



The Gaeltacht, Ireland at its best

WHERE TO GO IN THE MAYO GAELTACHT

Mayo

Erris, Achill and Tourmakeady


GaelSaoire
SCÍTH SA GHAELTACHT
HOLIDAYS IN IRELAND'S GAELTACHT



For further information on holidays in Ireland's Gaeltacht contact

GaelSaoire

Web site: www.guelsaoire.ie

Sé do Bheatha...

The Gaeltacht... What is it?

The Gaeltacht is the term used to refer to those areas of Ireland in which the Irish language (Gaeilge) is still spoken as a community language, and its culture and traditions are very much alive and thriving.

These Irish speaking communities are scattered over seven counties and four provinces. Situated mainly along the Western seaboard, the Gaeltacht covers extensive parts of counties Donegal, Mayo, Galway and Kerry and also parts of counties Cork, Meath and Waterford. These areas present many varied and interesting holiday locations.

Each region possesses an environment rich with heritage and folklore, culture and traditions, and a strong sense of its own identity and uniqueness. Here, within, lies the 'true Ireland'!

The Mayo Gaeltacht...

The Mayo Gaeltacht is situated along the West Coast, centred around Belmullet and Blacksod in the North Western part of the county, Achill in the South and further inland at Tourmakeady on the shores of Lough Mask.

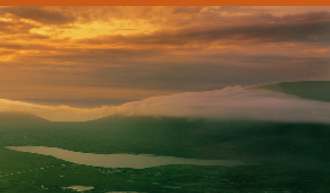
It will take you to its heart...





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Stunning land and seascapes...



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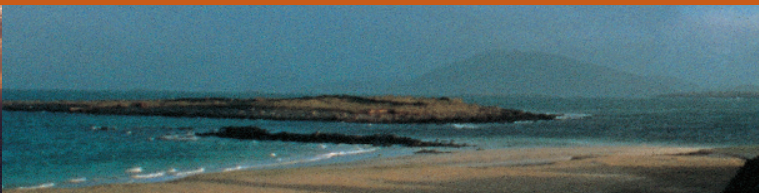
Photographs courtesy of Eamonn O'Boyle, Belmullet; Iorras Domhnann; Turasóireacht Iorras, Mayo Naturally; Achill Tourism and GaelSaoire.

experience a unique cultural heritage...





A pristine environment...a timeless place...



DISCOVER THE MAYO GAELTACHT

From the Mullet Peninsula, a craggy finger of land in the Atlantic Ocean, along a spectacular seaboard from the prehistoric Céide Fields to Gaoth Sáile (Geesala) and inland to the great expanse of Erris before turning southwards to Oileán Acla (Achill Island), this is the magnificent Mayo Gaeltacht. Inland, on the shores of Lough Mask and nestling under the Partry Mountains in the south of the county is the lovely Gaeltacht village of Tuar Mhic Éadaigh (Tourmakeady).

The wild and wonderful Mayo Gaeltacht offers a wide variety of land and seascapes together with a unique cultural heritage. Here, the Irish Language (Gaeilge) is the spoken language of a people who have experienced much since the first farmers settled in Beldeirg before the pyramids were built! People here switch from Irish to English and vice versa with ease.

The Mayo Gaeltacht is a region which deserves to be explored. In the North, the Barony of Erris is one of Europe's least inhabited areas and lies in a pristine environment that is maintained and nurtured with care. Amongst its many special features are cliffs, seastacks, machair, mountains, bogland, beaches and many other secrets that await discovery. As one moves south, Ireland's largest island comes into view. Linked by bridge to the mainland, Achill Island still retains that unique sense of self-sustainability. Achill is famous for it's music, its scenery, its beaches and its warm and friendly hospitality.

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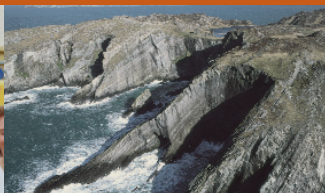
maintained and nurtured with care...





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The Mayo Gaeltacht... something for everyone...



Whether it is learning the Irish language, deciphering the mystic legends of the land or studying its varied unique environment the Mayo Gaeltacht has something to suit you.

In Erris, dolmens, prehistoric ritual graves, standing stones, monasteries, abbeys and castles bear testimony to a rich heritage. The most historic sites include the Céide Fields, Belderig Prehistoric Farm, and Glosch Tower. Learn about the local folklore of the Barony of Erris including the legend of Clann Lir by visiting Ionad Deirbhle Visitor Centre in Eachleim or The Seanscoil in Ceathrú Thaighe.

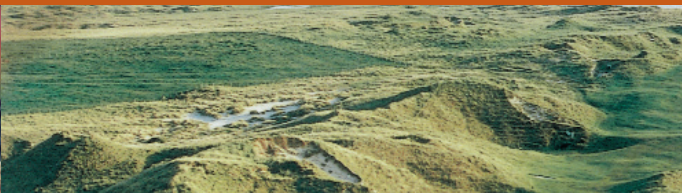
A historical site in Achill is 'The Mission' or 'The Colony' at Dugort which was a proselytising mission encouraging conversion to Protestantism. The 80 ruined houses in the Deserted Village at Dugort are a testimony to hard times and poverty on Achill in times past.

Mayo Gaeltacht festivals reflect the character of the area and some of these are Féile Iorras, an international folks arts festival which takes place in July (Web: www.feileiorras.org) and Féile Gaoth Sáile (Tel: 097 86868) which was inspired by returning emigrants and takes place in August. Traditional music lovers can also attend Scoil Acla, Achill (Tel: 098 47306) or Ceol na Locha in Tuar Mhic Éadaigh (Tel: 092 44229).

The new National Park in Ballycroy and many Special Protected Areas in the Mayo Gaeltacht are a testimony to its pristine environment.

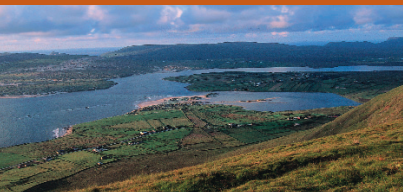
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a land of tradition, legends and the Irish language...





The most spectacular sea-cliff scenery...



FROM BELDEIRG TO BARNATRA

In the North Western corner of the Barony of Erris lie the villages of Béal Deirg (Beldeirg), Gleann na Muaigh (Glenamoy) and Ceathrú Thaidhg (Carrowteige). This is an area of great physical beauty, where one can find the most spectacular seacliff scenery, where jagged headlands, seastacks and caves, have been carved by the power of the sea. The award winning heritage centre at the Céide Fields begins this amazing journey along the coast road. Traditional rural life rules this land – the farmer, the fisherman, the knitter, the weaver and the blacksmith each has a role and whilst this way of life is changing the practices can still be seen in passing through the Barony of Erris.

Moving along the coast, the village of Gleann na Muaigh comes into view. Turn right towards Ceathrú Thaidhg and meander in along the tiny winding roads where jewels such as the fishing villages of Port D'Úrlinne (Porturlin) and Ros Dumhach (Rossport) come into view. Visit the Seanscoil in Ceathrú Thaidhg where over 4,000 place names are mapped for your convenience.

Returning to Gleann na Muaigh, turn right towards Béal an Mhuirthead (Belmullet) for a few miles until the road to Poll a' tSomáis (Pollatomish), meaning The Valley of Tranquility, comes into view. Travel along this coast road and onwards to the village of Inbhear (Inver) where you can visit an open farm at “Flannery’s Village”. Finally relax at Barr na Trá where you can do a spot of fishing on Carramore Lake.

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jagged headlands, seastacks and caves...



Céide Fields – Visitor Centre

The Céide Fields Visitors Centre in North Mayo will certainly give you a unique experience. Here you can indulge yourself in a vast prehistoric landscape, a natural wild ecology of blanket bog and dramatic cliffs along a rugged coastline. The Céide Fields are the oldest known field systems in the world, over five and a half millennia old.

Contact: The Céide Fields Visitors Centre. Tel: 096 - 43325

The Seanscoil

The Seanscoil in Ceathrú Thaidhg is an excellent reference point to learn about the history and folklore of the area. Song, stories, placenames (4,000 already collected), ancient traditions and much more interesting information can be seen here.

Contact: Comhar Dún Chaocháin. Tel: 097 88082.

Email: dunchaochain@eircom.

Flannery's Village, Poll a' tSomáis

Set in the most idyllic location, Flannery's Visiting Centre encompasses a well-stocked knitting factory craft shop, tea rooms and wildlife centre.

Contact: Flannery's Village, Poll a' tSomáis. Tel: 097 84607





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carved out by the power of the sea...





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Here is a paradise for watersports... windsurfing,

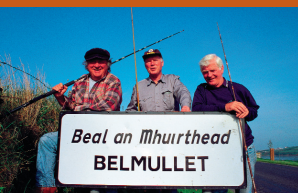


BELMULLET AND THE MULLET PENINSULA

With its craggy edges scalloped with quiet sandy beaches and shallow bays, this long finger of land projects out into the Atlantic Ocean. The Mullet Peninsula is, in fact, almost an island, joined to the mainland only at Béal an Mhuirthead. Here you will find some of the finest beaches in Ireland, with rolling sand dunes, untouched and unspoiled since time began. For watersports, the Mullet surely has the best of both worlds. The exposed Western shoreline, facing the islands, is a paradise for windsurfing, canoeing and sailing while the eastern side of the Mullet offers more sheltered and crystal clear, calmer waters, like Cuan Oilí or Mullagh Rua, for instance.

Near the southern tip of the Mullet Peninsula is Eachléim (Aughleam), a tranquil Gaeltacht townland which was recently awarded the coveted European environmental quality mark codenamed BEATHA, a status which indicates the unpolluted and untouched nature of this beautiful landscape. This is a community steeped in spoken Irish and in all that is best in Gaelic music and tradition. The name Eachléim is derived from the Irish words, ‘each’ meaning a horse and ‘léim’ meaning jump. Local folklore has it that a mythical horse leaped from the western end of the townland to the east, giving the land in between its name.

canoeing, sailing, deep-sea and shore fishing...



The Islands

Off the coast to the west lie the beautiful and tranquil Inis Gluaire (Inishglora) Inis Geidhe (Iniskea) Islands, all of which are steeped in history and where monasteries flourished in early Christian times. Iniskea, uninhabited since 1927 is now home to a variety of bird life, including half of the Irish wintering population of Barnacle Geese.

The Iniskea Islands contain a wealth of archeological material dating to the early Christian period and more recently Iniskea South was the site of a whaling station, the remains of which are still evident. Colmcille, the great Irish saint, founded a monastery here in the 6th Century.

Inis Gluaire can also boast of its noble past. The remains of a monastic settlement founded by St. Brendan the navigator, who died in 577AD are still evident. According to the great Irish legend The Children of Lir – Conn, Aodh, Fiachra and Fionnuala are buried here.

Ionad Deirbhile Eachléim Heritage Centre

The Eachléim Heritage Centre houses a wealth of information on local folklore, archaeology, history and the way of life in times past. A unique feature of the Eachléim Heritage Centre is a 10ft high stained glass window, illustrating the story of St. Deirbhile. This is a replica of a window found in the pre-Norman church at Fallmore.

Contact: Ionad Deirbhile, Eachléim. Tel: 097 85790

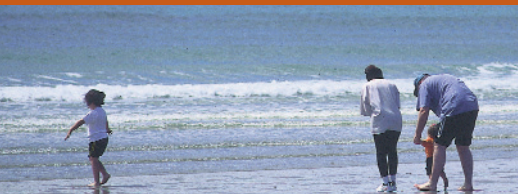
Islands where monasteries flourished... a deserted





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village...folklore, history and archaeology...





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A sense of life in times past... Doohoma... the



GWEEESALIA AND DOOHOMA

From Belmullet travel south along Blacksod Bay to Gaoth Sáile. From Gaoth Sáile, which means Salty Wind or Sea Wind, the road tends to keep to the fringe of the peninsula with stunning views of the Nephin Beg Mountain range to the east and the towering Slievemore Peak on Achill Island to the South. The townland and village of Dú Thuama was the setting for John Millington Synge's famous classic – "The Playboy Of The Western World". The annual greyhound and horse racing on the strand during August in Dú Locha is a must for the visitor and one may also see a group of "Strawboys" going to a local wedding.

Eagle Isle Seafoods

Established over 30 years ago, a visit to this family run smoked salmon facility is a must. Located in Dú Thuama, visit the facility and then relax in the pub with a pint and a plate of Eagle Isle Smoked Salmon.

Contact: Eagle Isle Seafoods, Dú Thuama. Tel: 097 86820 / 86829

setting for "The Playboy of the Western World"





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Achill is Ireland's largest offshore island...golden



ACHILL ISLAND AND THE CORRAUN PENINSULA

Ireland's largest offshore island is Achill with its golden beaches, unspoiled beauty and great island skies full of ever changing cloudscapes, continually caressing its peaks and valleys. Achill is joined to the mainland by a bridge at Achill Sound and about half of the island is a Gaeltacht region. The island has some of the highest and most spectacular sheer cliff faces in Europe, which seem to stand guard before Achill's heather clad hills as they hurry towards the Atlantic Ocean.

Achill is dotted with small villages and magnificent sandy blue flag beaches. The western end of the island is dominated by the majestic 668m Croaghnaun Mountain and two other mountains on the island are Slievemore, the highest at 671m and Minaun at 466m. Sea Angling, diving, golf, archaeology and other outdoor activities are common on the island but the peace and quiet is all pervasive.

One of the great attractions of the island is the deserted village situated on the slopes of Slievemore Mountain. With over 70 abandoned homesteads, it is a haunting reminder of hard times. On the southern tip of Achill Sound and looking out on Achillbeg Island is Kildawnit Castle, a stately fifteenth century tower house and once a stronghold of the Pirate Queen, Grace O'Malley. On Achill's south coast, too, are the strangely architectural Cathedral Rocks, while Croaghnaun tumbles spectacularly down a 2,000 foot precipice to the sea.

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beaches, unspoiled beauty and great island skies...





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A favourite retreat of artists and photographers...



The island has been a favourite retreat of artists and photographers. Its old-world character has attracted many famous writers down the years including the German Nobel Prize winner Heinrich Böll. Painters such as Paul Henry, Derek Hill, Charles Lamb and the American Robert Henri have all been inspired by Achill's unusual and dramatic land and seascapes. The Dánlann Yawl Art Gallery in Tóin ré Gaoth offers a range of painting experiences and courses.

The Achill Yawl has a long tradition of being the working fisherman's boat. In recent years the annual The Yawl Races has led to a renewal of the ancient traditions of this wooden sailing craft. The Yawl can be seen during the summer months on the seas around Achill.

The Corraun Peninsula

A drive around the Corraun Peninsula brings you through the village of Corrán (Corraun) where ancient artefacts can be seen in the village hall. The surrounding area contains many historic sites including a shell midden site (probably Megolithic indicating inhabitation some 5,000 to 7,000 years ago), the remains of an 19th century copper mine and many more. South of Corrán is Corrán House with its planned gardens which were first recorded on a map in 1838.

Folk Life Centre, Béal Fearsad

A traditional cottage which exhibits folk life in Acaill through the ages. Traditional Basket Weaving classes held.

Contact: Folk Life Centre, Béal Fearsad. Tel :098 45504

The Pirate Queen's castle... the working fisherman's boat...





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Tourmakeady... an anglers



A close-up photograph of a cluster of small, bright yellow flowers with green stems and leaves, set against a blurred background of more yellow and green.

Nature... a splash of colour

TOURMAKEADY

Further inland on the shores of Lough Mask and in the shadow of the Partry Mountains in the South of the county is the lovely village of Tuar Mhic Éadaigh (Tourmakeady).

The area offers peace, tranquillity and outstanding scenery. The mountains and lakes provide plenty of activity for the outdoor enthusiast, whether its hillwalking in the mountains, a leisurely stroll in the local woods or fishing on Lough Mask. The area has a strong knitwear tradition.

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paradise... a walkers dream...



GOLFING

The West of Ireland offers the visitor superb golf courses which have been fashioned out of a naturally beautiful landscape. The Mayo Gaeltacht is a delight which incorporates beautiful scenery, an unpolluted environment and a joy to those who prefer a bit of a challenge in their golf.

Carne Golf Links

The towering sand dunes of the Atlantic seaboard of Erris provide the unique setting for Carne Golf Links, an 18 hole Championship Links. Elevated tees, plenty of ability checks, including clever water traps, deceptive doglegs and strategic bunkers, all form a stimulating experience on this magnificent course that was designed by Eddie Hackett. Par 72 Links.

Contact: Carne Links Golf Course, Carne, Belmullet. Tel: 097 82292
Fax: 097 81477 email: carngolf@iol.ie Web: www.carnegolflinks.com

Achill Golf Club

Achill Golf Club has a 9 hole links and is situated in the picturesque countryside typical of Achill Island. Par 35 Links.

Contact: Achill Golf Club, Keel. Tel: 098 43456

Mulranny Golf Club

Mulranny Golf Course is a 9 hole links that puts a premium on accuracy.

Contact: Mulranny Golf Club, Mulranny. Tel : 098 36262

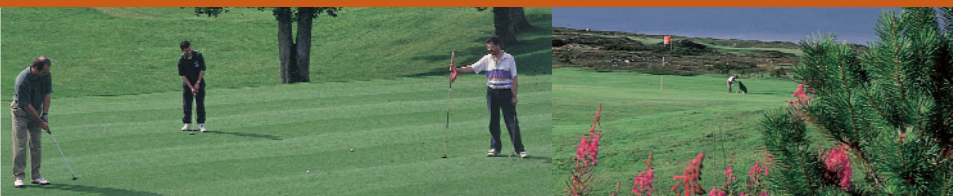
Absolutely superb golf links...fashioned





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out of naturally beautiful landscapes...



WALKING, CYCLING AND EQUESTRIAN

The best way to explore the wilderness of the Mayo Gaeltacht is by walking, cycling or on horseback. The environment offers many contrasts of terrain. Walk, cycle or trot along the many booreens or developed routes and experience first hand the living breathing bogland, machair and sand dunes, mountains and cliffs, sandy beaches and rocky coves but most of all fill your lungs with clean air from a pristine environment. Mayo offers a wonderful variety of short walks, hill walks and way marked trails. The terrain varies from level, to easy going to tough mountain climbing where specialist equipment is essential. Whatever you choose, the scenery is unfailingly stupendous and walks are almost always uncrowded.

The Western Way - Mayo

Stretching along the western coast for over 170km this way marked way takes the walker from the fjord of Killary Harbour at Leenaun on the Co. Galway border to the base of the Ox Mountains on the Co. Sligo border. The variety is tremendous as the route crosses rugged mountains, small roads and winding leafy lanes and forest tracks. The route enters the Mayo Gaeltacht region as it moves north and through the wild bog landscape through Erris and Tirawley until it reaches Ballycastle, near the 5,000 year old Céide Fields. A detailed map is available in local tourist offices.

Explore the wilderness of the Mayo Gaeltacht...





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walking, cycling or on horseback...



The Bangor Trail

This trail is 48 km in length and is regarded as one of the finest walks in the country, taking the walker from Newport through the Nephin Beg mountain range to Bangor in the region of Erris near the Mayo Gaeltacht. Much of the trail is off-road in remote countryside and maps are available in local tourist information offices.

North Mayo Sculpture Trail

This project was put in place as part of the celebration of Mayo 5,000. Leading sculptors from eight countries and three continents were involved in installing specially designed works in the wild and beautiful north Mayo landscape. The result is this unique Sculpture Trail with 15 sculptures dotted along the coast starting in Ballina and passing through Béal Deirg, Gleann na Muaigh on to Ceathrú Thaidhg, Béal an Mhuirthead and Blacksod Point. Guidebooks are available locally. Web: <http://ballina.mayo-ireland.ie/TirSaile/TirSaile.htm>

Local Walks

Local tourism groups have also developed a range of short distance walking or cycling routes. Information is available from the following organisations.

Contact

Erris: Iorras Domhnann. Tel: 097 81500

Achill: Achill Tourism. Tel: 098 47353 Web: www.achilltourism.com

Tourmakeady: Web: www.tourmakeady.com/hillwalking.htm

Sculptors from eight countries... installed specially





designed works in the wild North Mayo landscape...





Where the Connemara Pony is king...

Horse Riding

Ard Aoibhinn Stables are located in Tourmakeady in County Mayo, and are run by the Burke family. It is a working farm, with a Riding Centre which offers residential and self-catering accommodation. Facilities include, qualified instructor, outdoor arena, hacking, trekking and changing rooms. One can enjoy a wide variety of beautiful scenery and wildlife of the Party Mountains on horseback. The Connemara pony is proudly featured in their stable alongside a selection of sturdy Irish Hunter types.

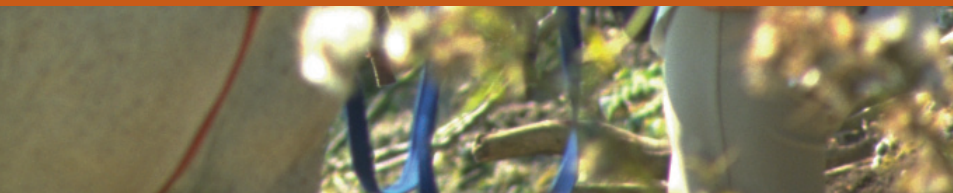
Contact: Ard Aoibhinn Stables, Cappaduff, Tourmakeady, Co. Mayo.
Tel : 092 44000

Qualified instructors, outdoor arenas, walking





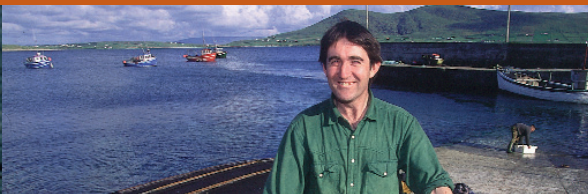
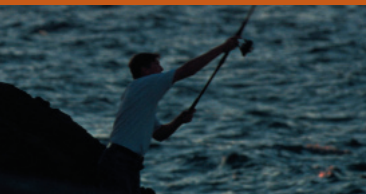
trekking across magnificent scenery...





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The North Mayo Gaeltacht coastline is among the most



SEA AND GAME ANGLING

Ireland is recognised as being the outstanding angling destination in Europe and North Mayo is undoubtedly a game anglers and sea anglers paradise. The waters around the Barony of Erris and Achill, with miles of coastline and variety of rivers and lakes in tranquil surroundings, holds a number of records for the varieties of fish caught.

Sea Angling

With over thirty-nine varieties of fish known to inhabit the waters off the shores of the Barony of Erris, the sea-angler is rewarded with the best all-round sea angling waters in Ireland. Béal an Mhuirthead is possibly one of the best all-round sea angling centre in Ireland. Its wonderful sheltered waters, with Blacksod Bay to the South and Broad Haven Bay to the North acts as a base for charter boat fishing operators with several approved boats to choose from. The many islands in Clew Bay offer shelter from winds and make the sea angling experience extremely pleasant in Achill. The north of Achill Island also faces Blacksod, and it too is a delight for anglers, offering shark fishing.

There are approved charter angling boats based in the Gaeltacht region with full or half-day hire with excellent, helpful skippers available. A tackle and bait shop in Belmullet carries a full range.

outstanding deep-sea fishing destinations in Europe...



The following is a list of licensed boat operators based in the Mayo Gaeltacht region, however anglers are advised to make their own enquiries in respect of licences and insurance requirements.

Operator: Micky Lavelle
Address: Eachléim, Blacksod, Ballina, Co. Mayo
Tel: 097 85669
Base: Blacksod Pier

Operator: Anthony Burke
Address: Cashel, Achill, Co. Mayo
Tel: 098 47257 or 086 8407697
Email: tmburke@eircom.net
Base: Purteen

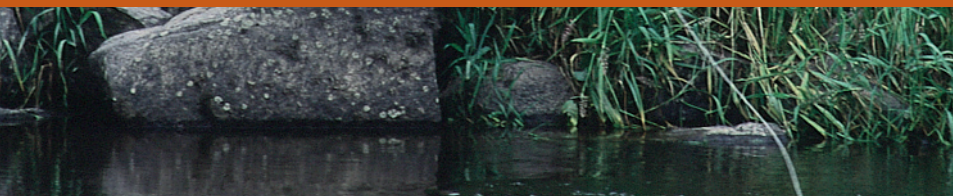
Operator: Seán Ó Maille
Address: Corrán, Achill, Co. Mayo
Tel: 098 45265 or 086 8766585
Base: Corrán

Operator: John Johnston
Address: Dú Eige, Achill, Co. Mayo
Tel: 098 45743 or 087 2945346
Fax: 098 45743
Email: ladyclare@anu.ie
Base: Corrán





inhabit the waters of North Mayo...





Locally based clubs organise competitions



Clubs

Locally based clubs organise competitions throughout the season, and can be contacted as follows:

Contact:

Belmullet Sea Angling Club, Belmullet. Tel: 097 82093

Curraun Sea Angling Club, Curraun, Achill. Tel: 098-45723

Achill Island Sea Angling Club, Dooagh, Achill.

Tel: 098-43005 Fax: 098-43006

Shore fishing

Shore fishing in Achill and Erris is particularly good all round the area. The miles of accessible coastline and almost deserted beaches guarantee the fisherman perfect peace.

and visitors are always welcome...





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Mayo is dominated by four of the great Western



Game Angling

Mayo is dominated by four of the great western lakes – Conn, Cullin, Carra and Mask – all of which have long established reputations as producers of quality wild brown trout. In addition to these major fisheries, the county has numerous smaller lakes and rivers which offer a wide variety of trout fishing. These vary from small mountain lakes, in remote locations, to the more popular stocked lakes which are managed by the Fisheries Boards or local angling clubs.

Permits are available from the following clubs:

Bangor Angling Club, Bangor. Tel: 097 83487.

Achill Sporting Club, The Valley, Achill. Tel: 098-47006

Map, guides and further information on angling in Mayo can be obtained by contacting North Western Regional Fisheries Board, Ardnaree House, Abbey Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo. Tel: 096 22788. Boats can be hired locally.

Tourmakeady

Lough Mask provides brown trout fishing from March to the end of September, with the best fishing being in the May Fly season, mid May to mid June and again in Mid August to the end of September. Tourmakeady Anglers Club organises competitions for local and tourist anglers, the biggest being The European Cup Competition held in May each year.

lakes...Conn, Cullin, Carra and Mask...





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A vital part of the Mayo Gaeltacht...



WATERSPORTS

The crystal clear Atlantic Ocean is a vital part of the Mayo Gaeltacht experience. For the watersport enthusiast Erris and Achill offer superb locations. The two main bays in Erris, Blacksod and Broad Haven offer miles of golden sand and gentle sheltered waters while at the more exposed Annagh Beach there is excellent surf. The area is renowned for scuba diving, windsurfing, sailing, canoeing and there are many safe beaches for children and tuition is available. In Achill the watersport enthusiast can enjoy the gentle lapping of the waves in Dú Éige bay or the roaring surf of DuGort. It is advisable to check with the watersport centres beforehand regarding the qualifications and insurance provided.

UISCE Watersports Centre

Based in Belmullet, the UISCE centre is a watersports centre and an Irish Language School combined into one. On offer are a wide range of courses for both adults and children.

Contact: UISCE Watersports Centre, Belmullet. Tel/Fax: 097 82111

Web: www.uisce.com

Achill Outdoor Education Centre

Based in Cashel, Achill this centre offers activities such as kayaking, canoeing, windsurfing, surfing, rockclimbing, hillwalking, orienteering for those aged between 7 and 64.

Contact: Achill Outdoor Education Centre, Achill.

Tel: 098 47253 Fax: 098 47304

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the crystal clear Atlantic Ocean...



McDowells Activity Centre

The base is located at Keel, Achill. Activities include canoeing, surfing, windsurfing, traditional curragh rowing and hill walking. Summer camps and watersport equipment available.

Contact: McDowells Activity Centre, Dughort, Achill.

Tel/Fax: 0902 94801 Web: www.achill-leisure.ie

Diving Centres

The crystal clear waters surrounding Erris and Achill provide superb diving locations. The following centres cater for both amateur and professionals:

Contact: Cuan na Farraige, Achadh, Poll a' tSomáis, Ballina.

Tel : 097 87800 E-Mail : cuannafarraige@eircom.net.

Contact: Achill Island Scuba Dive Centre, Purteen Harbour, Acaill.

Tel: 087 2349884 E-Mail: josephcarey@eircom.net





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curragh rowing, sailing and hill walking...



THE MAYO GAELTACHT...

HOW TO GET THERE

Access by Air

Knock Airport is located near Charlestown in East Mayo. There are direct services from Dublin and London Stanstead. Galway Airport and Sligo Airport are also within close proximity. For more information contact your local travel agent.

Access by Road and Rail

All parts of the Mayo Gaeltacht are easily accessible from Dublin, Belfast, Galway and Sligo and all other major cities and towns throughout Ireland. Ballina, Castlebar and Westport have a bus and rail station and connections leave for Belmullet (Ballina station), Achill (Castlebar & Westport stations) and Tourmakeady (Castlebar Station) at regular intervals. Bus Éireann provide the public bus service.

Sea

Car and passenger ferries operate from Britain and France through Cork, Rosslare, Belfast and Dún Laoghaire or Dublin Port.

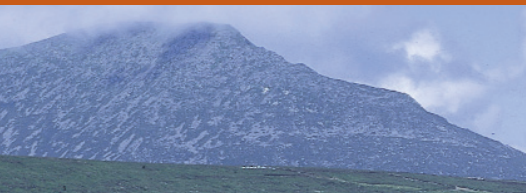
Mayo has its own international airport at Knock...

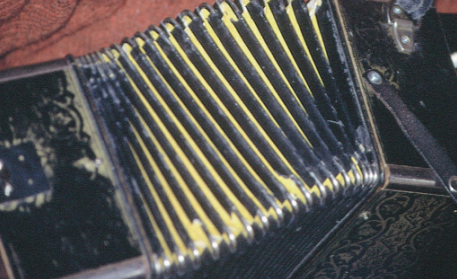




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A 5,000 year old landscape bids you welcome...





Experience spoken Irish in

TRY A FEW LITTLE WORDS...

Cúpla focal (*coopla fukal*) = A few words

Dia dhuit (*deea gwit*) = Hello

Sé do bheatha (*Shay duh vaha*) = You are welcome

Cad é mar atá tú? (*cod ay mor ataw too*) = How are you?

An bhfuil tú go maith? (*on will too guh moh*) = Are you well?

Tá mé go maith, buíochas le Dia (*taw may gu moh bweekus leh deea*) =
I am well, thanks be to God

Tá an lá go breá (*taw an law gu brow*) = It is a fine day

Cá bhfuil an oifig fáilte? (*caw will on offig faulte?*) =
Where is the tourist office?

Cá bhfuil oifig an phoist? (*caw will offig an fisht*) =
Where is the post office?

Help yourself to a little everyday





Ireland's cultural heartland...

Cá bhfuil na Gardaí Síochána? (*caw will na Gawardee Sheeacanna?*) =
Where are the civic guards (the police)?

Cá bhfuil an séipéal (*caw will on shape - ay ul?*) = Where is the church?

Slán leat (*slan lat*) = Goodbye

Slán tamall (*slawn tomol*) = Goodbye for a little while

Bíodh lá maith agat (*bee-uk law moh ugut*) = Have a good day

Bíodh saoire deas agat sa Ghaeltacht (*bee-uk seera das ugut sa Ghaeltacht*) = Have a nice holiday in the Gaeltacht

Go dtí go gcasfaimid arís (*guh dee guh gosfimeed areesh*) =
Until we meet again

Céad míle fáilte romhat (*kayud meela faulte rowat*) =
A hundred thousand welcomes to you

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Irish, it's easier than you think!







GaelSaoire

Web site: ***www.gaelsaoire.ie***