

# FERMANAGH & BEYOND

#### CONTENTS

The Historic sites of County Fermanagh	3
Visit Enniskillen	4
Places of Interest in Enniskillen	6
Irish Castles and Ruins	9
Suggested Day Trips	12
Nearby Shopping	18
Eating out	19
Local Entertainment	21
Church Services	22
Golf Courses	23
Beaches	26
Horseriding	26
Fishing	27

#### THE HISTORIC SITES OF COUNTY FERMANAGH

County Fermanagh has several sites of early settlements, many of which are on islands on Lough Erne. Islands gave these early settlers some natural protection against the Vikings and raiding clans from neighbouring counties. The county derived its name from Fir Manach the men of Manach—who came from Leinster in about 200 AD. They settled around the Lisnaskea area, spoke Gaelic and practised the religion of the Druids.

However, by the 5th Century they were converted by Christian Missionaries. These early Christian times bequeathed to Fermanagh the extensive remains of St. Molaise's monastery on Devenish Island and its Round Tower. The mysterious statues on White Island are considered as part Pagan, part Christian. Fermanagh fell victim to many battles and raids from Vikings and neighbouring tribes during the middle ages, but the reign of the most famous chiefs, the Maguires was in general, peaceful. The Maguire's indeed ruled the county in the 1300s, responsible for building sturdy castles such as; Monea, Tully and Crevenish.

#### THINGS TO DO IN FERMANAGH

This is the most famous on the southern end of l Round Tower and Monas Round 'O' in Enniskillen
A number of popular wa Archdale, Florence Cour Navar Viewpoint and Jer tourist centre in town, v maps of many areas in F
It is possible to hire boat different places in Ferm Marine, Lusty Beg and T
Bicycles can be hired fro bike trails and mountain Blessingbourne Mountai excellent modern track Olympic course in Beijin in Castle Archdale, Lusty Centre.



OFF-SITE ACTIVITIES

s monastic site in Fermanagh. It is situated Flower Lough Erne, and has a well-preserved astic ruins. It is reached by a ferry from the en. Tours last 1hr 45mins.

valking routes include Tully Castle, Castle art, Castlecoole, Marble Arch Geo Park, Lough enkin Lakes. For more information, visit the where you can buy a booklet with detailed Fermanagh and further afield.

ats for fishing and cruising at many managh. Carrybridge Marina, Manor House The Share Centre to name a few.

rom a number of places—some include in bike trails as well. The closest is ain Bike trail in Fivemiletown which is an c designed by Phil Saxena—who designed the ing. There are also biking facilities and trails ty Beg, Sliabh Beagh and Corralea Activity

#### **VISIT ENNISKILLEN**

Enniskillen is the County Town of Fermanagh. The county derived its name from Fir Manach—the men of Manach. Settlers came from Leinster in the second century who, according to legend, killed Eanna the King's son and had to flee the county, so they came north and settled near Lisnaskea.

Enniskillen (population 14,000) gets it name from Inis Ceithleann, the Island of Kathleen. The ancient Celtic Queen, Kathleen, wife of Balor of the Mighty Blows, according to local legend took refuge on this island when fleeing from battle.

During the Ulster Plantation the island was chosen as a strategic site for the major town area. It was formerly a Maguire stronghold and the Headquarters of a junior branch of the Maguire medieval chieftains of Fermanagh.

In 1607, Captain William Cole, a planter of Cornish origin, became governor of Enniskillen and in 1612 a Charter was granted by James I to Captain Cole for the formation of a county town. The Cole family were later to become Earls of Enniskillen. The town was to play a major role in the rebellions of 1641 and 1689 and its involvement in the Jacobite Wars led to the formation of its two famous regiments—The Inniskilling Dragoons and The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Their finest hour came in 1690 when William himself led them in the final charge on the Boyne. Neither of the regimental depots are in Enniskillen. The 6th Inniskilling Dragoons are now based at Catterick, Yorkshire, and in 1968 the 27th Inniskilling Fusiliers were amalgamated with the Royal Irish Rangers.

Today, the island town of Enniskillen is the main commercial centre and administrative headquarters of County Fermanagh. The town is twinned with Brackwede, a suburb of Bielefeld, in Westphalia, Germany. In 1958, the Band of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards stationed at Sennelager, was invited to take part in the 'Shooting Festival' in Brackwede. It was through the friendly relationship between the regiment and the people of Brackwede that the official contacts were made in 1959. The partnership is still active and exchange visits are made each year in conjunction with the Brackwede/Bielefeld-Enniskillen/Fermanagh Society. A Special German Week took place in Fermanagh in September 1998 to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of this twinning arrangement.



#### PLACES OF INTEREST IN ENNISKILLEN

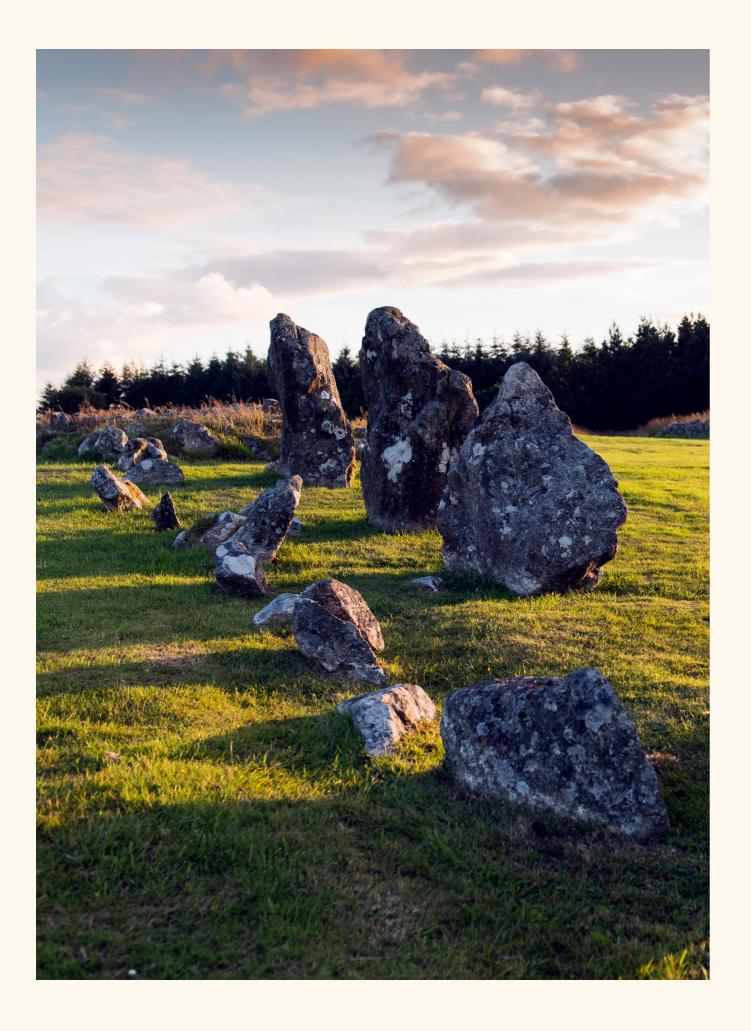
FERMANAGH COUNTY MUSEUM	The Castle incorporates the Heritage Centre and Museum of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and offers visitors the chance to step back in time and enjoy the history of Fermanagh. The award-winning displays will guide you through the wetlands of Fermanagh following the progression from early farming techniques up to the establishment of industries such as Belleek Pottery and lace making.	ST. MACARTIN'S CATHEDRAL	St. Macartin was a conv physical strength who a declining years. It was t provide a church and a church was St. Macartir built about 1627. The da the date of the tower—t 1840, it was consecrated
ENNISKILLEN CRAFT AND DESIGN CENTRE	Situated at the former Buttermarket, visitors are welcome to visit the craft workshops where they can watch traditional crafts being made. The Boston Quay craft shop has a wide selection of products to buy and now also concentrates on craft making offering classes in knitting and stitching. There is also a pottery run by Ann McNulty, a local well-known and admired potter specialising in raku works. Frankie McPhillips makes flies and has an impressive		is supposed to have been which themselves were the Boyne. The font date Reverand George Walke figures in the chancel a and John Willoughby Co
	reputation selling to many exclusive shops. There is a nice café and the general ambience is very agreeable as it is an original building and has been restored very sympathetically.	COURT HOUSE	An 18th Century buildir and recently restored. T of the entrances four Do
ENNISKILLEN	Beautifully situated overlooking the River Erne, the school was	ST. MICHAEL'S	Designed by John O'Nei
ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL	established by James I in 1608. It was originally built at Lisnaskea but re-sited on Protora Hill in 1777. Past pupils include most famously Oscar Wilde, Samuel Beckett and Henry Francis Lyte, the author of 'Abide with Me.'	CHURCH	architects working in th French Gothic Revival s 1875. On the left-hand a Christ by Charles Russe Window, the pulpit with by William Scott in 1922
	Situated in the grounds of Portora Royal School—and built in 1612 by Sire William Cole—on a strategic site commanding the entry of		
CASTLE	Lower Lough Erne. This was the residence of the Cole family until they moved to Florence Court in 1764. The castle was partially destroyed when school boy experiments led to an explosion in 1859 and further damage was caused by gales in 1894. Today only part of the castle can be distinguished.	TOWN HALL	In 1897, a competition f Century Market House, old market, was organis the prize of fifty pounds town hall, which in styl treatment of the Renais
DRUMSKINNEY STONE CIRCLE	To be found 4.5 miles north of Kesh—the stone circle is said to be one of the best examples in Northern Ireland. The circle is 43ft in diameter and originally had 39 stones.		and has been refurbish administrative headqua are two niches on the to Dragoon and Fusilier.

onvert of St. Patrick. He was a man of great to apparently carried St. Patrick in the Saint's as the responsibility of Sir William Cole to d a school. The school was Portora and the rtin's. The first protestant parish church was date 1637 over the main entrance, is probable to the only part which survived. Rebuilt in ated as a Cathedral in 1923. One of the bells been recast from the William and Mary Bells, ere cast from a cannon used at the Battle of lates back to 1666. The pulpit is that used by lker in Derry Cathedral during the siege. The el are the Honourable Sir Galbraith Lowry Cole y Cole, the second Earl of Enniskillen.

ding remodelled in 1821 by William Farrell d. There is a contrast between the austerity r Doric columns, and the delicacy of the round.

Neill, one of the most distinguished Catholic in the north in the 19th Century. Built in the al style, it was dedicated on St. Patrick's Day, d aisle are depicted scenes from the life of ssell. The principle features are the Nativity with its Celtic interlace decoration, designed 921, and the Italian Gothic High Altar.

n for a new building to replace the 18th se, which stood on the site of William Cole's nised. A. Scott and Son Drogheda won nds by producing the plans of the present tyle is in the words of the architect, "a free aissance." The building was complete in 1901 shed a number of years ago. It houses the quarters of the Council. On the exterior, there e tower which hold models of Inniskilling



#### IRISH CASTLES AND RUINS

TULLY CASTLE	It is off the A46 Enniski The castle was the site o reasonably intact. The g
MONEA CASTLE	An Elizabethan castle bu in 1750. Take the B81 Der church in Monea turn rig turn right through the g
ENNISKILLEN CASTLE	The castle was built in t Hospitable, brother of t who ruled Fermanagh f command the River Ern the end of the 16th Cent only part of the original feature of the castle is t on Scottish design and t decorative purposes.
THE MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS	The museum traces the Regiment from its form times. It features a wide memorabilia and medal
WHITE ISLAND	There are some fascinat the island. It is reached lasts approximately 1 ho
	FERRY OPERATES: April – June, September July – August · Daily · Public Holidays · Daily
THE JANUS STONE	This is a very unusual p Its origins are steeped is a graveyard at the back hand side of the road in
THE BISHOPS STONE	This is an unusual stone the side of the stone is th Park your car on the left yard and the stone is on

xillen Road to Belleek Road, close to Blaney. of a bloody massacre in 1641, and is still garden has been restored.

uilt in 1619 on a wonderful site last inhabited errygonnelly Road out of Enniskillen. By the right. At the top of the hill on a left hand bend, gates and park in the car park.

the early 15th Century by Hugh the the Maguire Chieftain Thomas the Great, from his base in Lisnaskea. Built to ne, it remained a Maguire stronghold until ntury. The lower walls of the Keep are the al castle which remains. The most distinctive the Watergate which appears to be based I to have been erected by Cole purely for

e history of a distinguished Enniskillen mation in the 17th Century up to modern de range of uniforms, weapons, regimental als.

ating stone figures in a small church ruin on d by ferry from Castle Archdale. Return trip nour.

er · Sat & Sun · 11.00 am - 5.00 pm 11.00 am - 5.00 pm y · 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

pre-Christian stone carved on two sides. in mystery and fable. It can be found in k of the Belleek end of Boa Island at the left n Caldragh Cemetery.

e found in Killadeas Church graveyard. On the carving of a Bishop with the crook and bell. ft-hand side of the road outside the church n the right of the church over a small wall.





#### SUGGESTED DAY TRIPS

#### TOUR TO DONEGAL Leave Enniskillen on A46 to Belleek. It takes about 30 minutes to Belleek. Tully Castle is well worth seeing, which is half way, just beyond Blaney. Go left at Blanet and visit the view point, you can turn to take advantage of the view (bring binoculars if you have them). There is a very pleasant coffee shop in a thatched cottage in the centre of Belleek. The Explore Erne Exhibition, and the Belleek Pottery museum are also worth a visit. Snacks are available at the pottery. Continue on the R281 having crossed the border to Ballyshannon. Turn right in Ballyshannon and join N15 to Donegal.

Go to the Smugglers Creek, Rosnowlagh for a good lunch with spectacular views. To reach Smugglers Creek turn left at the top of the hill in Ballyshannon and take the R231 to Rosnowlagh. Donegal has now got a by-pass.

In Donegal town, a tour of the tweed shop Magee Tweeds is recommended. The shop is in the centre of the town on the far side of the square as you enter from Ballyshannon. There are boat trips available into Donegal Bay, the pier is on the left before entering the town.

Continue on to Slieve league and drive up to the top where you will enjoy spectacular views of the highest cliffs in Europe. Stop for a Guinness on your return at the Rusty Mackerel pub.

If you have time after visiting Slieve League continue on to the Glencolmcille folk village with spectacular beach.

TOUR TO ARMAGH

Armagh is the religious capital of Ireland and is full of historic sites and places of interest.

The two cathedrals and the centre of Armagh should be visited, and there are plenty of places to eat.

The tourist information centre is located on English Street. This will have information on what to visit in the area.

The main points of interest are:

ST PATRICK'S TRIAN

THE PALACE STABLES

ARMAGH PLANETARIUM..... ...028 3752 3689 Located on the Portadown Road out of Armagh. Excellent site, however children would need to be at least eight years old to get the full benefit. It is advisable to book seats especially in the

summer.

Return to Colebrooke by heading north out of Armagh on A29 to Moy and then join A4 at the roundabout near Dungannon.

Leave Colebrooke on the Belfast Road A4 to Augher. Turn right and go through Aughnacloy and Caledon to Armagh.

Located beside the Tourist info centre, it gives the story of Armagh.

A heritage centre exploring a day in the life of the Palace in 1776.

#### TOUR TO SLIGO

Take the N16 to Sligo. Look out for the 'Ballroom of Romance' at Glenfarne, it is on the left hand side of the road. After Manorhamilton, you will see some spectacular scenery and a view of Sligo Bay. There are some lay-bys on the ride-hand side to stop at. If you wish to visit the lake in the valley, then turn around and head back to Manorhamilton, and take the first left-hand turn signposted to Glencar Lough. There is a good tea shop near the lake.

Sligo is a lively town with a wide selection of good cafes, restaurants, pubs and shops. The town has no less than seven bookshops, including an excellent second-hand one. The road out of Sligo to the airport and Strandhill, takes you to the mountain of Knocknarea. On the summit, is the burial site of Queen Maeve, who was said to have snakes in her hair, and led raids into Ulster to steal cattle. Strandhill Beach is one of Europe's best surfing beaches.

THE PERFECT DAY SURF SCHOOL.....00 353 71 912 8488

The Perfect Day Surf School and Shop provides for the needs of all surfers. All necessary equipment and clothing are supplied for lessons.

THE CELTIC SEAWEED BATHS......00 353 71 916 8686

The road north of Sligo on the N15 takes you past Yeat's grave at Drumcliffe, which is on the right hand side of the road by a small church. Further along the N15, signposted to the left you come to Lissadell House, the former home of the Gore-Booth family. Lissadell's a fascinating house to visit and W.B. Yeats spent much of his time here. Mullaghmore is north of here and has a wonderful beach and harbour. It is to be reached by turning left off the N15.



#### TOUR TO THE GIANTS CAUSEWAY

This trip will take the whole day so an early start is advisable.

Leave Colebrooke for Coleraine then follow the signs to Portrush and then the Giants Causeway. Dunluce Castle is on the left before the Causeway.

CARRICK-A-REDE ROPE BRIDGE......028 2072 3339

After visiting the Causeway, head for the Carrick-a-Rede Rope bridge. This is not for the faint hearted but children love it. It is open daily from 12.00 pm to 6.00 pm from June to September. In May and September it is only open at weekends.

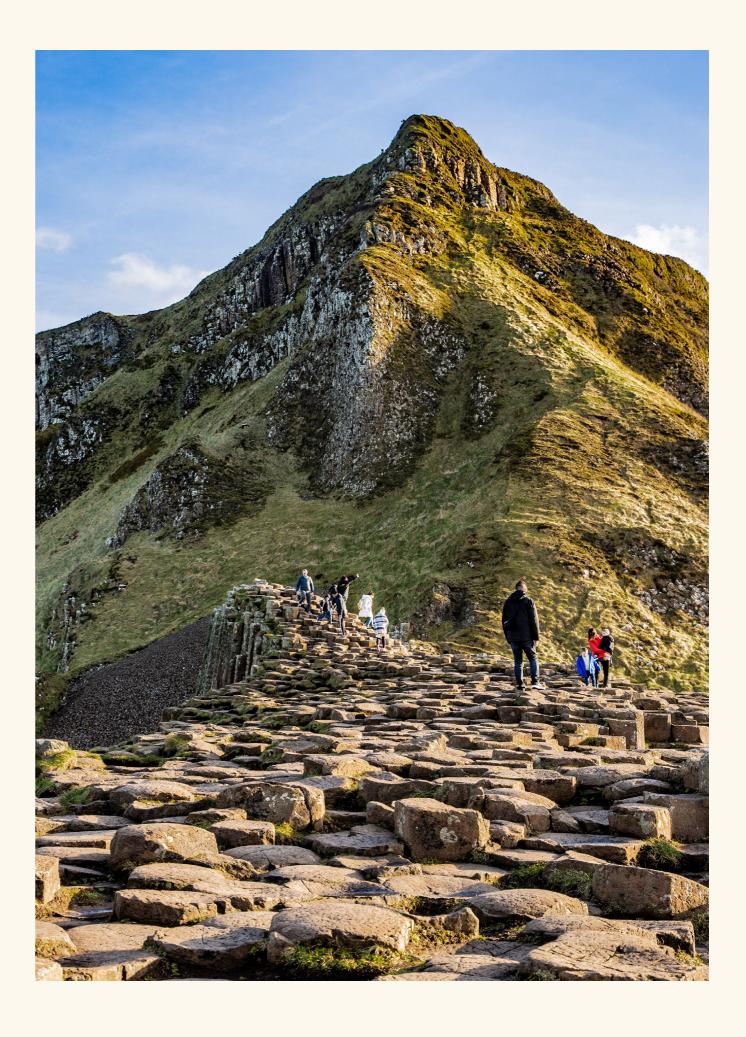
BALLINTOY HARBOUR......028 2072 3339

On the way to the Rope Bridge, there is a turn off for Ballintoy Harbour on your left-hand side. This is a quaint little harbour and has a tea room and toilets open in the summer months.

A tour of the Whiskey Distillery at Bushmills is interesting, and there is a chance to sample the goods at the end. Tours leave every half hour.

A good place for lunch is the Bushmills Inn in the centre of Bushmills.

If you have time, continue around the coast until you get to Glenarm castle—you can view the walled garden and there is a great shop and cafe.



#### NEARBY SHOPPING

#### EATING OUT

Sterling, i.e., Northern I in England, only banks If visiting the Republic :	print their own money, as in Scotland, but shops will accept all ireland notes, Scottish notes and Bank of England notes. However, will exchange Northern Ireland bank notes. from Colebrooke, exchange Sterling into Euro in a bank as shops bad exchange rate. Banks will not exchange coins.	BLACKLION - 35-40 MIN DRIVE	MACNEANS BISTRO This is in the Republic of can use a credit card. A is more reasonably pric become internationally be absolutely essential.
BROOKEBOROUGH	There is a very good chemists, Spar, post office and butcher's shop in Brookesborough. The doctor's surgery is in Tanyard's Lane just off the main street. There is also a takeaway and a number of pubs.	CARRY BRIDGE - 15-20 MIN DRIVE	CARRY BRIDGE HOTEL Fine for bar lunches an carvery lunch. Children situated on Lough Erne
FIVEMILETOWN	There is a Co-Op, a Spar, chemists, hardware store and a few boutiques selling clothes, shoes and household goods. There is also a vets and two garages.	ENNISKILLEN - 12-20 MIN DRIVE	ARDHOWEN THEATRE. Open for lunch from 12 menu and light meals b
LISNASKEA	There is Supervalu supermarket with an off-licence and garage on the main street. There is also a Lidl store by the roundabout as you enter the town as well as numerous beauty salons, hair salons, shops, chemists, post office and fast food outlets.		signposted on entering CAFÉ MERLOT Open daily for lunch ar dining and has an exter service. Booking is reco
ΤΕΜΡΟ	Tempo has a chemists and two small supermarkets. It also has a very good butchers shop called Nixons.		the Cathedral.
ENNISKILLEN	BUTCHERS Stewarts—Church Street (opposite the Cathedral)— and O'Doherty's—Belmore Street (opposite the Cenotaph)—they are famous for Fermanagh Black Bacon. OFF-LICENCES Asda, Tesco and Dunnes Stores. CLOTHES Armstrong and Kingston, Erneside Shopping Centre has M&S and various high street brands. There is also a Benetton on the high street. Home Field and Stream on the high street will supply all your country needs i.e., shooting, fishing, wellies and waterproofs. GIFTS/CRAFTS		Good food at lunchtime Regular live music in the DOLLAKIS Greek inspired food, fr but is slightly more cro priced. Very friendly, ju FRANCO'S Good choice of menu, e reputation for very slov a good 'early bird' men MANOR HOUSE HOTEL Very good for bar snacl expensive. Booking is a

EL.....028 6638 7282 and evening meals – they do a good Sunday ren's meals available. Nice views as it is ne.

RE.....028 6632 5254 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm, Monday – Saturday. Good s but glorious views over Lough Erne. Clearly ng Enniskillen.

and dinner. Restaurant offers contemporary tensive wine list. Excellent food and good commended. Located on Church Street before

.....028 6632 5252 me but gets rather crowded and noisy at night. the evenings. Located on the High Street.

fresh and simple but delicious. Good for lunch crowded at night. Good service and reasonably , just off the High Street.

EL.....028 6862 1561 ack menu. Restaurant menu good but s advisable, especially at weekends. Excellent

### LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT

KAMAL MAHAL INDIAN	
	, also some European food. Buffet king recommended at weekends. back of the town hall.
KILLYHEVLIN HOTEL	
	mart dinner at reasonable prices. ver Lough Erne. Located on the way
MAUDS	
	specially for children. Mauds also ed on Wellington Road. Try the Pooh
ERNE DYNASTY CHINESE	
Located beside McDonalds on th Also does takeaways.	ne Dublin Road. Good value for food
HORSESHOE BAR RESTAURAN	T028 6632 6223
Opposite roundabout in Belmor and service.	re Street. Good value for money
DON CARRAGH HOTEL	
Bar food available all day, resta lunch. Located on the main stre	urant open evenings and Sunday eet.
THE KISSIN' CRUST	
Coffee shop located on the main traditional lunch or snack. Hon traybakes etc. Open Monday – S	nemade pies, sandwiches,
GILEECE'S	
Excellent take away with authe hand side of the road just beyon	ntic fish and chips. Situated on lef
WATERMILL	
Recently opened. Excellent food	

ARDHOWEN THEATRE -	The theatre by the lakes, situa A 290-seat theatre, designed t and theatre productions.
028 6632 3233	
ENNISKILLEN OMNIPLEX CINEMA	Located on Factory Road, the o Bookings please call 0871 720 what's on in the local papers, on Wednesday and Impartial
FERMANAGH LAKELAND FORUM SPORTS COMPLEX	This modern sports complex o sports including swimming, s for children, a high-tech fitne all the latest equipment and n
-	OPENING HOURS:
028 6632 4121	Monday – Friday · 08.00 am – Saturday · 10.00 am – 6.00 pr Sunday · 2.00 pm – 6.00 pm

LISNASKEA

10 MIN DRIVE

-

tes, situated on the Dublin Road, Enniskillen. esigned to stage the most ambitious musical ons.

oad, the cinema has six screens. Credit Card 0871 720 0400. There is a weekly guide of papers, the Fermanagh Herald is published npartial Reporter published on Thursday.

omplex offers facilities for indoor and outdoor nming, sauna, athletics track, soft play area ech fitness suite (recently renovated) with ent and many more classes and activities.

.00 am - 10.30 pm – 6.00 pm

#### CHURCH SERVICES

## GOLF COURSES

CHURCH OF IRELAND	Colebrooke Church in on the Estate and can be seen from the cottage. Services are every Sunday at 11.45 am. Communion	ENNISKILLEN	An 18 hole course set in course, so there are mat
	every 2nd Sunday.	028 6632 5250	
ROMAN CATHOLIC	ST. MARY'S (BROOKEBOROUGH) Saturday 8.00 pm	CASTLE HUME	A championship 18 hole
	FIVEMILETOWN CHAPEL Sunday 12.00 pm	028 6632 7077	
	COONEEN CHAPEL Sunday 10.00 am	BUNDORAN CLUB -	Built in 1990 it is level b all young and newly pla
PRESBYTERIAN	CAVANALECK (FIVEMILETOWN) Sunday 11.00 am & 7.00 pm	00 353 71 984 1302 DONEGAL CLUB	A links course with nice miles north of Ballintra
		- 00 353 74 973 4054	
		SLIEVE RUSSELL	18 hole championship c
		00 353 49 952 5090	
		LOUGH ERNE -	18 hole par 72 Faldo cha patron. Extremely chall

028 6634 5766

in the ground of Castle Coole. It is an old nature trees—it is also hilly.

ole links course. Par 70.

el but has some water hazards. Trees are blanted.

lice views over Donegal Bay. Situated two tra.

o course.

hampionship course with Rory M as the allenging and spectacular.



#### BEACHES

#### FISHING

The nearest beaches are in County Donegal or County Sligo. In all cases take the A46 from Enniskillen to Belleek. Cross the border and it becomes the R230.

In Ballyshannon you join the N15 by turning left at the top of the hill, take the road signposted to Rossnowlagh. The beach here can be crowded in summer and quite rough but great for a blowy walk. It is particularly enhanced by the Smugglers Inn above the beach on the hill top that has amazing views, great Guinness and reasonable food.

A prettier beach is to be found at Mullaghmore (take the M15 from Ballyshannon). It is bigger and has sand dunes at the back of the beach. The village of Mullaghmore is small and has a pretty harbour. Great photo opportunities here. In Ballyshannon go straight on to Bundoran, the surf capital of Ireland on the M15. There are several surf schools in Bundoran and the beach to the right of the town is very popular.

Other beaches worth making the trip to see are Maghera beach and caves, Portnoo Strand, Fintra, St John's Point, and the Silver Strand all are in Donegal.

#### HORSE RIDING

**RIDING AT** ASHBROOKE HOUSE

Guests can bring their own horses. We supply stabling, hay, bedding, turnout, unlimited use of the indoor riding arena and 1000 acres of private hacking. Please contact us to inquire about pricing. We are in the process of procuring some horses for our guests to ride. Please contact us if you are interested in renting a horse for a lesson or hack whilst you are staying at Ashbrooke.

In order to fish on Lough Erne you must be in possession of a licence and a permit if you are over 18 years of age. However, fishing on the Colebrooke River is free and your safety is your responsibility. There is also access to fishing on three private lakes, one of which has rainbow trout.

COLEBROOKE RIVER - 028 6772 1877 (T)	The best fishing is d depending on the he catch and release on
07821 538548 (M)	
ESKRAGH LOUGH -	Excellent trout fishi is near to Dunganno
028 8776 7899 (T) 07836 540157 (M)	Note: ask for Donova
FISHING LESSONS	PATRICK TROTTER patrick_trotter@hot
	COLIN CHARTRES, I info@erneangling.co

ANDRIES FERRIERA pottieferr26@gmail

HUGH O'REILLY ...... h.oreilly@live.com

DAVY STINSON...... davystinson@pagi.org

luring April, May, June and September eight of the river. This is fly fishing and nly.

ing is available at Eskragh Lough, which on approximately 40 minutes away.

an or Ross when phoning.

	07821 538548
tmail.com	
ERNE ANGLING	07884 472121
A l.com	07710 407667
07726 412874/ 00 35	3 86 192 7819
	028 6863 1951



# ASHBROOKE