.30pm
November to March: 9.30am - 4.00pm

Saint Patrick built a stone church on the hill known as Druin Saileach (Sallow Ridge) in 445, so beginning the story of Armagh Cathedral. He ordained that Armagh should have the pre-eminence over all the churches of Ireland, a position which it holds to this day.

Here a House of God has stood for over 1500 years, though in the course of Ireland's troubled history it has been destroyed and rebuilt on at least seventeen occasions. It is far more, however, than an interesting relic or a monument to the persistent faith of our fathers, for God is still worshipped here daily, and men and women gather within its walls to confess the faith of Jesus Christ, the Crucified, Risen, and Ascended Lord.

Around the Church building in early days was built one of the most celebrated of the great Irish Monastic Schools to which students came from all over Europe. Here in 1014, on the 'north side of the great church' was buried Brian Boru, High King of Ireland. A plaque on the exterior west wall of the North Transept commemorates this event.

The Market Place Theatre and Arts Centre

Location: Market Street
Armagh
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1821/3752 1820
E-mail: admin@marketplacearmagh.com
Website: www.marketplacearmagh.com

The Market Place Theatre and Art Centre is a state-of-the-art cultural facility in the heart of the historic Armagh City. It has 397-seat auditorium, 100-seat art gallery, workshop spaces, café, restaurant and bar.

In an all-year-round programme, they present the best in arts performances, activities and entertainment, with something to suit everyone's taste from top quality drama to comedy nights, children's shows to variety entertainment, something for everyone.

Tassagh Railway Viaduct

Location: Keady

Constructed between 1903-1910 by the Castleblayney, Keady and Armagh Railway Company with the purpose of keeping the ambitious Midland Great Western out of the zealously guarded territory of the Great Northern Railway. The engineer was Sir Benjamin Baker.

The eleven-arch viaduct was built at the beginning of the 20th Century for the Armagh to Castleblayney railway line.

It has concrete piers with brick facings on each of the arches and brick vaulting. It was one of the last great railway structures to be built before the modern era. Passenger services were withdrawn in 1932 and the line closed in 1957. Just to the west of the viaduct is a large beetling mill.

The Obelisk

Location: Knocks Hill
Armagh City
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 5864

Archbishop Robinson commissioned this magnificent monument to celebrate his association with the Duke of Northumberland, and which today commands superb views of the city and surrounding countryside.

The Obelisk which was erected in 1783 commemorates Archbishop Robinson's patron, the Duke of Northumberland. On the other two sides are inscriptions. The main body carries the Arms of the Sea and those of Richard Robinson, Lord Rokeby. Its symbol forms the main part of the Club's emblem.



Franciscan Friary,
Armagh City

Franciscan Friary

Location: Palace Demesne
Armagh
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 9629

Opening: Open all the time

The Friary played an important part in the religious life of the City until its suppression in 1542. Although some form of religious life continued, the buildings were fortified during the Elizabethan Wars and were ruined by 1600. The impressive scale of the original structure, with its long narrow Church and south aisle, can still clearly be seen and at 49.8 metres, it is the longest known Friary Church in Ireland.

The east end was the burial place of many distinguished people including Gormlaith, wife of Domhnall O'Neill, King of Ulster, who died on 14 April, 1353. A well dedicated to St. Bridget is sited just outside the demesne wall in what are now the rugby grounds.

The Franciscan Friary was founded by Archbishop O'Scannail in 1263/64. It has prominent patrons and played an important part in the city's religious life until it was suppressed in 1542. Some religious life continued, but the buildings suffered through warfare later in the 16th Century and were in ruins by 1600. Two empty graves and two tombs recess near the east end are reminders of the important patrons buried in the Friary Church, including Gormlaith O'Donnell, wife of Domhnall O'Neill in 1353.

Armagh Public Library

Location: 43 Abbey Street
Armagh
BT61 7DY

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 3142

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 4177

E-mail: admin@armaghpubliclibrary.co.uk

Website: www.armaghrobinsonlibrary.org

Opening: **Mon to Fri:** 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm
Sat and Sun: closed except by prior arrangement.

Armagh Public library is Armagh's oldest library, having been established in 1771. Both the building and the Library's collections offer an insight into 18th Century Armagh.

The Library was built by Archbishop Robinson as part of his plans to establish a university and to improve the City of Armagh. The original design by Thomas Cooley was extended in 1839 and 1848 to house the growing collection of books, manuscripts, prints and coins.

The collections include 17th and 18th century books on theology, philosophy, classic and modern literature, voyages and travels, history, law and medicine. There are artefacts on display, such as stone axes, flint arrowheads and bronze implements. A collection of William Conor drawings, depicting costumes used in the pageant to commemorate the 1,500th anniversary of St Patrick's arrival in Ireland, can also be seen. The Library also holds resources to aid family history research.

Guided tours are provided with advance booking. They are suitable for different age groups and areas of interest.

Saint Patrick's Trian Visitor Complex

Location: 40 English Street
Armagh
BT61 7BA

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1801

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 0180

E-mail: info@stpatrickstrian.com

Opening: **June, July & August** **Mon - Sat:** 10am-5pm
Sun: 12noon-5pm
Sept - May **Mon-Sat:** 10am-5pm
Sun: 2pm-5pm

An exciting visitor complex located in the heart of Armagh City. Incorporating three major exhibitions - 'The Armagh Story' traces the story of Armagh's historic Pagan monuments through to the coming of St. Patrick and Celtic Christianity to the modern-day city; 'Patrick's Testament' takes a closer look at our patron saint through the writings found in the ancient manuscript 'The Book of Armagh'; 'The land of Lilliput': Jonathan Swift's most famous book, 'Gulliver's Travels', is narrated by a 20-ft giant.

Dungannon & South Tyrone

The Argory

Location: 144 Derrycaw Road
Moy
Dungannon

Tel: +44 (0)28 8778 4753

Fax: +44 (0)28 8778 9598

E-mail: Argory@nationaltrust.org.uk

Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Opening: March to May & Sept to Mid-Oct
June, July & August

Weekends Only: 1pm - 6pm
Everyday: 1pm - 6pm

Built in 1824, the Argory Estate has a fine setting on a slight rise overlooking the River Blackwater on the Armagh/Tyrone border near Moy. A celebrated feature of the house is the magnificent cabinet barrel organ built by James Bishop of London which is one of the most important of its kind, and is still in working order today.

Linen Green

Location: No. 1 The Linen Green
Moygashel

E-mail: enquiries@thelinengreen.com

Website: www.linengreen.com

Opening: **Mon to Sat:** 10am - 5pm

Built on the site of the former Moygashel Linen Mill, Linen Green is a unique shopping experience. Browse our range of designer outlets, relax over a long breakfast or lunch, or call into the Moygashel Visitor Centre which has an exhibition on the rich industrial heritage of the area.

Tyrone Crystal

Location: Killybrackey
Dungannon
BT71 6TT

Tel: +44 (0)28 8772 5335

Fax: +44 (0)28 8772 6260

E-mail: info@tyronecrystal.com

Website: www.tyronecrystal.com

Opening: Mon to Sat: 9am - 5pm

Tyrone Crystal has been making crystal since 1771 and is proud of their rich heritage. Today, the craftsmen in Tyrone Crystal are breathing new life into the art of crystal-making.

Fusing traditional techniques with innovative design, they create work of lasting beauty which has a strong global following. The designers interpret individual desires for both personal and commercial occasions and can create a unique and personalised piece of art.

Tyrone Crystal is situated in a state of the art factory and continues to build on its success using traditional skills, tools and concepts. It is situated only two miles from the original Benjamin Edward's glasshouse, founded in 1771.

The company was set up by Father Austin Eustace to provide employment for young people in the local community. With a couple of old cutting wheels and a pile of empty whiskey bottles and jam jars to practise on, a small group of trainees began learning their new trade. A factory was built, furnaces were installed and a master blower was brought from Austria to train the young workforce. Commercial production began, and Tyrone Crystal soon became a premier innovative manufacturer of superior crystal.

“Fusing traditional techniques with innovative design, they create work of lasting beauty which has a strong global following.”



Island Turf Crafts

Location: Coalisland Enterprise Centre
51 Dungannon Road
Coalisland
BT71 4HP

Tel: +44 (0)28 8774 9041

E-mail: brian@islandturfcrafts.com

Website: www.islandturfcrafts.com

Opening: October to March: **Mon to Fri:** 10.30am - 5.00pm
Closed weekends and public holidays

April to September: **Mon to Sat:** 10.30am - 6.00pm
Sun and Public holidays: 11.00am - 6.30pm

Island Turf Crafts are hand crafted using 5,000-year-old Irish turf from some of Ireland's oldest boglands. The unique antique brown finish highlights every detail of the delicate ancient Celtic designs.

Turf is partially decomposed vegetation, which has accumulated in waterlogged places for thousands of years. One sixth of the land was once covered in turf bogland. Island Turf Crafts is making use of this vast resource to make small cultural pieces to bring a small piece of Ireland into your home.



It started in 1980 when Brian McGirr's hobby began to evolve into a business. Brian has a background as a craft teacher and originally carved musical instruments from mahogany including full sized Celtic harps. He then moved to using turf sourced from bogland in different parts of Ireland.

Step back in time and visit the bog museum with a treasure house of exhibits of old artefacts which reveal much about the rich and varied history of Ireland before and after the Ice Age. Explore the indoor bog and examine the bones and large antlers of the great Irish Elk dating back 15,000 years, bog oak sculptures and turf products.

Servite Priory - Benburb

Location: 10 Main Street
Benburb
BT71 7JZ

Tel: +44 (0)28 3754 8241

Fax: +44 (0)28 3754 8524

E-mail: servitepriory@btconnect.com

Website: www.servites-benburb.com

The Servite Priory - Benburb is situated in East Tyrone. The beautiful old Manor House was built by the Bruce family in the 1880s and has had several owners before becoming a priory and centre. Used in its long history as a private residence for the Bruce family, an English and American Army hospital during the Second World War and since 1947 a priory and conference centre run by the Servite Order. It was purchased in 1947 by Fr James M Keane OSM of Chicago, on behalf of the then 'Old Lady of Sorrows' Province of the Servants of Mary, who wished to open a Servite Foundation in Ireland. After the necessary renovations, the Priory was officially opened on the 6 June, 1947.

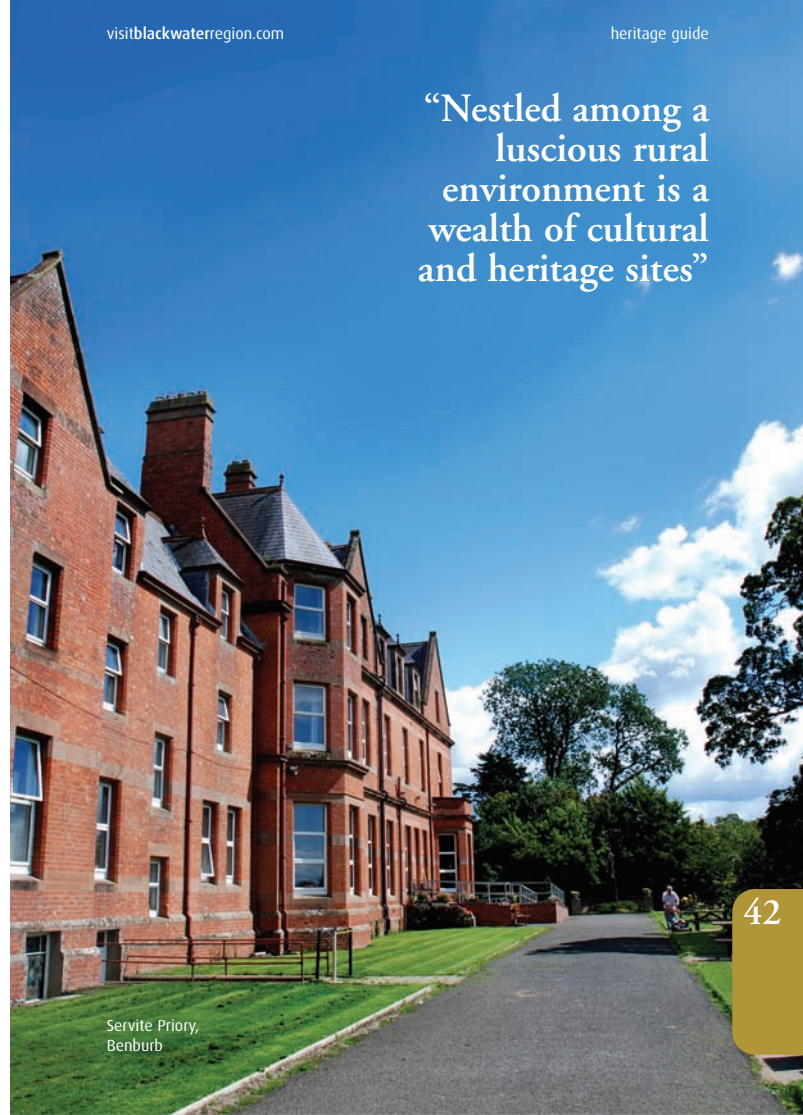
Since coming to Benburb, the Servites have maintained an 'open door' policy to all of the community regardless of religion, and the Priory Centre is seen as a haven where people can come and feel welcome. It attracts groups from every walk of life who come to meet and discuss the many complex issues which affect their lives. It is also used as recreational facility for groups wishing to expand their skills in cultural activities or for those wishing participate in courses in spiritual and human development.

The Priory is open as a Pastoral, Retreat and Conference Centre with bedrooms, conference rooms, meeting rooms and so on. It is located in an area of outstanding natural and scenic beauty and of great historical importance and gateway to the Benburb Valley Park, Benburb Castle and Bawn.

Besides the superb scenery and landscapes, the Benburb Valley Park has indeed many other facilities that cover a wide range of activities. The Blackwater River with its serpentine trails has hewn a beautiful gorge across the countryside and is an ideal location for canoeing, fishing and walking.

Benburb itself is a small village with a long history. The small population blends with the relaxing yet fascinating atmosphere. Its seclusion is the perfect environment for visitors for all ages.

“Nestled among a luscious rural environment is a wealth of cultural and heritage sites”



Servite Priory,
Benburb

Blessingbourne Carriage and Costume Museum

Location: Blessingbourne
Fivemiletown
Tel: +44 (0)28 8952 1188
E-mail: info@blessingbourne.com
Website: www.blessingbourne.com

Opening: Easter to September, please contact for times.

Blessingbourne Carriage and Costume Museum provides the perfect portal of the past. A unique collection of carriages, coaches, buggies and cabs as well as horse drawn farm machinery and a UN helicopter, transports visitors to the past in a truly illuminating fashion. The impressive setting amid the working farm and big house at Blessingbourne Estate, outside Fivemiletown, encourages enchanting nostalgia.

U.S. Grant's Ancestral Homestead

Location: Derigna Road
Ballygawley
Dungannon
Tel: +44 (0)28 8776 7259

Opening: Cottage open daily.

Explore the cottage of the Simpson family with close ties to Ulysses Simpson Grant, the Commander of the victorious Union troops in the American Civil War. Grant served two terms as U.S. President.

Carleton's Cottage

Location: Springtown
Augher
Tel: +44 (0)28 8776 7259

Opening: Not open to the public.

Situated in the townland of Springtown in Clogher Valley is Carleton's Cottage. This was the home of local poet William Carleton for the ten years before he left to attend college in Dublin. He was a much-loved Victorian novelist who was well-versed in Irish folklore, and was once describe by Yeats as "the greatest novelist of Ireland."



Carleton's Cottage,
Augher, Co. Tyrone



Clogher Cathedral,
Clogher, Co. Tyrone

Clogher Hill Fort and Cathedral

Location: Clogher

Clogher controlled the only major route between eastern and western Ulster, and its pivotal position in the Clogher valley led some 2,000 years ago to the creation there of a hill fort on a small hillock close to the modern Bishop's Palace. In the early years of Christianity in Ireland, Clogher had become the capital of the land of the Airghialla, and Saint Patrick left behind Saint Mac Cairthenn to found a church probably where the Protestant Cathedral now stands in the centre of the village.

The 18th Century Cathedral (usually locked) preserves what may be the oldest Christian monument on the site - a sun dial of c. 700-900 AD. To the west of the Cathedral there are fragments of at least three different High Crosses mounted together to form two separate standing crosses, which date to around the 9th or 10th Centuries.

Donaghmore Heritage Centre

Location: Dungannon
Tel: +44 (0)28 8776 7039

Opening: Open nights only. Please contact for further information.

The old National School has been converted to display photographs, townland maps, documents and artefacts from local industries.

It also houses temporary exhibitions and 'Heritage World' - a genealogical research service with over 5 million records on database. Just 400 yards from the Heritage Centre, an ancient cross was discovered in 1776. It now has pride of place in the village and is one of the historic treasures of Ireland.

Cornmill Heritage Centre

Location: Lineside
Dungannon Road
Coalisland
Tel: +44 (0)28 8774 8532

Originally built in 1907 for the purpose of storing, mixing and packaging corn, the newly restored Cornmill houses the story of Coalisland's Industrial Heritage. After operating in the heart of the town for 71 years, work finally came to a stand-still at the mill in 1978. It then lay empty and derelict until renovations started in 1990. The main feature within the building is Heritage Floor. Housed on this floor is a range of interpretative techniques which offer an insight into some four centuries of industrial change in the Coalisland area.

Monaghan

Clones Lace

Location: Ulster Canal Store
Cara Street
Clones

Tel: +353 (0)47 51397

Fax: +353 (0)47 52039

E-mail: ulstercanalstores@hotmail.com

Website: www.cloneslace.com

Opening: Mon to Fri: 9am - 5pm

Lace-making was introduced to Clones by Cassandra Hand, the wife of a local Church of Ireland rector, to help with the purpose of providing work for the area. It was initially based on Venetian lace, an embroidered lace, but the method evolved into one of crocheting the fine threads onto a mesh background. The hooks used were extremely fine. A characteristic used is the Clones Knot which is created by turning the hook several times around the thread.

The lace-making tradition did not die out in Clones at the start of the 20th Century like it did in other places. Even as late as 1940 lace-makers contributed to the dress worn by Queen Mary during her coronation and Clones lace was used by many linen-makers in Northern Ireland to decorate their products. However, after the 2nd World War, the decline of the linen industry saw a parallel decline in the fortunes of Clones Lace.

The skilful activity was revived in the late 1980s and there is still now an active local group of lace-makers and regular classes in the village to keep the art of lace-making alive.

Ballybay Wetlands Centre

Location: Derryvalley

Tel: +353 (0)42 9748022

The Wetlands Centre is the first building within the Nature Station master plan conceived by Solearth for the 65-acre farm and wetland area. It provides new facilities such as seminar rooms and support facilities for the experiencing and studying of wetlands and migratory birds. It is designed to re-use the material from existing sheds and incorporates a microcosm wetland in an old silage pit.

The building features low embodied energy, highly insulative and healthy materials, solar thermal and hydrothermal heating systems, as well as natural water treatment facilities.

“...there is still now an active local group of lace-makers and regular classes in the village to keep the art of lace-making alive.”

Wildlife & Heritage Centre

Tel: +353 (0)47 80632
E-mail: lornam83@hotmail.com
Web: www.monaghanwildlife.cjb.net

Opening: Arrangements for viewing the Wildlife & Heritage Centre may be made by telephoning +353 (0)47 80632 anytime.
 Open 7 days for pre-arranged groups.

The Wildlife & Heritage Centre which opened in June 2000, displays one of the largest privately owned collections of mounted birds and mammals in Ireland.

The Centre displays 200 species of Irish fauna in five specially designed habitat sets; River/Lake/Coastal, Bog & Moorland, Woodland, Farmland and Garden. It also houses the unique collection from Ballyfin House, Co Laois which includes a Golden Eagle, Corncrake and a large collection of butterflies and moths. Adjacent to the Centre are release pens with Birds of Prey (Buzzards), Guinea Fowl, rabbits, a Shetland Pony and donkeys. The centre also houses vintage farmyard implements which were used in days gone-by in Co. Monaghan and adjacent counties. A particular feature of the garden is the old Irish Fireplace and a waterfall which flows into a pond stocked with Carp and Koi fish.

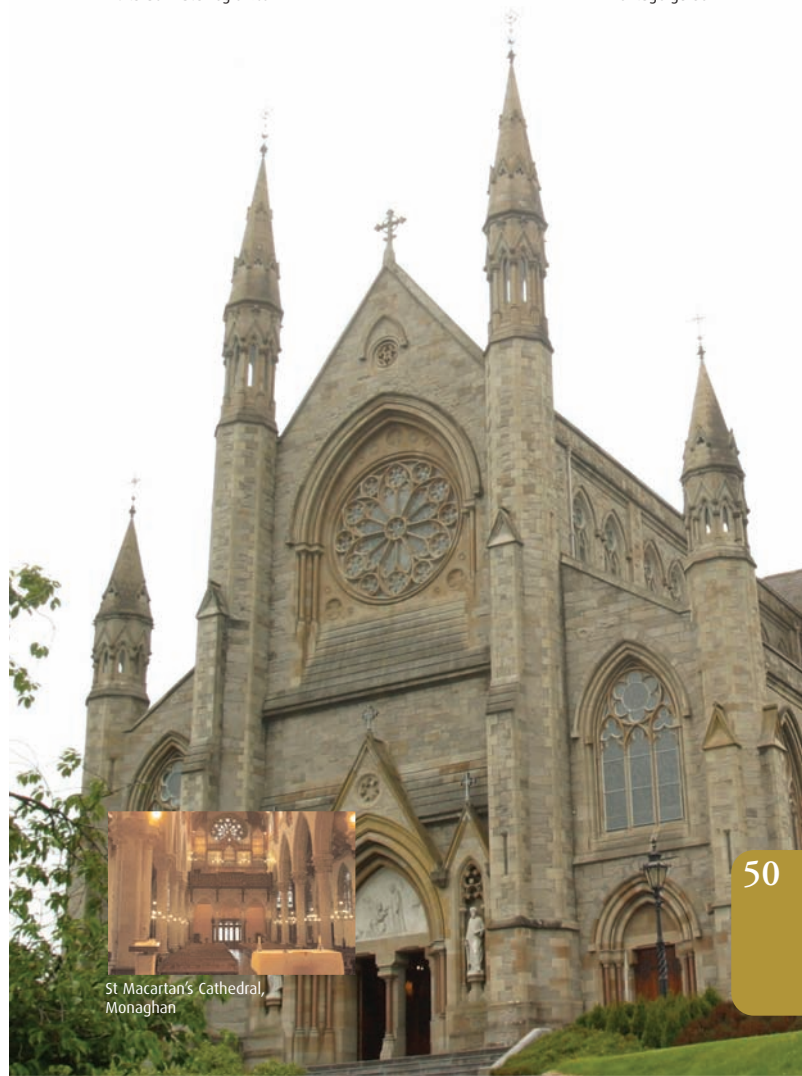
The Centre presents a unique opportunity to see 'close-up' many rare and beautiful species of Irish wildlife and will appeal to all ages. It especially caters for Primary and Secondary School Groups, Special Schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Senior Citizens, ICA and WI groups, Gun Clubs and all organisations interested in wildlife and nature conservation.

There is also an extensive collection of vintage machinery and implements which evoke memories of by-gone days.

St Macartan's Cathedral

St Macartan's Cathedral is easily the most imposing building in Monaghan. The decision to build a cathedral was first made in 1858 by Bishop McNally and the site was bought for £800. The Archbishop of Cashel officiated at the laying of the foundation stone on 18th June 1861. Designed by the architect JJ McCarthy in the late 14th century style, its majestic tower rises to a height of 250ft. A superb statue of St Macartan stands at the front of the main entrance and high up on the gable is a magnificent Catherine Wheel window.

McCarthy died before the building was completed and was succeeded by William Hague. The entire work was finished some 30 years after its commencement and the Cathedral was dedicated on 21st August 1892. On the south-facing gable are seven statues, including two Clogher saints, Tiernach and Dymrna, and the two bishops involved in the cathedral's construction - McNally and Donnelly.



St Macartan's Cathedral,
 Monaghan

Patrick Kavanagh Rural & Literary Resource Centre

Location: Inniskeen
Tel: +353 (0)42 93 78560
E-mail: infaatpkc@eircom.net
Website: www.patrickkavanaghcountry.com

Opening: October to April
 Closed Mon and Sat
Tue to Fri: 11am - 4.30pm
Sun: by prior appointment with the centre.

Patrick Kavanagh was born in Co. Monaghan in October 1904. His father was a shoe-maker and Patrick himself followed in his footsteps after leaving school. For twenty years he lived the life of an ordinary young Irish farmer, toiling for a few shilling's pocket money in fields that some day he wished to inherit.

The Centre houses exhibitions on local history and on Kavanagh, a sixty-seat Audio-Visual Theatre, and a Research Library. Also on view are twelve specially commissioned paintings illustrating Kavanagh's classic, "A Christmas Childhood", Kavanagh's Death Mask and other memorabilia associated with the poet.

The special feature of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre is the unique performance tour of Kavanagh Country, which takes in many local sites immortalised by Inniskeen's most famous son, with anecdotes, historical facts, wild rumours and even the odd poem along the way. The tour rounds off back at the Centre with a half-hour one-man show by Inniskeen actor, Gene Carroll, advance booking is advised to avoid disappointment.

Monaghan County Museum

Location: 1-2 Hill Street
 Monaghan Town
Tel: +353 (0)47 82928
Fax: +353 (0)47 71189
E-mail: comuseum@monaghancoco.ie

Opening: Please contact for opening times.

Monaghan County Museum opened to the public in 1974, becoming the first local authority funded museum in the Republic of Ireland. The museum has been widely acclaimed for its commitment in displaying Monaghan's rich culture and heritage. Two of the museum's most prominent awards have been the coveted Council of Europe Museum Prize in 1980 and Gulbenkian - Norwich Union Award for Best Collections Care in 1993.

The museum was originally housed in the Courthouse in the centre of the town, however following a fire which gutted the building in 1981, the collection was rescued and temporarily moved to the Christian Brothers Secondary School, where it was stored and a limited display continued until the move to Hill Street in August 1986. The Gallery held temporarily displays until the fully refurbished museum was opened in June 1990 by Dr Patrick Hillery, then President of Ireland. The building was originally two large town houses. However, it underwent extensive reconstruction and now offers a unique experience to our visitors as they explore the history of the county in the permanent exhibition galleries.



Carrickmacross Lace

Location: Market Square
Carrickmacross
Tel: +353 (0)42 9664176

Opening: Please contact for opening times.

Carrickmacross Lace owes its existence to Mrs Grey Porter, a local rector's wife, who brought some appliqué lace home from her honeymoon in Italy. Later, looking for ways to provide work for women from the impoverished local population she established lace making classes, initially copying the designs of the Italian pieces. Other wealthy individuals in the area followed suit and during the famine these provided a very much needed source of income for the area.

While many other lace died in the 20th Century, Carrickmacross lace remained strong, primarily thanks to St Louis Convent in the town whose pupils continue to be taught the craft even now to this day. Lace makers in the area now produce lace mainly by commission and often for fashion designers. Princess Diana's wedding dress has sleeves decorated with Carrickmacross Lace.

Vintage Museum

Location: Ballinode
Tel: +353 (0)47 57249

Opening: Please contact for opening times.

Ballinode Vintage Museum is situated outside Monaghan town. Carts, ancient kitchen utensils, traditional hearth, farmhouse furniture and an abandoned 1845 cell door from Monaghan's Old County Jail are some of its many exhibits.

St. Louis Convent Heritage Centre

Location: Broad Road
Monaghan Town
Tel: +353 (0)47 83529
Fax: +353 (0)47 84907

Opening: Please contact for opening.

The Heritage Centre situated at St. Louis Convent, tells the story of the St. Louis Sisters worldwide. This centre attempts to preserve the rich historical, educational and cultural heritage of the Sisters of St. Louis in Ireland and overseas. The Heritage Centre gathers up the memories of the story of the Sisters and brings it alive again through memorabilia, artefacts, models, documents and commemorative albums.

It recalls St. Louis Sisters' work in Educational Development and Health Care in France, Ireland, Belgium, England, California, West Africa and Brazil. Also on display some beautiful Carrickmacross Lace, Clones Crochet, Belleek China, calligraphy and very colourful craft work Ghana, Nigeria, Benin and Brazil.



St. Louis Convent Heritage Centre,
Monaghan Town

Ulster Canal Stores

Location: Canal Stores
Cara St
Clones

Tel: +353 (0)47 51397

Fax: +353 (0)47 52039

E-mail: ulstercanalstores@hotmail.com

Website: www.cloneslace.com

Opening: Please contact for opening times.

A conference and meeting room facility which exhibitions of Clones Lace and the story behind Clones Lace. Available at Clones Stores are Meeting Rooms, Conference Equipment, Catering Facilities and exhibition space for art projects and so on, and excellent acoustics in lower room for music/drama/readings.

Hilton Park

Location: Hilton Park
Clones

Tel: +353 (0)47 56007

Fax: +353 (0)47 56033

E-mail: form@hiltonpark.ie

Website: www.hiltonpark.ie

Hilton Park is a member of Hidden Ireland a unique collection of historic private houses offering the very best and most stylish Irish country house accommodation. The Hilton Park is a genuine ancestral home that has evolved from a place of privileged private pleasure to one that shares its charm with a few discerning travellers.



Swallow Studios

Location: Annyalla
Castleblayney

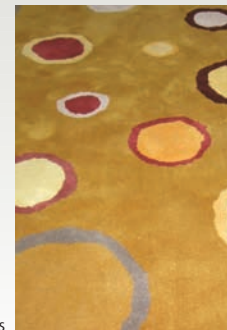
Tel: +353 (0)42 9746614

Fax: +353 (0)42 9746619

E-mail: liz@handwoven.ie

Opening: Please contact to arrange visits.

Swallow Studios is a contemporary craft and textile workshop, set among the drumlins of Co Monaghan. Three textile designers can be seen working at their handcraft. Handwoven by Liz Christy, Tread Softly Rugs by Catherina Donaghy and Batiks by Louise Loughman.



Tread Softly Rugs

Lisnadarragh Wedge Tomb

Location: Shercock

This wedge tomb has a gallery about 4.5m long and 2m wide. It is aligned approximately NE-SW and is flanked on either side by outer walling which extends a short distance beyond the SW end.

The tomb is ruined but interesting. It is built of large stones, has a gallery 7.5m long, with remains of double walling on one side. Roof stones have been displaced.

Genealogy & Ancestral Research

Armagh

Irish and Local Studies Library

Location: 39c Abbey Street
Armagh
BT61 7EB

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 7851

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 7127

E-mail: IrishandLocalStudies.selb@ni-libraries.net

Opening: **Mon:** Closed
Tue: 9.30am - 1.00pm & 1.30pm - 5.30pm
Wed: 9.30am - 1.00pm & 1.30pm - 5.30pm
Thur: 9.30am - 1.00pm & 1.30pm - 8.00pm
Fri: 9.30am - 1.00pm & 1.30pm - 5.00pm
Sat: 9.30am - 1.00pm & 1.30pm - 5.00pm

This reference library has a wide range of material on all aspects of Irish life and learning from the earliest times to the present day. One of its main assets is its newspaper collection, which include local, provincial and national papers. It offers full research facilities, individual attention and, when required, informed advice and guidance from professional members of staff who are subject specialists.

Armagh Ancestry

Location: 40 English Street
Armagh
BT61 7BA

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1800

Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 8329

E-mail: researcher@armagh.gov.uk

Website: www.visitarmagh.com (for non-County Armagh research queries, please refer to the following website: www.irish-roots.net).

Opening: Contact in advance to book an appointment or e-mail directly.

Armagh Ancestry is the Irish Family History Foundation designated research centre for genealogical research in County Armagh. It is a member of the Irish History Foundation, a 32-county, cross-border foundation, appointed by both the Church and State to create a national genealogical archive for the whole of Ireland.

Services include:

- Public Record Office of Northern Ireland Touch Screen information facility (free)
- Consultancy Session (essential to book in advance)
- Research options
- Full Family History Report and Family History Assessment Report
- Individual Searches and Family Searches

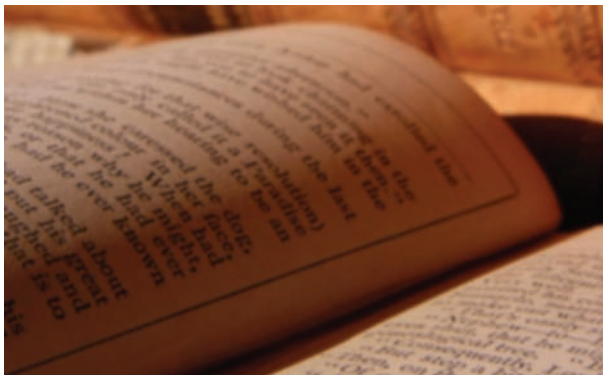
Cardinal Thomas O’Fiaich Memorial Library and Archive

Location: 15 Moy Road
Armagh
BT61 7LY
Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 2981
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 1944

Opening: **Mon to Fri:** 9.30am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Sat and Sun: closed

The Cardinal Tomás Ó Fiaich Memorial Library and Archive is a unique cultural and historical resource located in the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland, Armagh. The Library is a free independent public reference library, which houses important collections relating to Irish History, the Irish Language, Ecclesiastical History, Irish Diaspora (particularly of Europe and North America).

The library houses an extensive Print Collection, which includes 20,000 books, over 450 periodical titles, religious pamphlets, materials relating to civil rights and justice issues, and a supplementary collection of interest to those engaged in genealogical research. In addition to the Print Collection, other important Archive Collections include: the Archive of the Archdiocese of Armagh (1787-1963), the Cardinal Tomás Ó Fiaich Private collection, and the Micheline Kearney Walsh Overseas Collection.



Monaghan

Monaghan County Library

Location: Clones
Tel: +353 (0)47 51143

Opening: **Mon:** 2pm - 5pm & 6pm - 8pm
Tue: 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Wed: 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Thur: 2pm - 5pm
Fri: 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Tracing your Irish ancestors can be very enjoyable. Doing the research yourself will give you a better understanding of Ireland’s past history and present culture. A few hints on the starting point of groundwork to trace Co. Monaghan ancestors are:

1. The Family Name (the nickname is also helpful, especially if they had a popular name)
2. The parish and townland in which they lived
3. An approximate date

In the event of the parish or town land in which the family lived being unknown, there are a number of index files which can be consulted which are:

- 1901 - 1911
- 1850 - 1860
- Date of Births, Marriages & Deaths
- Births, Marriages & Deaths prior to 1864

Other sources of information:

- Gravestone Inscriptions – A large number of graveyards have been inspected over the years and the inscriptions recorded on printed sources. These are available at the library
- Local Newspapers
- Directories
- Estate Rental Books
- Parish Histories and Family Histories

All of which are available at Monaghan County Library.

Dungannon & South Tyrone

Irish World Family History Services

Location: 51 Dungannon Road
Coalisland
B71 4HP

Tel: +44 (0)28 8774 6065

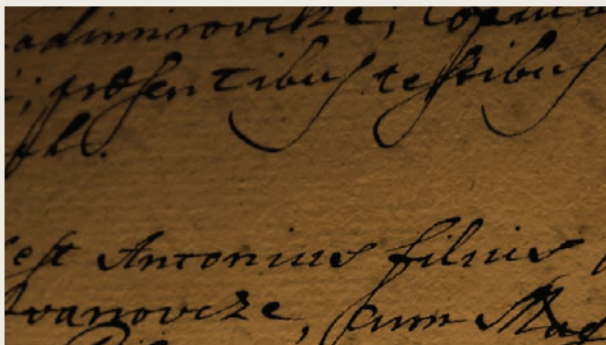
E-mail: info@irish-world.com

Website: www.irish-world.com

Opening: Mon to Fri: 10am - 4pm

Irish World offers a worldwide service to people whose ancestors came from Ulster. Irish World's genealogy database includes all civil records of births and marriages for Tyrone and Fermanagh and practically all Tyrone Roman Catholic church records.

Other major sources are the flax grower lists of 1796, The Applotment Books of the 1820's, Griffith Valuation and the 1901 Census. There are also gravestone inscriptions for some 800 cemeteries throughout Ulster. In addition to research, Irish World also produces full colour coats of arms for thousands of names associated with Ireland. Irish World will be glad to help trace the path to your Irish roots.



“Doing the research yourself will give you a better understanding of Ireland’s past history and present culture.”

Conservation Areas

Caledon,
Co. Tyrone

Armagh

Armagh City Centre

Armagh is the county town of County Armagh. It was granted a Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth II in 1994 and City status was officially re-conferred in 1995. Armagh is the host of both the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh and the Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, both of whom hold the position of Primate of All Ireland for their respective denominations.

Loughgall Village

Loughgall is small village in Co. Armagh and is the heart of the apple growing industry and is surrounded by orchards. In the centre of the village is an enormous set of gates which lead to Loughgall Manor. This Manor was once the residence of the Cope family who arrived as part of the Plantation of Ulster in the 17th Century.

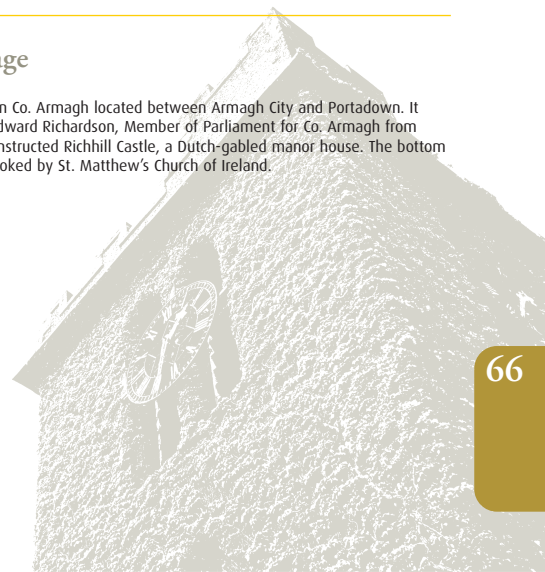
Richhill Village

This is a large village in Co. Armagh located between Armagh City and Portadown. It takes its name from Edward Richardson, Member of Parliament for Co. Armagh from 1655 to 1696, who constructed Richhill Castle, a Dutch-gabled manor house. The bottom of the village is overlooked by St. Matthew's Church of Ireland.



Loughgall,
Co. Armagh

Richhill,
Co. Armagh



Dungannon & South Tyrone

Augher Village

Augher is a busy community village in the Clogher Valley. In the village is the interesting parish church and the quaint old station house for the Clogher Valley Railway which has since been converted to a coffee house.

Aughnacloy Village

Created as a town under the 1854 Town Improvements, it stands on the River Blackwater on the national border with Monaghan and is one of the largest border crossing points. The exceptionally wide main street makes it an ideal location for an open market held every first and third Wednesday of the month.

Ballygawley Village

A few miles North West of Aughnacloy is Ballygawley. The market and livestock fair used to be held on the main street years ago. In the vicinity of the town are several 19th Century houses as well as far earlier relics such as Sess Kilgreen. A breathtaking view of the town can be seen from Errigal Keerogue.

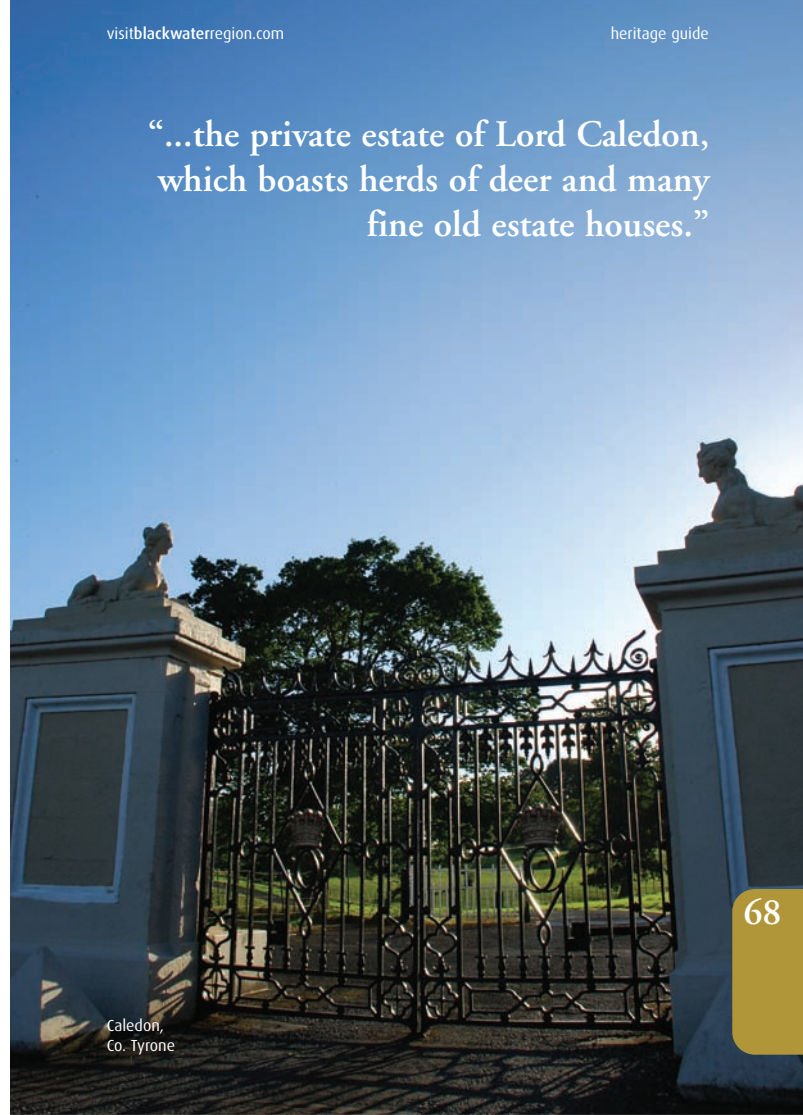
Benburb Village

Benburb is situated on the River Blackwater and includes many sites worth visiting such as Servite Priory and within the grounds a Victorian Conservatory, Arboretum and Pinetum. Another site worth visiting would be Benburb Centre, Milltown. Benburb Castle overlooks the magnificent Salmon Leap and Limestone Gorge - a favourite for canoeists.

Caledon Village

Caledon village is a designated Conservation area and is located on the South Eastern of Tyrone. It is on the border with County Armagh. On the outside of the village, heading towards Armagh is the private estate of Lord Caledon, which boasts herds of deer and many fine old estate houses. Also located in this area is the Dredge Suspension Footbridge which is unique in Ireland.

“...the private estate of Lord Caledon, which boasts herds of deer and many fine old estate houses.”



Caledon,
Co. Tyrone

Castlecaulfield Village

This village is situated three miles to the west of Dungannon and was formerly known as Ballydonnelly. The most notable landmark in Castlecaulfield is the ruin of the castle, a Jacobean mansion built by Sir Toby Caulfield and eventually destroyed by fire. Close by Castlecaulfield is Parkanaur Forest Park.

Clogher Village

Clogher stands at the confluence of the Fury and Blackwater rivers. It is one of the most ancient places in Ireland and was once the capital city of the Principality of Oriel. One of the most famous buildings is the cathedral in which is preserved the 'Clogh-or', one of the 'Three Stones of Erin'.

Coalisland Village

This town is the centre for engineering and manufacturing of bricks and pipeclay. It was one of the earliest industrial villages and was once the busiest canal that conveyed coal and other traffic to and from Belfast.

Donaghmore Village

Donaghmore village is the place where St. Patrick is said to have founded a religious establishment in the 5th Century. Standing large at the end of the village is an impressive six metre tall cross dating to the 9th Century. It is one of the finest Christian Monuments of Ulster.

Fivemiletown Village

In the far south-western corner of the district of Dungannon is Fivemiletown. Its name comes from the towns locations five Irish miles from its neighbours of Clogher, Brookeborough and Tempo. Its former name was Baile na Lorgan, which means 'town of the hilltop ridge.'

Moy Village

Situated on the River Blackwater which forms the border of the district is Moy, known locally as 'The Moy'. Centred round a square, it was founded as a plantation settlement in 1764 by Lord Charlemont.

Monaghan

Clones Town

This village has many buildings and sites of historical interest. The Diamond is dominated by the Church of Ireland and an early 9th/10th Century High Cross. The Ulster Canal Store is a community enterprise providing tourist information, a permanent exhibition of Clones lace and many more items of interest.

Glaslough Village

Glaslough Village originated from the presence of Castle Leslie. Nearby Donagh graveyard contains the ruins of an early Christian Church and High Cross.

Inniskeen Village

This village is the home place of poet and novelist Patrick Kavanagh. Places of interest associated with the poet are Shancoduff Farm or My Black Shanco and Kednaminsha School. Fane River Park is also nearby and offers tourists an opportunity to pause for a rest and a picnic, or even take a walk along the banks of the river.

Rockcorry Village

This village originated as a result of the linen industry which was founded by the Corr family. An obelisk-style monument which is situated between Cootehill and Rockcorry was erected by local electors in honour of the 18th Century MP, Richard Dawson.

Killeevan

Killeevan is a small but attractive village. A short distance from the village is the structure known locally as 'Killeevan Old Abbey' with a small lancet window and circular graveyard with tombstones dating from the 17th century.



Castle Leslie,
Glaslough, Co. Monaghan

Ballybay

Ballybay grew as a linen town in the middle of the 18th century. At Derrygooney, in the Connolly estate, is the Billy Fox Memorial Park where there are some good forest walks and picnic sites. Ballybay lies along the shores of Lough Major with the challenging Dromore river system right on the door-step. This 200-acre lake has excellent access on all shores. From the lake, the Dromore River flows through a valley forming several lakes that provide an abundance of all coarse fish.

Carrickmacross

Carrickmacross is a market town which had its beginnings when the Earl of Essex built a castle here in the 1630s. The site of the castle is not occupied by the convent of the St Louis nuns. The Sisters revived the famous Carrickmacross Lace and this tradition is kept alive today by the Carrickmacross Lace Co-op which is based in The Gallery. The Catholic church is the town's most imposing building, and has ten windows by the renowned stained glass architect, Harry Clarke. The Church of Ireland church, in the style known as Planter's gothic, is over 200 years old and there are also some fine Georgian houses to be seen. Magheross church, in the oldest part of the town, was built at the time of the Reformation (1550). The graveyard contains many ancient tombstones, dating back at least to the middle of the 17th century.

Castleblayney

Castleblayney and its famous lake, Lough Muckno, have a rich and intriguing history. Lough Muckno covers 900 acres and is the largest body of water in County Monaghan. It is located just five minutes from the town centre. Hope Castle, which lies in the grounds of the lake, boasts spectacular panoramas of the surrounding area.

Emyvale

The largest village in County Monaghan, Emyvale, is a very old habitation, as a Bronze Age tomb was unearthed there in 1959. It is the epicentre of 'McKenna Country' and also of the Prince Edward Island connection as it was from here that Canon Patrick Moynagh PP organised an emigration of 60 families in 1830. There are several lakes around the village and Emy Lough is an important game fishery (licences available locally). There are some lovely walking tours in and around the village which highlight local beauty spots and historical sites.

Monaghan

Monaghan, is a lively town with some wonderful architecture that can be best appreciated on foot. The County Museum and the St Louis Convent Heritage Centre are well worth a visit. St Macartan's Cathedral was built in 1892 and contains interesting Stations of the Cross and tapestries. Other buildings of particular note around the town include the original 17th-century Market House, the Courthouse, St Patrick's Church of Ireland, and the First Monaghan Presbyterian Church. The Rossmore Memorial and the Market Cross are also of historical significance. Rossmore Forest Park, with its hardwood, broadleaf and conifer trees, mixed grasses, lakes and rivers creates a teeming wildlife habitat. There are some lovely walks around the park. Within this beautiful setting is nearby Rossmore Golf Club which offers an exceptional 18-hole championship course.

Scotshouse

Scotshouse is a small village which takes its name from William Scotts, a Cromwellian soldier, who settled in the area around 1650. Traces of the 'black pig's dyke' or 'the worm ditch', an early linear earthwork, can still be seen in the area. This fortification was probably erected as a defensive line to protect the ancient Kingdom of the Ulaidh. Nearby, the Hilton Park mansion was built in 1874-75, and is still in the hands of the original family, the Maddens. It is now an up-market guest house and the gardens are open to non-resident groups by appointment during the summer months.

Tydavnet

Tydavnet has close links with St Dymphna and the cemetery in the village supposedly contained her church. The village is linked with Gheel in Belgium, which also has a strong St Dymphna connection. The graveyard is an ancient mixed burial ground containing many interesting carved tombstones.



Market House,
Monaghan

Annual Heritage Events in the Blackwater Region

January

Armagh

Trad at the Trian
Burns Night

February

Armagh

Victorian Boxes in the Attic
Trad at the Trian

March

Armagh

Trad at the Trian
Science Week
St Patricks Day Celebrations in Armagh
St Patricks Day Entertainment
Guided walking tour of Armagh City
Old Clonfeacle Ceile Club St Patricks Night
Ceili
Guided coach tour of Downpatrick

Monaghan

St Patricks Day Parade
St Patricks Festival

April

Armagh

Trad at the Trian
Vintage & Classic Vehicle Rally

Monaghan

Aughnacloy/Truagh Historical Society
Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Weekend

May

Armagh

Apple Blossom Festival
Apple Blossom Day
Bank Holiday Apple Blossom Coach Tour
Musical House Tours
Armagh Photographic Competition & Exhibition
Edward Bunting Festival

Monaghan

Heritage Railway Walk
Carrickmacross Festival

June

Armagh

Archaeology Week
Archaeology Day
Armagh Art Club Annual Exhibition

July

Armagh

Markethill 32nd Annual Festival
The 21st John Hewitt International
Summer School

Monaghan

Clontibret Vintage Show
Annual Patrick Kavanagh Writers Weekend
Cassandra Hand Summer School of Clones
Lace

August

Armagh

County Armagh Vintage Vehicle Club Ltd,
33rd Annual Vintage Vehicle Rally
West Armagh Community Festival
Victorian Weekend
Markethill Fair Day
Charles Wood Summer School
Family Day & Craft Fair
Guided Tour of South Armagh's 'Ring of Gullion'

Monaghan

Carrickroe Welcome Home Festival
Tydavney Parish Show
Lisdoonan Vintage Show
The Flat Lake Literary Festival

Dungannon

Clogher Valley Agricultural Show
William Carleton Summer School

September

Armagh

European Heritage Open Days

Monaghan

Monaghan Harvest Time R&B Festival

October

Armagh

Trad at the Trian
Poetry Week
Apple Week
Autumn Walks & Bulb Planting Day

Monaghan

Scoil Cheoil na Botha
Clones Film Festival

Dungannon

Castlecaulfield Flower Show

November

Armagh

Viking Month
Winter Ecology & Habitat
Georgian Saturday
Christmas through the ages
The Bard of Armagh
Santa's Victorian Demesne

Monaghan

Annual Patrick Kavanagh Weekend

December

Armagh

Santa's Victorian Demesne

Dungannon

Christmas Craft Fair

Heritage Trails

Blackwater Heritage Trail

As you travel through the Blackwater Valley, take time to stop at the array of historical villages along the borders of Co. Tyrone, Co. Armagh and Co. Monaghan. Download your village leaflets from www.visitblackwaterregion.com. Take time out to view the collection of picturesque dwellings, industrial buildings and three large estates which contribute so much to this region.

This trail gives you the choice of visiting each individual village and hamlet or link together to pack your day full of activity. Villages include Glaslough Mullan, Emyvale (all in Co. Monaghan), Killylea, Tynan, Middletown (all in Co. Armagh) and Caledon in Co. Tyrone. Let your senses guide you.

For further information on the Blackwater Heritage Trail please contact Blackwater Regional Partnership on +44 (0)28 3756 9000.

Dungannon Heritage Trail

The heritage trail begins at Market Square in Dungannon town centre and comprises Castle Hill, Thomas Street, Irish Street, Shambles Lane, Georges Street, Scotch Street, Church Street, Perry Street, Northland Place and Northland Row. It ends at St Anne's Hall (Viscounts Restaurant).

Dungannon Heritage Trail provides you with a journey through time and space; both the ghosts from the past and the citizens of the present will offer you a warm welcome to the Ancient Capital of Ulster.

For further information contact Killymaddy Tourist Information Centre on +44 (0)28 8776 7259 or download your heritage trail from www.dungannonlife.com



Benburb,
Co. Tyrone

Dungannon Heritage Trail Itinerary

10.30am Tour of Castle Hill and beyond

Set in the heart of Dungannon Castle Hill is the mythical and historic Capital of Ulster, from where The O'Neills once ruled for over three hundred years. Witness the only place in Northern Ireland that provides a panoramic view of the nine counties and beyond. (Tour guide available on request)

10.45am Dungannon Town Centre Heritage Trail

On your journey from Castle Hill stop off in Ranfurly House and pick up the Town Centre Heritage Trail Guide that will provide you with a journey through time and space. Both the ghosts from the past and the citizens of the present will offer you a warm welcome to the Ancient Capital of Ulster.

1.00pm Lunch

Enjoy local cuisine at one of the Good Food Circle Restaurants.

2.15pm Grant's Ancestral Homestead

Explore the cottage and out buildings of the Simpson family, with close ties to Ulysses Simpson Grant, the commander of the Victorious Union Troops in the American Civil war.

3.00pm Donaghmore High Cross

A must see for historians, a monastery was founded here by St Patrick for St Columb in the sixth century.

3.45pm Island Turf Crafts Gift Shop & Visitor Centre

Step back in time in the bog museum with a treasure house of exhibits of old artefacts which reveal much about the rich and varied history of Ireland before and after the Ice Age.

4.15pm Irish World Family History Services

Trace your path to your Irish roots.



Eco Trails

In the Blackwater Region four exiting new Eco Trails have been developed. 'Eco Trails' provide an opportunity for young people to develop an awareness appreciation and understanding of, and responsibility to, their local natural and built environment by taking part in an environmental trail linked to the sport of orienteering. So why not take a walk on the wild side as a family or a group take the opportunity to look, see, hear and touch the wonders of the environment.

Deep in the woodland, you can learn about the history of the area, types of trees and wild flowers which appear at all different seasons.

Discover our eco trails at:

- Benburb, Co Tyrone
- Loughgall, Co Armagh
- Gosford, Markethill, Co Armagh
- Parkanaur, Dungannon, Co Tyrone

Before you go follow these three simple steps:

- Access your booklet online at www.ecotrails.co.uk
- Be prepared, you may like to bring along a camera, clipboard, suitable footwear etc
- Confirm with the venue if coming as a group. This can be done by contacting Blackwater Regional Partnership on +44 (0)28 3756 9000 or the centre details at the back of your booklet.

Monaghan Town Trail

The earliest map of Monaghan, the county town, dates from 1590 and shows only 'the abbie of Mounachin' and the 'McMahon House in the Lough of Mounachin'. The Franciscan Abbey, erect c. 1462, was in the centre of what is the present town, while McMahon's crannog was on the Convent Lake. From 1513 to 1589 it was the headquarters of chiefs of the McMahons, whose power was eventually broken by the English in the late 16th/early 17th Century. For the next two centuries Monaghan was basically a Presbyterian town and colonial centre of commerce and local government with the Blayneys and Rossmores as the main ruling classes during all that period, Many of Monaghan's finest buildings date from the 18th and 19th centuries and some of these features in the Monaghan Town Trail.

Interesting sites to view are:

- Rossmore Monument
- St. Patrick's Church of Ireland
- The Courthouse
- Aviemore House, and many more.

A podcast of this tour can be downloaded from www.monaghantourism.com or contact Monaghan Tourism on +353 (0)47 71818.

Clones Town Trail

Clones Town began as a monastic settlement c. 500. St. Tiernach founded his monastery there and this was the most important site in Monaghan for centuries after. Clones suffered severely during the Great Famine and 'the Bully Acre' is a reminder of those dreadful times. Clones improved remarkably during the 19th Century, especially with the coming of the railways, as it became an important 'cross-roads' in the Great Northern Railway (GNR) system. The Ulster Canal had arrived some years earlier but this was never a success.

Some of the interesting sites to view are:

- The Old Market House
- The High Cross
- St. Tiernach's Church of Ireland Church
- Motte & Bailey Fort
- St. Tiernach's Graveyard, plus many more.

A podcast of the tour is available for download from www.monaghantourism.com



Clones Round Tower,
Clones

The Stony Grey Soil Tour

This landscape has inspired many writers and poets. This heritage trail centres around the Carrickmacross area which has a rich history from the early Magheraross church to Co. Monaghan. The primary focus of this trail is the life and works of the poet Patrick Kavanagh and a visit to the Kavanagh Centre is well worthwhile with its excellent displays of the poet's life and work.

The Ring of Oriel

Monaghan Town and North Monaghan area and cross border in Co. Tyrone. From 1335 a town developed on what is called Monaghan. The Gaelic chiefs McMahon ruled it until the 1950s, when it came under English control. It is a typical Ulster Plantation town and has many historical features and buildings. The County Museum is located here. In North Monaghan we journey through Ballinode, Scotstown and Roslea (Co. Fermanagh). One of the oldest Christian graveyards in Ireland is in Clogher, Co. Tyrone while the ancient Episcopal See for this diocese is in nearby Augher. Augher was the home of William Carleton and there are many other gems to see, including Knockanny Hill and Favour Royal Forest Park.

Emyvale and district is steeped in the history of the McKenna clan. Many from this peaceful town emigrated to Prince Edward Island in Canada and the link is strongly maintained.

Saint Patrick's Armagh

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 10.30am | <p>Tour of Saint Patrick's Trián Visitor Complex
Set in the heart of Armagh City, Saint Patrick's Trián takes you from the Stone Age through the development of Armagh as far as the Georgian era. This fully guided tour also introduces you to some characters from Armagh's past</p> |
| 12.30pm | <p>Lunch
Sample some of our fine local fayre at any one of the excellent range of restaurants in the City.</p> |
| 1.30pm | <p>Visit to Saint Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral
Take a guided tour to the site of Patrick's first stone church.</p> |
| 2.30pm | <p>Visit to Armagh Public Library</p> |
| 3.15pm | <p>Visit to Saint Patrick's Catholic Cathedral
Take a guided tour to the site of Patrick's first stone church.
Tel : 028 3752 1801 www.visitarmagh.com</p> |

Kavanagh Town Trail in Carrickmacross

Nestling among Monaghan's rolling drumlins lies Inniskeen, which remains a largely unchanged landscape and which inspired Patrick Kavanagh, one of Ireland's foremost literary figures. Take time to self guide yourself along Patrick Kavanagh's Trail. This trail takes in the sites made immortal by the works of Patrick Kavanagh including many featured in 'Tarry Flynn' and 'The Green Fool'.

For further information contact:

The Patrick Kavanagh Centre
Inniskeen
Co. Monaghan
Tel: +353 (0)42 9378560

Download your trail information from www.patrickkavanaghcountry.com

Guided Heritage Trail in Co. Monaghan

At Maudabawn Cultural Centre, an expert guide possessing local knowledge, an informed understanding of the history of the area and a warm welcome will add so much to the tour of the area. To organise a tour please contact Maudabawn Cultural Centre on +353 (0)49 5559504 or visit the website at www.maudabawn.com

The Linen Trail

Cavan/Monaghan was at the heart of the Linen Industry in South Ulster 1700-1850. This tour centres along the Cootehill/Ballybay area. Both towns held flax markets. Visit mills, linen greens, estate houses and other related sites. The linen industry brought the first Presbyterians to the area, as well as the Masonic Lodges. Listen and view this ancient countryside. Visit the burial place of Brigadier General Eric Dorman Smith, Second World War leader turned Irish Nationalist. This tour has an overall flavour of South Ulster and its many influences from Cúchullain.

St. Tiernach's Trail

This inspiring trail leads you along the border with Northern Ireland. The guide will walk with you for a little bit as you cross from one jurisdiction to another. Hear the stories of smugglers and heartache. The trail focuses on the development of the border town of Clones in Co. Monaghan. St. Tiernach, an early Christian Saint, is associated with Clones. View the round tower, sarcophagus and the many influences that shaped this quaint town and surrounding area including Newbliss and Killeevan. History from stone age hunters to the present day Ulster GAA Football Finals takes place here.

Hidden Treasures long the border of Emyvale and Aughnacloy

Emyvale to Aughnacloy via Clara

Begin at Emyvale Village outside the Leisure Centre and learn about rural living by walking around this historical village. The name of Emyvale in Irish is "Scairbh na gCaoirach" meaning the Ford of the Sheep". There is evidence which suggests that there was a community residing here for several centuries before the building of bridges. The bridge at Mountain River was built in the late 18th century and lasted some 250 years before it was replaced by the present modern bridge in 1993.

- Leaving Emyvale and heading north on the N2 you are entering the parish of Errigal Truagh. You will see Silver Hill Foods on your right. All aspects of duck production are owned and controlled by Silver Hill Foods. This means that the ducks can be traced from egg to final processing ensuring that customers receive only the best quality duck.

For more information log on to www.silverhillfoods.com

- Continuing northwards for 2km you will see St. Mellan's G.A.A. complex on your right.
- 0.3km further on the right is The Blackwater Valley Community Learning, Cultural, I.C.T. & Peace Centre in the townland of Ballyoisin in the parish of Errigal Truagh, opened in 2006.
- 3km further along the N2 on the left you pass a lay by with picnic tables. At the lay by signposted take left and continue for 0.8km. On your right is Errigal Truagh Church of Ireland. Guided tours available by prior arrangement with Ms. Ethne McCord, Aughnacloy. Contact 048 85557519

Beside the Church of Ireland is Errigal Old Church and Graveyard. The church, graveyard and holy well here are dedicated to St Muadain or Mellan. St. Muadain is a 6th century saint and the old name was Errigal Muadain meaning habitation or house of Muadain. It is the site of a medieval parish. The graveyard holds the remains of both Catholics and Protestants and its unique headstones have been the subject of many International Studies. The headstones are very elaborate in design, the most common feature on the front is a bird holding a twig in its beak, probably representing the olive twig brought to Noah announcing the end of the flood. The McKenna headstones bear the family coat of arms.

- Truagh Heritage Centre, located beside Errigal Ancient Graveyard was a formerly a Church of Ireland Schoolhouse. In 1997 Truagh Development Association restored the building and it is now used as a Heritage Centre.
- Continuing for about 2km past Truagh Heritage Centre you will arrive at St. Patrick's Church, Clara and Truagh Parish Hall on the left hand side.
- Continue for 2.1 km and turn left to Dernaved, the site of the Hughes Family Home. John Hughes was appointed the first Catholic Archbishop of New York on 3rd October 1850 and laid the foundation stone for St. Patrick's Cathedral on 5th Avenue in 1858. He is depicted in the Cathedral's beautiful stained glass "Founder's Window". He died on 3rd January 1864 and is interred in the crypt under the altar of St. Patrick's Cathedral. A tree planting ceremony was held on the site now owned by Coillte to commemorate Archbishop John Hughes and the 150th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone for St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. The original Hughes family home can be seen in the Ulster American Park in Omagh.

Useful websites: www.truagh.ie, www.folkpark.com, www.saintpatrickscathedral.org

- Heading back to the main road where you turned off, continue for 0.5km and you will see Derrygorry/ Favour Royal Millennium Forest on your right. The People's Millennium Forests is a flagship project of the National Millennium Committee that is designed to ignite the interest of all Irish people in the rescue and restoration of our native woodlands. Walks, picnic areas etc available here. See the bridge which links Derrygorry and Favour Royal and North South geographically.
- 2.5km further on you will come to a junction. Turn left and continue for 2km to visit St Patrick's Chair and Well. Reputably built for St Patrick on his journey through the Clogher Valley, it enjoys a reputation for having mystical powers. Refer to page 18 for further information.
- Back to the junction and continue straight on to the main road. Turn right for Aughnacloy, distance approx. 4km. and pick up the towns Heritage Trail in the McCreehy Mill Centre. Take Time to walk the town and learn about life as it once was.

Also available

The Blackwater Region
Walking Guide

The Blackwater Region
Angling Guide



Discover the Blackwater region for yourself
www.visitblackwaterregion.com

Tourist Information Centre Services

For further advice and guidance on all enquiries, please contact the Tourist Information Centres as set out below. Services they provide include:

- A wide range of information on the local area (including places to visit, places to eat, activities and accommodation)
- Computerised Accommodation Reservations for Ireland and Booking Service for UK
- Shop area with maps, guidebooks and local historical information
- Out-of-hours information
- Full access for disabled users

Killymaddy Tourist Information Centre
(Open all year round)
190 Ballygawley Road
Dungannon BT70 1TF

Tel: +44 (0)28 8776 7259
Fax: +44 (0)28 8776 0908
E-mail:
killymaddy.reception@dungannon.gov.uk

Armagh Tourist Information Centre
(Open all year round)
40 English Street
Armagh BT61 4BA

Tel: +44 (0)28 3752 1800
Fax: +44 (0)28 3752 8329
E-mail: info@visitarmagh.com

Failte Ireland - Monaghan Tourist Information Offices (Seasonal)
Clones Road
Monaghan
Co. Monaghan

Tel: +353 (0)47 81122

Failte Ireland - North-West Tourist Information Offices (Out of season)
Aras Reddan
Temple Street
Sligo

Tel: +353 (0)71 9161201
Fax: +353 (0)71 9160360
E-mail:
northwestinfo@failteireland.ie
Web: www.irelandnorthwest.ie

