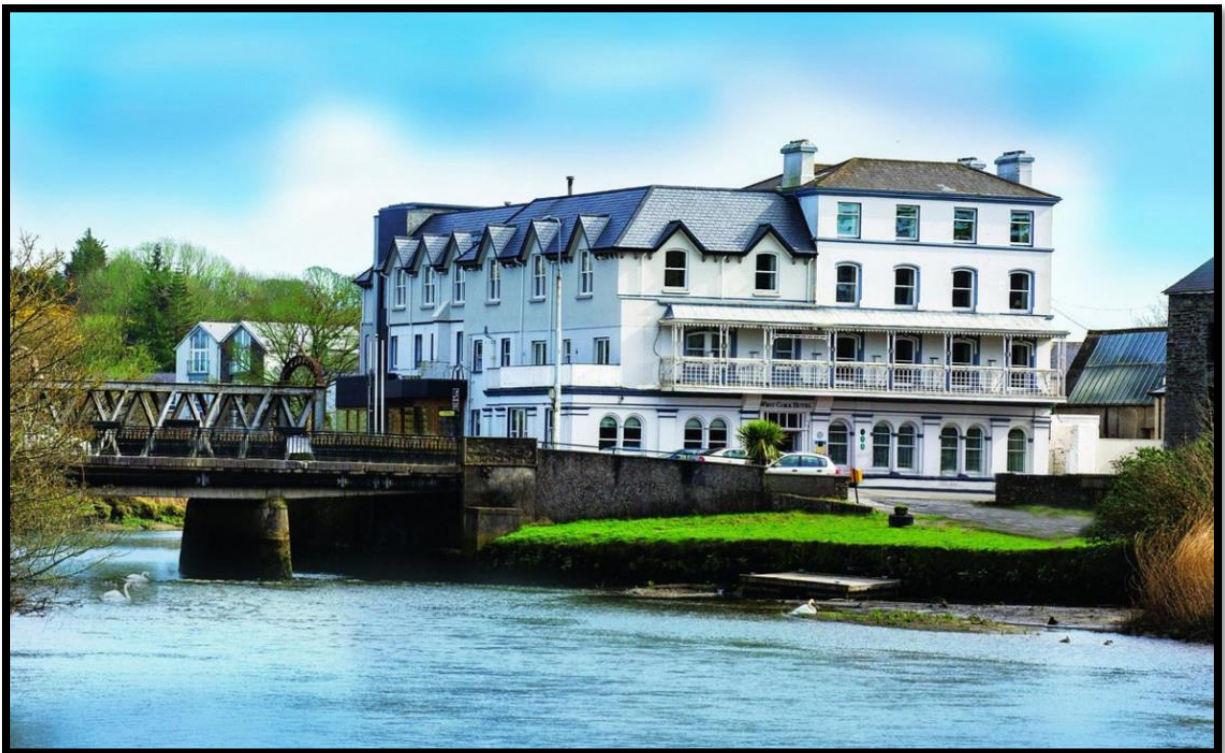
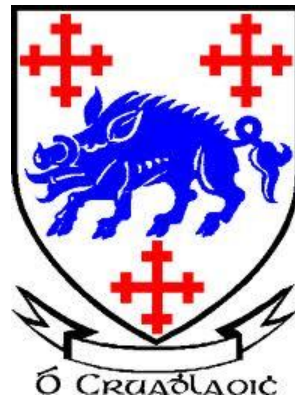


2025 Crowley Clan Gathering



Dear Crowley Clan

As we have approached the halfway point between the 2022 and 2025 Gatherings, it is time to start planning for Skibbereen, and we hope to see you all again, or indeed for the first time !

The 2025 Gathering is going to take place at the **West Cork Hotel**, Ilen Street, Skibbereen, West Cork P81 FH63 from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th September 2025. Website:

www.westcorkhotel.com

There are 53 rooms available to book at the hotel, and can be booked from now, using Reservation ID Code **171950**. Email: fomanager@westcorkhotel.com

You can book immediately by calling the hotel directly at **+353 (0) 28 21 277**

2025 Gathering Registration Fee

The Registration fee for this Gathering has been set at €160 per person, and you will be able to book online from July 1st 2024, but there is a €10 discount on that (€150) for those who book before July 1st 2025.

What this includes

Cheese & Wine, pizza evening on Friday September 12th

All Bus Transportation on Saturday and Sunday 13th & 14th September to the various venues

The Gathering Banquet on Saturday evening

Lunch on Saturday and Sunday

Official Programme of Events (subject to change)

Friday

4-6pm Registration at West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen

6-8pm Cheese & Wine Reception / Pizzas

8-10pm Irish Dancing Demonstration and Classes.

Saturday

9.30am DNA Information Meeting at West Cork Hotel

11.30 Bus to Baltimore, visit to local historical sites

1pm Lunch

2pm Arrival of the descendants of Don Pedro Alonso O'Crouley of Spain, (whose father Dermot left Ireland in 1730), on board the sailing ship Saoirse at Baltimore



The Saoirse



6pm Return to West Cork Hotel

8pm Banquet

10pm–Late Music & Dancing

Sunday

10:00 Departing on Buses from Hotel to O' Crowley Castle

12:45 - 2:30pm Visit Lissard House, Lunch & Sky Gardens.

3pm International Road Bowling Exhibition

5pm Investiture of the new Taoiseach

7pm Traditional Music Session

Special Note

Back in 2022, we visited the Skibbereen Heritage Centre, and were given an amazing talk by the Heritage Centre Historian, about the Famine in West Cork.



While it is situated across the road from the West Cork Hotel, we don't have time for a repeat visit this time, however we could try arrange a group discount if there was enough interest, before the Gathering begins, on the afternoon of Friday the 12th. It would mean arriving in Skibbereen by 1pm on the Friday.

Please visit the Skibbereen Heritage Centre website: <https://skibbheritage.com/>

They also offer a genealogy service for those interested.

NB: We will contact attendees in July 2025 to check interest in arranging this visit.

The room configurations at the West Cork Hotel are as follows:

Standard Double / Twin Rooms – 23 Standard Rooms

Family Rooms – 3 Family Rooms

Deluxe Balcony Rooms – 5 Deluxe Balcony Rooms

Superior King Rooms – 11 Superior King Rooms

Superior Double & Single Rooms – 6 Rooms

Junior Suites – 3 Junior Suites

Superior Suites – 2 Superior Suite

The rates negotiated with the hotel are as follows:

One Night Stay Prices

Standard Single Room	€120 B&B
Deluxe Balcony Single Room	€140 B&B
Superior Single Room	€160 B&B
Standard Double Room	€140 B&B
Deluxe Balcony Double Room	€160 B&B
Superior Double Room	€180 B&B
Junior Suite	€200 B&B
Superior Suite –	€210 B&B

Extra Adult in Room - €30 Per Adult, Per Night

Extra Child in Room - €15 Per Adult, Per Night

**If you decide to stay more than one night, the rest of your nights will be further discounted.
See the rates below.**

Second Night Stay Prices

Standard Single Room	€100 B&B
Deluxe Balcony Single Room	€120 B&B
Superior Single Room	€140 B&B
Standard Double Room	€120 B&B
Deluxe Balcony Double Room	€140 B&B
Superior Double Room	€160 B&B
Junior Suite	€180 B&B
Superior Suite	€190 B&B

Extra Adult in Room - €30 Per Adult, Per Night

Extra Child in Room - €15 Per Adult, Per Night

Alternative accommodation:

Liss Ard Estate, Castletownsend Rd, Russagh, Skibbereen, Co. Cork P81 NP44

Tel: +353 28 40 000 | Email: Reservations@lissard.com | Website: www.lissard.com



Liss Ard is a 5 minute taxi ride from the West Cork Hotel, and contains James Turrell's Irish Sky Garden. The Estate features 26 luxury guest rooms and suites that all include an ensuite.



Rosscarbery remains an option for accommodation.

The 2022 Gathering Hotel, The Celtic Ross, is situated on the public & private bus route that goes through Skibbereen.

Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork Website: www.celticross.com



B&B

Also in Rosscarbery is

An Rosalithir, Rosscarbery, Cork, P85 E443 website:
<https://www.bandbireland.com/accommodation/27081/an-rosalithir>



This B&B is run by Catherine O’Sullivan who is also of the Crowley Clan, and you will be assured of a warm welcome !

Bantry is a 20 minute car journey from Skibbereen and has the following hotel options

The Maritime Hotel**** The Quay, Bantry P75 XW35 Co. Cork Ireland +353 27 54700



The Westlodge Hotel, Bantry, County Cork, Ireland, P75 N978 Telephone: +353 (27) 50360

Website: <https://www.westlodgehotel.ie/>



Schull and Baltimore are also a 20 minute drive from Skibbereen and have these hotel options

Schull Harbour Hotel, Main St, East End, Schull, Co. Cork, P81 DY88

website: <https://www.schullharbourhotel.ie/>



The Waterfront Hotel, The Square, Baltimore, Co. Cork, Ireland

Tel: +353-28-20600 website: www.waterfrontbaltimore.ie



Casey's of Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Cork Tel: + 353 (0) 28 20197

website: <https://www.caseysofbaltimore.com/>



Rolfs Country House & Restaurant, Baltimore Hill, Baltimore, West Cork, Ireland

Telephone: +353 28 20289 website: www.rolfscountryhouse.com



Accommodation websites

www.airbnb.ie

www.booking.com

<https://skibbereen.ie/directory-of-businesses/>

Getting here – Air Transportation

Irish Transatlantic Airports: Dublin and Shannon

It is possible to fly directly into Dublin and Shannon, coming from North America. If you are coming from Australia/New Zealand, you can fly through the Middle East to Dublin. From there, you can catch public & private bus options from Dublin and Shannon Airports to Cork City. It is also possible to get to Cork by rail from these airports, but it is a lot easier by bus. Once you arrive in Cork, it is possible to get public and private bus from Cork City to Skibbereen via Rosscarbery.

Nearest Airport: Cork Airport

Coming from North America or Worldwide, another option is to fly through European hubs such as Amsterdam, Paris and Heathrow, directly into Cork Airport.

Getting here – Ground Transportation

From Dublin Airport: Take the bus from the airport collection point to either all the way to Cork City, or take the Dublin Airport Express to Heuston Station for the train to Kent Station, Cork City <https://www.irishrail.ie/en-ie/offer/dublin-airport-express>. Also check www.aircoach.ie

From Shannon Airport: It makes sense to take the bus from Shannon Airport to Cork City Bus Station <https://www.buseireann.ie/inner.php?id=251>. Also check www.aircoach.ie

Car Hire: All the usual car hire companies operate at all the airports.

From Cork City:

Public bus service <https://www.buseireann.ie/inner.php?id=406&form-view-timetables-from=&form-view-timetables-to=&form-view-timetables-route=237&form-view-timetables-submit=1>

Private bus service <https://westcorkconnect.ie/routes/#SkibBusStops>

Getting around Skibbereen

Taxis <https://skibbtaxi.ie/>

<https://westcorkcabs.ie/>

Dolphin Taxis Skibbereen (Declan Croke) +353 (0) 86 606 7037

West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen County Cork

Eircode (Zip code) : P81 FH63

Ground Transportation from Cork Airport to Skibbereen

Bus : Number 225 or 226 (direction Cork City Centre or Kent Rail Station)

Leave the bus at Parnell Place (Oliver Plunkett Steet Lower)

Option 1 Walk across the road to Cork Bus Station

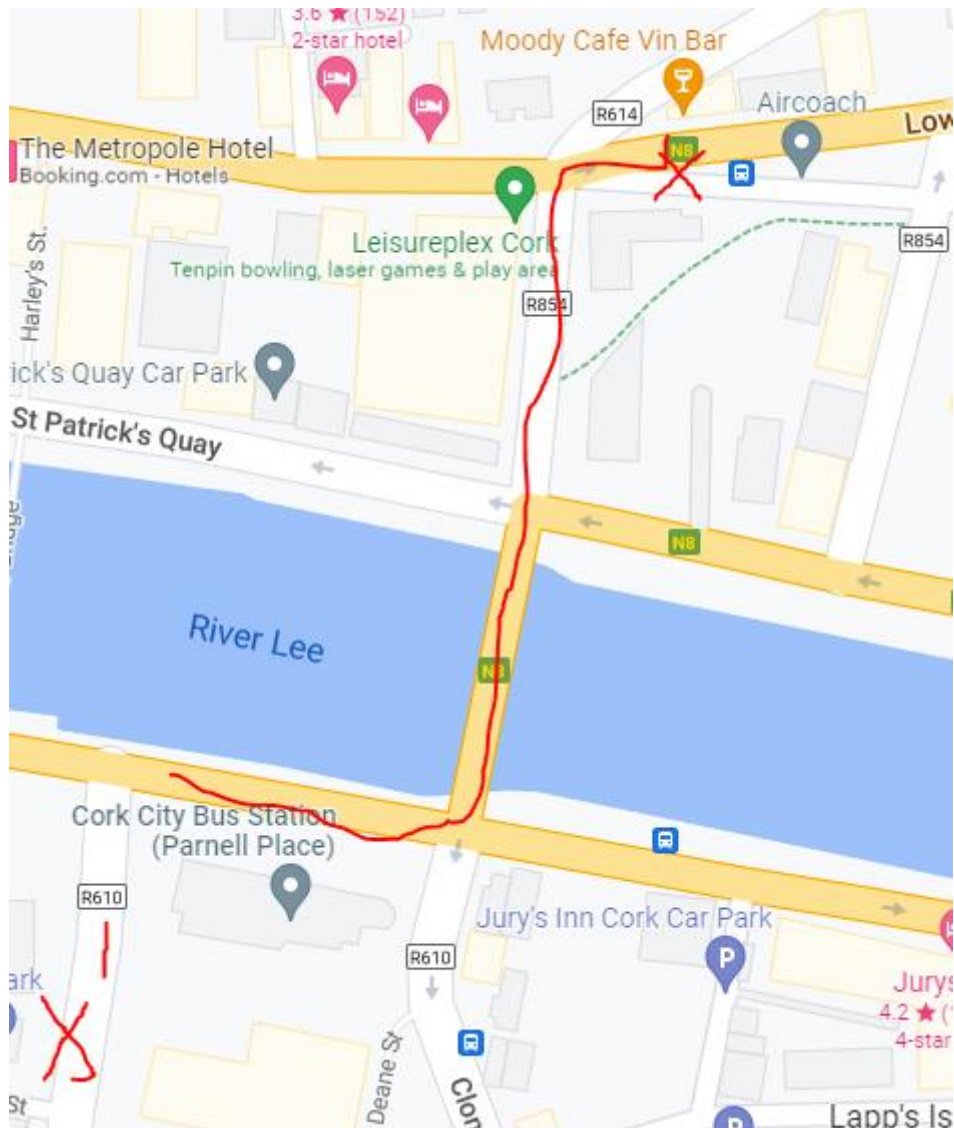
Take the 237 to Skibbereen (stops at Rosscarbery on the way)

Timetables for 225, 226 & 237 can be viewed here

<https://www.buseireann.ie/inner.php?id=403>

Option 2 (Probably a better option) West Cork Connect

Walk past Cork Bus Station, and cross Brian Boru bridge



Westcorkconnect.ie is at the same bus stop that Aircoach.ie stops at, so really useful



Extra benefit of Westcorkconnect is that it stops right OUTSIDE the Celtic Ross Hotel.

See here for West Cork Connects timetable (Bus Number 230 - Direction Cork City – Skibbereen) <https://westcorkconnect.ie/routes/#SkibBusStops>

Ground Transportation from Dublin Airport to Skibbereen

Bus : Aircoach operate from Terminals 1 and 2 at Dublin Airport, and will drop you at the same bus stop that Westcorkconnects will take you to Market Street, Skibbereen. It's as painless a journey as you can get ! Note : there is a toilet on the Aircoach, but not on the West Cork Connects bus.

Aircoach timetable <https://www.aircoach.ie/timetables/704X>

West Cork Connect timetable <https://westcorkconnect.ie/timetable/> Cork-Skibbereen

Train : Firstly, take the bus from Dublin Airport (T1 & T2) to Heuston Station

Bus No. 747 <https://dodublin.ie/airport-transfers/airlink-express>

Next, take train to Cork <https://www.irishrail.ie/en-ie/train-timetables/timetables-by-route>

There is no train service from Cork City to Rosscarbery, so you will have to walk 600m from Kent Station (towards the city), to the West Cork Connect/Aircoach bus stop as above picture.

See here for West Cork Connects timetable (Direction Cork City – Skibbereen) <https://westcorkconnect.ie/routes/#SkibBusStops>

11 Things to do in Cork (thanks to <https://www.purecork.ie/>)

1. **The Wild Atlantic Way**, 1600 miles (2600 km) in length, is one of the longest defined coastal routes in the world. It winds its way all along the Irish west coast from the Inishowen Peninsula in the north down to the picturesque town of Kinsale, County Cork, in the south. Visit Kinsale, the Gourmet Food Capital of Ireland, Charles Fort and the old historic town. <https://www.thewildatlanticway.com/sight/kinsale/>



2. **Cobh**, formerly Queenstown, where Titanic set sail from. <https://www.visitcobh.com/>



There's so much here in Cobh to make you stop and linger.

1. [Go back in time at the Titanic Experience Cobh](#)
2. [Learn all about Cobh's fascinating history](#)
3. [Stroll along the historical Titanic Walking Trail](#)
4. [Discover the dark past of Spike Island](#)
5. [See the splendid St Colman's Cathedral](#)
6. [A bite to eat at Cobh Farmer's Market](#)
7. [See wildlife up close at Fota](#)
8. [Relax and indulge at Ballymaloe House and Estate](#)
9. [Head east to Ballycotton Lighthouse Tours](#)
10. [Go cruise liner spotting](#)
11. [Explore Cork Harbour from the water](#)

Visit Spike Island from Cobh



The island brims with stories of the incredible history of its former occupants from monks and farmers to rioters and murderers.

Founded as a monastic settlement, the fate of Spike Island went very dark indeed. First, as a fortress built to defend the British Empire, then as the gruesome prison whose very name chilled the blood of convicts across the world.

A fifteen-minute ferry ride from Cobh, Spike Island has some fascinating tales to tell. The tour takes 3.5 hours in total including a 45-minute island induction from the trained storytellers and plenty of free time to explore at your own pace, so give yourself at least four hours for this gem. There are two tours available. The family-friendly daytime tours allow you to explore what was once the world's largest prison, view the tiny cottages that have arguably some of the most beautiful views in Ireland and learn about the fascinating military and penal history of the island.

Tours leave from Kennedy Pier in Cobh a few times a day and the ticket price includes the ferry crossing. The island has a cafe, toilets, and buggy-friendly routes. We highly recommend booking your tickets in advance as they sell out regularly. For more information and to book tickets, visit The Spike Island website <https://www.spikeislandcork.ie/regular-tours/>

3. **Cork City** things to do

Cork City Gaol - This Cork heritage centre is renowned for its wax figures. Step back in time to see what 19th / early 20th Century life was like in Cork - inside and outside the prison walls. Amazingly lifelike wax figures, furnished cells, sound effects and fascinating exhibitions.

Website: www.corkcitygaol.com

Blarney Castle and Gardens – Home of the famous (actual) Blarney Stone, where you can get yourself some gift of the gab ! webste: www.blarneycastle.ie



Jameson Distillery Midleton - The Jameson Distillery Midleton, located just 20 minutes drive from Cork City, is laid out over 15 acres with buildings dating back to 1794. The Jameson Experience Tour is a fully guided tour around the original Midleton Distillery which brings the stories of Jameson's rich heritage to life. You'll learn about the hard working people and field-to-glass processes responsible for the whiskey that bears John Jameson's name. On this tour, one of the friendly Jameson Ambassadors will guide you around some of our key buildings, including the warehouses and the Micro-Distillery. The tour finishes with your chance to do a guided comparative tasting of three famous whiskeys, one being Jameson. In addition, all guests receive a complimentary glass of Jameson. Duration 75 minutes.

Website: <https://www.jamesonwhiskey.com/en-ie/visit-our-distilleries/midleton-distillery-cork/>

Fun fact : Katherine Condon, Distiller at Jameson is a cousin of a number of the Crowley Clan Council Members !

The English Market - Trading since 1788 the current mix of traders in the English Market represents a diversity as broad as at any time over the centuries of its existence and is an essential item on any visitor's agenda – even the Queen of England stopped off here in May 2011!

Small stalls sit alongside larger businesses. Fledgling traders beside long-established family businesses passed down from one generation to the next. Meats and fish, herbs and spices, fruit and vegetables, sauces and oils, chocolates and cakes, cheeses and pastas – the Market caters for all culinary tastes and all eating occasions. Located in the City Centre.



Crawford Art Gallery, Emmett Place, Cork City. A National Cultural Institution and regional art museum for Munster, dedicated to the visual arts, both historic and contemporary. The collection comprises almost 4,000 works, ranging from eighteenth century Irish and European painting and sculpture, through to contemporary video installations. At the heart of the collection is a collection of Greek and Roman sculpture casts, brought to Cork in 1818 from the Vatican Museum in Rome.

Through its temporary exhibitions, publications and education programmes, the Crawford Art Gallery is committed to fostering recognition, critical assessment, and acknowledgement of historical and contemporary Irish and international art practice. Located in the heart of Cork city, the gallery is a critical part of Ireland's cultural and tourism infrastructure, welcoming almost quarter of a million visitors a year. Admission to the Gallery and to exhibitions is free.

4 **Michael Collins Centre** – Castlevew, Clonakilty. General Michael Collins (1890 -1922), Irish revolutionary and Chairman of the Provisional Government, was born on the 16th of October 1890 at Woodfield near Clonakilty and was one of the leading figures during the Irish struggle for independence from Britain. He was assassinated at Béal na Bláth County Cork, during the Civil War in August 1922.

At the Michael Collins Centre visitors can enjoy live illustrated presentations, audiovisuals and an impressive exhibition of Michael Collins artifacts, memorabilia, militaria and photographs. The audiovisuals include two films: one explores the sites in West Cork associated with Michael Collins and the other is a collection of archive footage and audio recordings.

As well as the Michael Collins exhibition, the Centre has smaller displays on two other historically significant figures with local connections: Henry Ford and former US President, John F. Kennedy. More Irish fought and died in the American Civil War, than in the Irish Civil War. You could argue that the American Civil War was part of the lead up to the Irish revolutionary period. Michael Collins Centre also has a small American Civil War collection.

Website: www.michaelcollinscentre.com/

This centre is run by our great friend of the Crowley Clan, Tim Crowley and his wife Dolores.



5 **Baltimore Castle**, Baltimore, Co Cork. Baltimore Castle, known as Dún na Séad castle, was built in 1215 by an Anglo-Norman, Sleynie. It became the chief residence of the O'Driscoll clan for 300 years and was the centre of administration for their trading and piratical activities.

In 1631 the castle narrowly escaped attack by a band of pirates from Algiers, who landed in Baltimore and took 107 captives to a life of slavery in North Africa. In 1649 it became a garrison for Cromwellian troops, after which it declined into a state of ruin. In 1997 the extensive task of restoration began, which restored the castle to its former splendour.

Major features to a visit of the castle include: a stroll through the Great Hall on the first floor, which contains furnishings, tapestries and an historical description of the castle's 800 year history.

Pirate exhibition giving graphic details of Baltimore's piratical history, including "The Sack of Baltimore" in 1631; a view of archaeological details on castle grounds and a display of archaeological finds; a walk on to the battlements, which offers an unimpeded view of the roof restoration and provides a commanding view of Baltimore harbour and the islands.

March 1st to October 31st, 11am to 6pm daily. Website: <https://www.baltimorecastle.ie/>



6 Gougane Barra – Gougane Barra in West Cork has one of the most naturally spectacular unspoilt landscapes in Ireland, surrounded by mountains, a lake and the country’s first national park. It is the location of a famous holy island in the middle of this lake, that is linked by a causeway to the mainland. Since the 6th Century this island has been associated with the patron saint of Cork, St. Finbarr, and contains numerous religious buildings dating from the 17th to 20th centuries. The present St. Finbarr’s Oratory (1906) sits on this island and is a popular destination for pilgrims, visitors and weddings from all over the world. The River Lee rises in the mountains above Gougane Barra and makes its journey through villages, lakes and reservoirs before reaching the sea at Cork City Harbour, 89km away. Website: www.gouganebarra.com/



7 Dursey Island Tour - Beara has often been called the treasure of Ireland’s South West coastline with its raw and rugged shoreline and breath-taking scenery. Baoi Walking Tours combine folklore and local tradition whilst uncovering layers of history hidden within the landscape of this beautiful Peninsula; discover megalithic monuments, ruined vestiges of a vanished Gaelic aristocracy, Napoleonic war towers, and chimneys of the Industrial Revolution while enjoying the peninsula’s dramatic beauty. Learn about Irish mythology and legends of pirates, copper miners, lighthouse rescues, and The Bull, Cow and Calf Rocks. Wildflower and wildlife identification also included in the tours. Website: <https://bearabaoitours.com/>



8 West Cork Farm Tours - On a West Cork Farm Tour, you'll gain a unique insight into Irish farming practices and communities. It's a great way to connect with the people who help to produce the food West Cork is renowned for!

You'll spend time with some of Ireland's most innovative farmers and creative food producers, and enjoy spending time in nature. Immerse yourself in the vibrant communities that set West Cork apart - a West Cork Farm Tour is a great way to get to know this unspoilt region where tradition and innovation go hand in hand.

Please note that all tours must be booked or scheduled in advance.

Website: www.westcorkfarmtours.com



9 Aquaventures - Marine Wildlife Tours & Diving at The Stone House, Lifeboat Road, Baltimore, Co. Cork. Located in West Cork on the Wild Atlantic Way, Aquaventures in Baltimore offers something for everyone interested in water adventures. Coastal Eco Tours (Birds, Seals, Whale & Dolphin Watching). Accommodation in "The Stone House" B&B. Top-rated on Trip Advisor.



10 **Schull Sailing Centre** at Colla Road, Schull, Co. Cork. The sheltered waters of Roaringwater Bay are an ideal place to learn how to sail or train to be an Olympian. Come and enjoy the beauty of West Cork while developing your sailing skills.

Course and activities include sailing Courses, powerboat instruction, keelboat courses, kayaking & windsurfing. Website: www.schullsailing.ie/



11 Cahervagliair Ringfort and Kinneigh Round Tower



Coppeen and its surrounding areas hold a wealth of historical sites, monuments, information, and of unique archaeological features. The fort of Cahervagliair is one of these unique sites. It is a bivallate ringfort and was one of the chief residences of the Cineál Laoighaire. It has been suggested that the name comes from the Fort of the Son of Laoighaire “Cathair Mhac Laoighaire” and may have been built around 1100 AD . The Cineal Laoighaire included clan Shelbhaig or Shelly from which the name of the territory Kilshallow derives. When Kilshallow was conquered by the O’Crowleys in the 13th century and later formed a recognised lordship in the 15th century it included the area of Coppeen which remained in O’Crowley hands until the early 17th century.



Kinneigh Round tower and monastery dates from the 11th century. Kinneigh was, in ancient times, the centre of the small Diocese of Kinneigh and site of a monastery. The round tower was part of the monastery of St.Barthlomew which was created around 617 a.d. by St.Colman, later destroyed by Norse raiders and moved to this new site in 916 a.d. .The tower was built around the beginning of the 11th century and is the only surviving part of the monastery. The Kinneigh comes from Cian O'Mahony, a prominent chief at the time and protector of the monastery.

There are around 64 round towers in Ireland, but only two in County Cork, the other being in Cloyne. The Kinneigh example is unique for its hexagonal base. It is built of dressed slate, the craftsmanship being exemplary.

Kinneigh was a prominent ecclesiastical center. These church lands bordered O'Crowley territory so Kinneigh naturally became the ecclesiastical center of the clan. The graveyard bears numerous Crowley graves some dating the late 1700s. It is near Kinneigh, at Kinneighbeg that the last chiefs of the clan elected residence after O'Crowley castle at Ahakeera was destroyed during the Elizabethan war.

Address to Cahervagliair Ringfort : COPPEEN WEST, ENNISKEANE, CO. CORK P47 HN28

Address to Kinneigh Round Tower : SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, KINNEIGH,
ENNISKEANE, CO. CORK, P47 W023

Where to eat and drink in Cork

The standard of food in Cork is high, so this is just a selection of great places to eat.

Cork City

Ristorante Rossini, 33 Princes Street – Best Italian in Cork City ! website: <https://rossini.ie/>

Son of a Bun, 29 MacCurtain Street – Burgers, Wings, Oreo Sundae etc. Yum.

Website: <https://www.sonofabun.ie/>

Strasbourg Goose, 17-18 French Church Street. – French/Irish cooking, with a very reasonable price.

Kinsale

Man Friday, Scilly, Kinsale, Co. Cork – Steak & Seafood website: www.manfridaykinsale.ie

Fishy Fishy, Kinsale, Co. Cork -Fish, naturally ! website www.fishyfishy.ie

Bandon

Poachers, Clonakilty Rd, Gully, Bandon, Co. Cork Steak & Seafood website:

<https://poachers.ie/>

Copper Grove, 1 Kilbrogan Hill, Bandon, Co. Cork Irish/International

website: <https://coppergrove.ie/>

Clonakilty

An Súgán Restaurant & Guesthouse, 41 Wolfe Tone Street, Clonakilty, Co. Cork Steak & Seafood

Website: <https://www.ansugan.com/restaurant>

Rosscarbery

Market House Restaurant, 10 South Square, Townlands, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork, P85 KX28

Glandore

Glandore Inn, Glandore, Co. Cork <https://www.facebook.com/p/Glandore-Inn-100045427730034/>

Union Hall

Dinty's Bar, Union Hall, Co. Cork Steak & Seafood <https://www.facebook.com/p/Dintys-Bar-100045245541671/>

Skibbereen

Church Restaurant, Coronea, Skibbereen, Co. Cork, P81 EE95 Irish/International

website: <https://thechurchrestaurant.ie/>

Baltimore

Bushes, Baltimore, Co. Cork

website: <https://www.bushesbar.com/>