

County Kerry

Many refer to Kerry as Ireland's natural Adventure "Playground".

Whether climbing Irelands highest peaks, Carrantuohill or Mount Brandon, or navigating the challenging sounds of our offshore islands, The Skellig (Sceilg) and Blasket Islands, adventure here is complimented by the majesty of our surroundings, craggy mountain ranges rolling down to the dramatic cliffs and shores of three magnificent peninsulas, The Ring of Kerry (Iveragh), Dingle and Beara peninsulas.

Killarney, the main population centre, is alive with a wide selection of shops, restaurants and bars and is a constant hive of activity. It is surrounded by magnificent lakes and mountains in every direction much of it a National Park at the centre of which is Muckross House and Abbey.

Any visit to Kerry should include a trip to the Dingle Peninsula, a walk on Inch strand or an evening in the vibrant town of Dingle. Travel via Annascaul and drop into the "South Pole Inn" named by its former proprietor Tom Crean, a fellow traveller with Scott of the Antarctic. Dingle, a big fishing town, is an attractive brightly coloured place full of craft shops, bars and restaurants.

From here take a boat trip to the Blasket Islands or travel round Slea Head alongside magnificent views of the coastline and at the other side of the Peninsula to Cloghane and Castlegregory and the wonderful views of Mount Brandon and the Slieve Mish mountains.

Tralee, not only famous for the "Rose of Tralee" competition, is the county town and a gateway to the region. The Aqua Dome, the Steam Railway, horse and greyhound racing, historic buildings as well as good shopping and a range of first-class pubs and cafes are just some of the attractions in this thriving town.





BLACK VALLEY

Killarney

Nestled in a mountain valley on the edge of a glorious lake, Killarney is renowned for its natural beauty and has been a favourite tourist destination since the 17th century.

Today Killarney town blends quaint tradition with contemporary style and service. The jaunting cars still carry visitors around the scenic highlights and the picturesque cobbled laneways are as bright and colourful as ever, but the bustling streets are now lined with independent craft shops, small galleries, traditional pubs, fine restaurants and plenty of accommodation options, making the town a great base to explore the region's lush landscape and stunning vistas.

Killarney is the gateway to the Killarney National Park, one of the country's best-loved parks, with its magnificent scenery, famous lakes and numerous historical and archaeological remains. You can visit the stunning Victorian Muckross House, the atmospheric ruins of Muckross Abbey, medieval Ross Castle or the tranquil ruined monastery on Innisfallen. Elsewhere picturesque waterfalls cascade between the rocks making their way down the slopes to the stunning lakes at the heart of the park.

West of the Killarney valley the dramatic MacGillicuddy's Reeks, Ireland's highest mountain range, form a backdrop to the park and offer fantastic outdoor opportunities for hikers and climbers. The area also offers ample choice for golfing, fishing; horse-riding, canoeing, cycling and swimming, letting you choose how best to experience the natural highlights of the area.

Take a leisurely lake cruise, explore the dramatic Gap of Dunloe or enjoy the ethereal mists at Ladies View and soon you will understand why this area has been an inspiration to poets, writers, artists and musicians for many centuries.

