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The Top 10 Things to do in Kerry



County Kerry is endowed with the most spectacular scenery in all of Ireland with Ireland's two highest mountains governing the Ring of Kerry and Dingle Peninsula, Ireland's largest National Park (25,000 acres) at Muckross Killarney, containing Ireland's National Museum of traditional crafts, Ross Castle - Killarney, one of Ireland's finest restored 14th Century castles now open to the public. Kerry is a golfer's paradise with an abundance of both links and parkland courses, an oasis for walkers with acres of unspoilt mountain and parkland to roam.

1 Killarney National Park & Muckross Estate
Killarney, Co. Kerry

Lose yourself in the 25 thousand acres of Killarney National Park & Muckross Estate with its many walking trails. Killarney National Park comprises the Lakes of Killarney as well as the surrounding woodlands and mountains, McGillicuddy Reeks being the highest mountain range in Ireland. The most familiar part of the National Park is Muckross House dating from 1843, a former private residence where you can view the children's toys, the famous Killarney furniture of the library & drawing room & the famous specially prepared bedroom where Queen Victoria slept during her visit in 1861. The House and Gardens were bequeathed by the Bourne Vincent family in 1932 to become the first National Park in Ireland.

Jaunting Cars: A traditional feature of Killarney, jaunting cars are available for hire in the town and at other locations adjoining the National Park.

OPENING HOURS:
Garden open all year round.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Web: www.muckross-house.ie

2 Dingle Peninsula
Co. Kerry

Visit Europe's most westerly point, Sleat Head on the Dingle Peninsula and marvel at 8th Century Gallarus Oratory and Beehive huts. There is no other landscape in western Europe with the density and variety of archaeological artefacts of the Dingle Peninsula. It is impossible to visit the Dingle Peninsula and not be impressed by its archaeological heritage as one combines each site's folklore & mythology. Dingle boasts a wealth of remains from the Mesolithic Periods, Stone, Bronze and Iron ages. This area also has the largest collection of Ogham Stones (almost 70) which is the earliest form of Irish writing and a wealth of 'Beehive Huts' on its southern facing slopes. The Dingle Peninsula's isolated location on the edge of the known world was possibly the reason a concentration of Early Christian monastic sites were founded there. Indeed Ireland's second highest mountain Mt. Brandon is named after St. Brendan, a 6th century monk who is said to have sailed to America before Columbus.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Dingle Peninsula Tourism, Comharchumann Turasoireachta Chorca Dhuibhne, Dingle, Co. Kerry
Email: info@dingle-peninsula.ie

3 **The Gap of Dunloe & The Killarney Lakes**
Co. Kerry

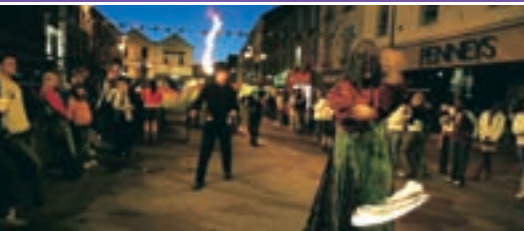


Explore the remoteness of the Gap of Dunloe and the beauty of Killarney Lakes. The ideal and perfect way to experience this is to avail of the Traditional Day trip. The 250 year old trip involves horse trap or walk (10kms) through the Gap of Dunloe amidst rugged mountains returning by boat through Killarney's three famous magical mystical lakes. This trip only goes once a day. It is essential to book either through your hotel, guesthouse or your local tourist office.

If weather does not permit or you do not have the time to avail of the Traditional Day trip you may drive to Kate Kearney's Cottage at the Gap of Dunloe and take a short stroll. Kate Kearney's cottage was a coaching inn where the hostess, Kate, allegedly cast her spell on all who entered and toasted them with her special brew. The cottage is now a pub and restaurant and there is every chance that you will also be enchanted, but in a much more benign way, by the warm welcome and the fun at the regular music sessions.

Ross Castle - built by O'Donoghue Mór in the 14th Century. Ross Castle is now one of the finest restored castles in Ireland. Guided tours available. From Ross Castle you can walk to the nearby Copper mines, the oldest copper mines in Western Europe.

4 **Tralee**
Co. Kerry



Live it up in Tralee, the capital of the Kingdom!

Visit Kerry's capital and take a trip to the Aqua Dome, a fun-filled time at Ireland's largest indoor water world with exciting features that capture the imagination of adults and children alike. From here you either embark on a journey on the old vintage steam train to Blennerville, which takes you to the door of the only functional windmill in Ireland. On returning to the town of Tralee take a journey of another kind at the Geraldine Experience at Ashe Memorial Hall, Denny Street where you will be transported back to the Tralee of 200 years ago with a journey through the streets, with their vivid sounds, smells and characters. To relax take a stroll on one of the many golden sandy beaches within 3 miles of the town centre.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Web: www.tralee.ie

5 **The Spectacular Ring of Kerry**
Co. Kerry



Explore the archaeological significance of Staigue Fort, Skellig Michael & the Ogham Stones and marvel at the skill of Kerry Gardens at Muckross, Derrynane and Glanleam.

Travel on the famous Ring of Kerry route on the Iveragh Peninsula. This trip of 110 miles is world famous for its diversity of landscape and beauty. It offers a wonderful coastal drive (or cycle for the more energetic) stopping en route in the charming villages of Killorglin, famous for crowning a goat each year as the King of Puck Fair, Glenbeigh where such legends as Tir na nOg (land of eternal youth) were born, Cahirciveen (where the locals applied to the Pope in Rome to have their church named in honour of their hero), Waterville (where Charlie Chaplin holidayed), Caherdaniel (one of the world's most environmentally friendly villages), Sneem (the colourful village that hosted Charles de Gaulle amongst others) and Kenmare (known as the little nest between the McGillicuddy Reeks & the Caha Mountains) or the bustling town of Killarney which has welcomed visitors for centuries. The Ogham stones at Waterville or Parknasilla bring mystery and intrigue and for an experience to remember, take a left before Caherdaniel and visit Ireland's largest stone fort, Staigue.

6 **Golfing**
Co. Kerry



Hit a 9 iron 200 yards on one of Kerry's 20 parkland and links golf courses.

Co. Kerry must be every golfer's paradise. The ambitious golfer is sure to find satisfaction as well as resistance on some of Kerry's fine golf courses. Such celebrated courses as Ballybunion (both old & new courses), the challenging and magnificent Tralee course and the championship courses of Killarney and Waterville are amongst Kerry's offerings.

18 Hole Courses: Ballybunion, Beaufort, Ceann tSibeal, Dooks, Kenmare, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Skellig Bay, Tralee, Waterville.

9 Hole Courses: Ardfert, Ballyheigue, Castlegregory, Dunloe, Listowel, Parknasilla, Ross Killarney.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Courses should be contacted directly for tee times as well as golf club & cart hire.

Note: Golf carts are not permitted on all Irish courses.

7 **Killarney**
Co. Kerry



Shop till you drop in Killarney seven days a week, May to September to 10pm nightly or tap your foot to a jig played on a fiddle in one of the many traditional pubs in Killarney.

Killarney one of Ireland's top tourist destinations is well known for its excellent shops, restaurants and cosmopolitan appeal. There are shops & stores to suit everybody's needs and wishes. During summer months the lively on-street musical entertainment complements the meandering of tourists and locals alike. On bright evenings one can browse in a bookstore, admire art, or savour the delights of home-made ice cream or a finely prepared lobster. Killarney is alive 7 days a week for your enjoyment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Web: www.killarneytown.com

8 **The Beaches of Kerry**
Co. Kerry



Stroll the many clean sandy beaches of Kerry from Ballybunion in the north to Derrynane in the south. With hundreds of miles of coastline, Kerry has 75 miles of sandy beaches and the cleanest waters in Europe. They vary from quiet sandy beaches to exposed beaches which receive huge Atlantic surf.

The European Blue Flag has been awarded to a number of Kerry's beaches representing a high level of environmental quality.

Kerry's Blue Flag Beaches include: Ballinskelligs, Ballybunion North, Ballybunion South, Ballyheighue, Banna, Derrynane, Fenit, Inch, Kells, Maharbeg, Rossbeigh, Ventry, Whitstrand

9 **Kenmare**
Co. Kerry



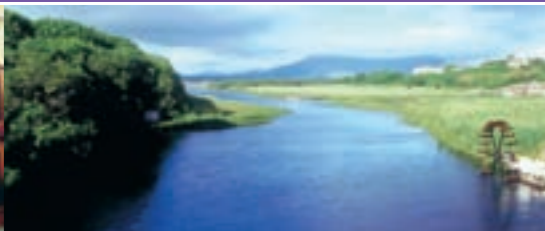
Kenmare, Neidin (meaning a little nest) is a town nestled amongst the Caha Mountains and Kenmare Bay.

Its brightly coloured shop fronts, street cafés and floral displays, lend an air of uniqueness and a relaxing yet vibrant atmosphere for the visitor to enjoy. Kenmare also plays host to excellent gourmet restaurants ranked as some of the finest in Ireland.

Kenmare provides a good base for driving the scenic Bera Peninsula and the Ring of Kerry. Activities include the Seafari on Kenmare Bay and other watersports including fishing. Golfing is on offer at two of Ireland's premier courses overlooking Kenmare Bay. Walks in the nearby Glen Inchaquin Park and Gardens are another alternative.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Web: www.kenmare.com

10 **Fishing in Kerry**
Co. Kerry



Fish the lakes and rivers of Kerry for Wild Salmon, Brown Trout and Sea Trout in season.

Whether you are interested in sea, lake or river fishing Kerry has it all. Deep sea fishing can be arranged from Dingle or Fenit outside Tralee. Killarney's lakes and rivers have salmon and brown trout & fishing is free on the Lakes of Killarney. Lough Currane at Waterville is covered under the 21 day licence.

LICENCE:
A 21 day licence covers all of Ireland. A daily licence is also available.