

carlow autumn walking festival 2021

friday 15th – sunday 17th october



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- choice of walks for beginner, experienced or advanced walkers
- themed walks including flora and fauna with rté's éanna ní lamhna, history and heritage, mindfulness and photographic walks
- family friendly walks
- bike hire rental along the river barrow daily

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e: info@carlowtourism.com
www.carlowtourism.com/walkingfestival



this festival is organised by carlow tourism with the support of carlow county council, carlow lcdc/ccdp, carlow sports partnership, fáilte ireland, tulloch mountaineering club, the blackstairs rammers and community volunteers

introduction

If you're a serious Rambler or just like to stretch your legs and enjoy the view, then the Carlow Autumn Walking Festival is for you!



guidelines for walkers – choose the walk that best suits your level of fitness

A Walk – very experienced hillwalkers

B Walk – experienced hillwalkers

C Walk – leisure / regular walkers

Walkers should be satisfied that they are fully capable of undertaking their chosen walk. If in doubt please consult the guides or organisers present. Attendees should consult the list of guidelines on www.carlowtourism.com/walkingfestival prior to arrival.

each walk features:

An experienced local guide, maps of each route, transport to/from start/finish of the walk if required, light refreshments (soup, sandwiches, tea/coffee).

All A and B walks depart at 9 a.m.

Please note that walks are popular and places fill up quickly. While we will endeavour to accommodate walkers at short notice, we ask that from Wednesday, October 13th, you register your participation by phoning 086-3665713.

description of routes

friday 15th october

b walk – walk 1 night hike

€20

description: the night hike route is weather dependent and is decided on the night, a torch is essential

registration: the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 6 p.m.

time: 6.30 p.m. **walking time:** approx. 3 hours

start and finish: the town hall, borris

A great opportunity to experience the magic of walking in the mountains at night time. Spectacular views of County Carlow and surrounding counties as seen through the autumn darkness. Experienced guides from local clubs who have regular night walks all year round will accompany the walk.

saturday 16th october

a walk – walk 2

€20

registration: the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 8.30 a.m.

start and finish: scullogue gap

distance: approx. 15 - 17 km **max height:** 795 metres

walking time: 7 hours approx.

An ideal location for a bracing hike, this walk takes in most of the higher peaks of the Blackstairs Mountains including Mount Leinster, Cloroge Mór, Cloroge Beg and Blackrock Mountain.

b walk – walk 3**€15**

scratoes bridge to myshall with éanna ní lamhna



registration: the community centre, myshall
R21 P797 from 8.30 a.m.

start point: scratoes bridge **finish point:** myshall village

distance: 13.7 km **max height:** 455 metres

This pleasant walk includes a variety of habitats which can be enjoyed as you walk to John's Hill and the windmills at Greenoge, passing by Croaghaun and Rossacurra before finishing in Myshall Village.

Éanna Ní Lamhna, environmentalist and RTÉ personality leads this walk highlighting the local flora and fauna to be enjoyed in the Blackstairs Mountains. Éanna will also be signing copies of her most recent book *Our Wild World*.

b walk – walk 4**€15**

walk through time – history and heritage of the blackstairs mountains

registration: rathanna community centre, rathanna, borris,
county carlow from 8.30 a.m.

start & finish: exact route decided on the day dep. at 9 a.m.
(transport to/from start/finish of walk)

distance: 13 km

The Blackstairs Mountains has a fascinating historical heritage. This four – five hour mountain walk explores its history with a focus on standing stones, ancient rock art, raths, dolmens, old settlements, a World War II bombing and a 1941 aircraft crash site. While still a mountain walk, time will be taken to look and talk about sites of historical interest and the overall history of the area. Normal hill walking gear is required.

b walk – walk 5**€15**

registration: the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 8.30.m.

start point: rathnageeragh castle **finish point:** nine stones

distance: 11.1 km **max height:** 520 metres

walking time: 5 hours approx.

This walk commences at Rathnageeragh Castle (in ruins) before ascending Slievebawn and then descending into Tomduff. From there the walk passes through Raheenkyle and Raheendarragh before ascending once again to finish at the Nine Stones vantage point.

b walk – walk 6**€15**

registration: ballymurphy hall, ballymurphy, borris,
county carlow from 8.30 a.m.

start point: coonogue, ballymurphy

distance: 10 - 12 km **max height:** 735 metres

walking time: 5 hours approx. **finish point:** knockmulgurry

A good introduction to the landscape of this beautiful mountainous area offering fabulous views of the surrounding countryside, from some of its main peaks including Blackstairs Mountain (735m) and the historic site of Caher Roe's Den and Carrigalachan Gap (463m).

b walk – walk 7 columban way**€15****registration:** the community centre, myshall
R21 P797 from 8.30 a.m.**start point:** nine stones, mount leinster**distance:** 12 km **walking time:** 5 hours approx.**finish point:** myshall village

The birthplace of Saint Columbanus, Ireland's first great European, can be traced to Mount Leinster and Myshall Village. Follow his journey taken during the 5th and early 6th century on his way to begin religious studies in Bangor, Co. Down. At the age of 48, Saint Columbanus travelled to Europe, founding monasteries in France, Germany and Austria before settling in Bobbio, Italy. Hear about the legacy of Saint Columbanus on our everyday lives.

**c walk – walk 8 mindfulness walk****€5****registration:** hadden's car park, kennedy ave, carlow 1.15 p.m.**bus transport:** Leaves hadden's car park, carlow town 1.40 p.m.**start point:** car park, clogrennane wood 2 p.m.**distance:** 3.5 km **walking time:** 1.5 hours approx.**finish point:** car park, clogrennane wood with return
transport to carlow town

Jack Byrne of Carlow Mental Health Association, leads a mindfulness walk through the beautiful Clogrennane Wood with magnificent views of Carlow and the River Barrow. Gain practical tips on positive mental attitude while appreciating the beautiful surroundings.

**c walk – walk 9 photography walk****€10****registration:** the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 10.45 a.m.**bus transport:** leaves borris town hall 11 a.m. or meet at start**start point:** kilbrannish north forest recreation area 12 noon**distance:** 3 km **walking time:** 2 hours approx.**finish point:** kilbrannish north forest recreation area or
return bus transport to borris

Ever wondered how to capture stunning pictures of bird, plant and wildlife? This informative walk led by Richard Smyth LIPF introduces you to the basic principles of photography in the wild. Bring along your camera or mobile phone and enjoy the wonderful views northwards over the plains of Carlow, along this well surfaced forest path.

sunday 17th october

a walk – walk 10		€20
registration:	the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 8.30.m.	
start point:	nine stones, mount leinster	
distance:	17.4 km	max height: 795 metres
walking time:	7 hours approx.	finish point: knockmulgurry
Starting from the Nine Stones you ascend Mount Leinster in a southerly direction. From the TV mast you proceed onto Knockroe before descending into Scullogue Gap. From there the walk again ascends onto Blackstair Mountain with stunning views over Carlow and Wexford.		
b walk – walk 11		€15
registration:	the town hall, borris. R95 R9VW from 8.30.m.	
start and finish:	near glynn, st. mullins	
distance:	13 km approx.	
This pleasant four to five hour walk takes in the stunning natural features of the south Blackstairs Mountains and the historic south Carlow area.		
b walk – walk 12 (for details see walk 4)		€15
walk through time – history and heritage of the blackstairs mountains		
registration:	ballymurphy hall, ballymurphy, borris, county carlow from 8.30 a.m.	
start & finish:	ballymurphy hall (transport to/from start/finish of walk)	
distance:	13 km	walking time: 5 hours approx.
c walk – walk 13		€10
registration/start/finish:	the mullicháin cafe, st mullins at 12 noon	
actual distance:	7km	walking time: 2 hours approx
This walk introduces and identifies a variety of wildlife including birds, insects and wild flowers. Stroll along this ancient towpath, past 250 year old lock gates and enjoy the stunning views of this stretch of the Barrow Valley between St. Mullins and Graiguenamanagh.		
c walk – walk 14 rathanna village		€10
registration/start:	rathanna village, opposite church at 3 p.m.	
actual distance:	7.5km	walking time: 2 hours approx
Mix history and heritage, flora and fauna in this fascinating walk. Passing St. Fortchern's Church, the route continues onwards towards Killedmond Bridge before ascending Tomduff Hill. 7.5km of pleasant walks primarily along country roads.		



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Government of Ireland



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2040



The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development
Europe investing in rural areas

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bike rentals and bike tours

location: graiguenamanagh bike hire
waterside guesthouse, the quay,
graiguenamanagh, co. kilkenny m: 086 408 4008
e: bike&hike@watersideguesthouse.com



Cost: adults €20 per day, €15 per half day. Children: €15 per day, €10 per half day.
Enjoy a leisurely cycle along the River Barrow or the Hidden Sky Road over the
stunning Blackstairs Mountains and through the villages of Myshall, Garryhill
and Borris.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION PACKAGES more available at www.carlowtourism.com/specialoffers

Mount Brandon Holiday Cottages

Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny
t: 059-9724789/085-7317501

w: www.mountbrandoncottages.com

€440 per week Autumn and Winter 2021.

€340 weekend (2 nights). €350 midweek (3 nights)



Avlon House B&B

Green Lane, Dublin Road, Carlow

t: 059-9174222 e: info@avlonhouse.com

w: www.carlowbedandbreakfast.com

Midweek: €45.00 per person sharing twin/double

Weekend: €50.00 per person sharing twin/double

10% reduction for booking via website. 7% reduction for two nights stay



Blackstairs Eco Trails

Borris, Co. Carlow.

t: 059-9773184/087-2707189

e: info@blackstairsecotrails.ie

w: www.blackstairsecotrails.ie

Shepherds Huts Staycation Deals!

4 Shepherds Huts for four nights €950

4 Shepherds Huts for 3 nights €800, 1 Shepherds Hut for 1 night €75



The Step House Hotel

Main Street, Borris, Co. Carlow.

t: 059-9773209

e: info@stephousehotel.ie w: www.stephousehotel.ie

Bed & Breakfast from €160 per room

Midweek escape: bed, breakfast and dinner for

two nights from €360 per room

10% off B&B when booking online – prices from € 144



Seven Oaks Hotel

Athy Road, Carlow

t: 059-9131308

e: info@sevenoakshotel.com

w: www.sevenoakshotel.com

Fabulous Friday Offers – from €89 per person
sharing – includes B&B, two course dinner and a
complimentary box of luxury chocolates.

Weekend break – €169 per person sharing – includes two nights B&B, two
course dinner on one evening with a complimentary box of luxury chocolates.

Midweek break – €139 per person sharing – includes two nights B&B, two
course dinner on one evening and a complimentary box of luxury chocolates.

