



COILLTE MACH
CO. MHAIGH EO

Kiltimagh

WHERE STRANGERS
BECOME FRIENDS



Kiltimagh

THE NAME

Kiltimagh & Sliabh Cairn

Legend has it that Maghu, a Firbolg chieftain, fled the Battle of Moytura, circa 1000 BC, to the hills above Kiltimagh. His grave is reputed to be the cairn grave located on the hill summit which in later years became known as Sliabh Cairn. This hilltop setting overlooking the village affords the most marvellous views over the surrounding countryside. Incidentally, the old Irish name of Kiltimagh "Coillte Maghach" translates to mean "the woods of Maghu".



Kiltimagh

*"A place where strangers
become friends"*

Kiltimagh - a place of delightful contrasts, combining the leisurely lifestyle of bygone days with the amenities of modern times, is situated in the very centre of Co. Mayo. A warm welcome awaits you in this 19th century artisan village where strangers become friends.

Kiltimagh offers an excellent accommodation sector, wonderful attractions and amenities and with its central location provides the ideal base for an activity or touring holiday in the West of Ireland. Enjoy an angling break here with the best rivers and lakes in Mayo within easy driving distance, as are some of the best golf courses in Ireland. Sample the great outdoors and view the wonderful scenery at your leisure by cycle or on foot.

Culture and tradition are central to Kiltimagh - the famous blind poet, Anthony Raftery, was born in this area. He has contributed greatly to our cultural history.

Wherever you go, you will be assured of Irish friendship and hospitality at their best. We look forward to welcoming you to Kiltimagh and hope that your time spent with us will leave you with precious memories of breathtaking landscapes and a rich cultural heritage to treasure.

Welcome everyone!



Attractions

THE OLD RAILWAY STATION / MUSEUM

SCULPTURE PARK

THE MARKET SQUARE

WETLANDS PARK

GLORE MILL ARTS CENTRE

MAGHU'S CASTLE/
TÍR NA NÓG VENTURE FUN PARK

BALLINAMORE HOUSE

LIOS ARD

CULTRASNA FAMINE VILLAGE

OLD SCHOOL HOUSE HERITAGE CENTRE

KILLEDAN CHURCHYARD



The old Railway Station & Sculpture Park

The former railway station, once the hub of activity in the life of Kiltimagh, became a derelict area after the railway finally closed in November, 1975. As the point of departure for so many of our emigrants, it has always held a special place in our affections. The area has since been tastefully restored and now boasts a wonderful sculpture park, the result of a sculpture symposium held during the summer of 1993, where sculptors of national renown, assisted by local students, completed the transformation of this delightful area. The Town Museum and Music School are located here. Two old railway carriages are incorporated into the museum, once the goods store. This museum houses many artefacts and lore of bygone years recalling people and a way of life that have gone forever. Also celebrated here are the distinguished careers of many of our former inhabitants whose achievements contributed to our pride and confidence in Kiltimagh. The former station master's house is now the Mayo School of Music. *The Museum is open to the public by appointment and should contact Donna Dempsey on (087) 1480529*

Sculpture Park

During the Summer of 1993 a Sculpture Symposium was held in Kiltimagh, whereby sculptors of national renown assisted by local students, created the 9 pieces of Sculpture on display in this Park at the old Railway Station.

RECLINING FIGURE

This is a bathstone sculpture by Seamus Dunbar. The delicate beauty of this neo-classical figure carved in this soft and unusual stone speaks for itself. 1

RAFTERY

In granite by Benedict Byrne, this is an image of the blind bard Raftery leaving Kiltimagh, heading westward, "Ag dul siar ar maistear le solas mo chroí" directed by inspiration, his staff symbolizing the ancient Bardic tradition. 2

INION MATHU

In limestone by Fred Colon, Inion Mathu (Mathu's daughter) dates back to pre-history when the Milesianas landed in Ireland and drove the Tuatha de Dannann underground. The Milesianas inhabited the upperworld, while the Tuath de Dannann became the Spirit people. They became the guardians of the fairy forts. Fred's work shows the Maghu's daughter slowly commencing her descent into the underworld. 3

LOVERS

In wood, made by local students, this piece perhaps self-explanatory, also reflects on the notion of romantic Ireland. 4

TAKING FLIGHT

In Limestone by Jackie McKenna. The presence of the bird and snake Goddess was felt not only in Ireland, but all over Europe. She was mistress of the Skies, Earth and Water. As "Corra" the bird, she is said to have lived in Croagh Patrick where she kept a watchful eye on the earth below. 5

THE JOURNEY/TWO FIGURES AND A DOG

Created by the students from St. Louis Community School, this sculpture of two men and a dog relaxing by the roadside recalls the charms of the leisurely lifestyle of bygone days in Kiltimagh. 6

THE STATION MASTER

In Bronze by Vincent Brown, this imposing character breaths life into the station platform area. Vincent's work complements the restoration work carried out on the old railway station and helps the imagination to recapture the scene of a busy day at the station. The attention to detail on the Station Master is well worth a look. 7

ECHO

In stone and wood by Martha Quinn, this piece is about time, change and development. Connotations of sun dials can be drawn with the ever changing shadows cast by the sleepers, signalling the seasons. The position of the sleepers in an arc is a suggestion of a chrysalis and the stone crescent in the centre echoes the skeletal structure of the insect. 8

SHIBUMI

In limestone by Eileen McDonagh, Shibumi is Japanese and is taken to mean understanding rather than knowledge. It's a statement so correct that it does not have to be told, so poignant it does not have to be pretty, so true it does not have to be real.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

OTHER SCULPTURES

ETERNAL SPRING

Location: Market Square

In granite by Benedict Byrne, devised during a period of rising unemployment this piece depicts a father and child by the fountain. The man is symbolic of the new aspect of the father's role in caring for the children, influencing the early intellectual and imaginative life. The child in his hands symbolises the future. The fountain with father and child epitomises the eternal hopes and dreams for a more humane and sensitive society. ⁹

AN CHEAD CHEIM

Location: Tír na nÓg Funpark

The First Step is a sculpture in Elm by Jackie McKenna. It reflects the numerous efforts of the local community to mould the economic revival of Kiltimagh and its hinterland at the end of the 20th century, following the ravages of unemployment and emigration. This sculpture depicts a mother helping her child to take its first step in life.

FAMINE

Location: Town Hall Theatre, Kilkelly Road

This carved sleeper depicts the horror and death of the Great Famine of 1845-1847 which had a huge impact on the town of Kiltimagh as well the whole country.

GUARDIANS OF THE FORT

Location: Mooney's Fort

These two carved heads perched on sleepers represent the fairies who according to legend lived in and guarded forts throughout the land. Many believed it dangerous to walk into a fairy fort, others believed you would bring bad luck on yourself if you cut down trees in the fort. In this way, many forts of historical interest were preserved over hundreds of years.



THE MARKET SQUARE

From the late 19th century, Kiltimagh was a vibrant market place with the Fair Day being the highlight of the month. On this day the streets and the Square were alive with people buying and selling livestock and wares. There are a series of wall plaques here depicting the traditional activities synonymous with the old Fair Day. Also to be seen in the square is the monument to 'Raifteiri an File', and a magnificent piece of sculpture, 'Eternal Spring', by Benedict Byrne.

OLD SCHOOLHOUSE HERITAGE CENTRE

This recently restored 19th century school now displays the remaining artifacts from the old national schools in the area. Information is provided on the various school activities of that era.

ANTOINE O RAIFFEIRI – THE LAST BARD

by Sally McKenna

This central monument by sculptor Sally McKenna is of the poet who was born in Killedan, Kiltimagh in 1784. Rafferty was blinded by small pox as a child, he was educated in the hedge row schools and became a wandering poet and fiddle player. He left Kiltimagh at 19 years never to return but the longing for home led him to write the poem "Cill Aodain". He wandered the roads of Mayo and Galway rousing the people with his music and verse. He became an inspiration for the 19th century nationalist revival.

The sculpture portrays him in his worn travelling coat returning to Kiltimagh and stopping next to a hawthorn bush. The statue is of cast bronze and the tree is of corten welded steel and copper. The tree is modelled from a hawthorn at the sacred well "Tobar Chuimhine" in Kiltimagh. It is hollow inside but it still lives and bears fruit. It is a symbol of survival and has weathered the times just as Raifteiri did.

Terry McDonagh a modern day poet also from Killedan, wrote the poem "The Last Bard" in response to Sally McKenna's beautiful sculpture.



WESTERN DAY SCULPTURE

by Sally McKenna

"Living in a small rural community can mean many things to many people. In the ordinary act of reading the newspaper the day-to-day events that make up daily life are remembered. In County Mayo the Western newspaper provides a focus for people by recording the issues, events and concerns of the week. The sculpture of a man from the 1960's reading the newspaper is an important part of the commemoration of Western Day. This was the day that the Western arrived in the stores. In many villages the Western was taken from house to house during the week and then on Sunday all gathered to discuss the events recorded. This moment of repose, leaning against a wall reading a newspaper, is part of a disappearing world. In him the day-to-day drama of daily life is brought together and made central."

TOWN HALL THEATRE

The Old Town Hall in Kiltimagh has undergone major refurbishment and has been converted into a truly multi purpose building. It now comprises tiered, theatre style seating, full stage facilities, dressing rooms, green room, kitchen area, as well as state of the art sound, lighting and projection systems. It is used not only as a theatre but also as a conference centre, courthouse, meeting hall, among other uses. A number of National Conferences have been held in this venue.

The theatre plays host to a wide variety of artistic performances of drama, traditional, modern and classical music, ballet, opera and modern dance and has hosted such names as Anna Manahan, Tom Hickey, Don Baker, Niall Toibin, Charlie McGettigan as well as many of the well known Drama Groups, enhancing Kiltimagh's reputation as a cultural centre.



Wetlands Park



KILTIMAGH WETLANDS PARK

Swinford Road

What was once green field with a small stream has been carefully and creatively turned into a little piece of paradise. The idea is to bring together a variety of plants and animals in a relatively small area, where people can learn about them, and appreciate them. The park has a wildflower section supporting such flowers as the Ragged Robin and the Kidney Vetch.

There is a native tree area, where the progress of trees such as oak and larch can be monitored. The marshy area around the pond will develop with time its own natural fauna, the pond itself has been planted with some species, such as the Water Lily.

We hope by providing a tranquil place, some native animals will also use the park. Various birds have been sited, e.g. the beautiful Kingfisher is visible in the evenings, trout come into the pond from the stream, and Water Hens have been seen nesting in the long rushes near the pond.

A walk around the park only takes 10 minutes, but if you stop to take a look in detail, read all the information, take in the peace that nature affords you, you could spend hours here. Sit and listen to the sounds of nature. Relax and enjoy. It's there for you.

THE WAY HOME

Location: Wetlands Park, Swinford Road

The salmon is a symbol of the immigrant's return to Kiltimagh. As the salmon travels up the Moy, into the Gweestion then to the Glore and Pollagh rivers to its breeding ground, something drives it along its way. Will those who left ever really forget, even though generations intervene, their homeland. The immigrant never knows his or her fate. Does the gaff await at the end or the light. The turf torch was a part of the fishing process of dazzling the salmon but it can also represent the light that is a beacon of homecoming. Like the hayfork, the immigrant's dilemma is two pronged. There is the love of the place that was left and the dedication to the new land. The pheasant is an onlooker. He hasn't left. He is a symbol of the land and the fields and bogs where he hides. He is the stability of home. Even in flight he is close to the land.

Created by Sally McKenna, using old coins from bygone days for the scales of the salmon, native rocks for the river bed, and cast bronze for the Pheasant and fishing implements.



Maghu's Castle INDOOR ADVENTURE CENTRE at Tir na nOg Kiltimagh

A fantastic indoor play facility is available to children in Kiltimagh. Following the success of the outdoor Fun Park at Tir na nOg, an indoor play area of approx 4,300 sq feet was built incorporating an adventure maze on 2 levels that kids love! The maze has a variety of sections that the children must make their way through, including an aerial runway, a rope bridge, a climbing "giant's Causeway" all of which takes them to the giant 2m slide landing in the ball pond. The Murals on the walls of the play area show specially designed characters of the Sleeping Giant, Merlin the Magician and a Knight cooking breakfast with the help of a very large friend.

The Adventure Maze is suitable for 2-11 year olds with a maximum height restriction of 4 feet 9 inches. A separate toddler area is available for under 2's, with a Log Cabin, soft Lego, an activity table, ball pool, etc. All children must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian. Weather permitting, the outdoor section of Tir na nOg is open all year round. This gives our young visitors a choice of play areas.

Birthday Parties are great fun at Maghu's Castle, after play time a separate party room is available for party fare.

School tours at Maghu's Castle are very popular, and the programme can be tailored to suit individual needs and requirements. Children with special needs are also catered for.

Parents aren't forgotten either. While watching the young ones having all this energetic fun, they can relax and have a chat in the coffee area.

Kiltimagh is delighted to be able to provide such adventure and fun to our young population, and children come from far and wide to avail of this facility.

Further information is available from
Maghus Castle, Aiden Street, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo,
Tel + 353 949374886 or 393 949381494

Website : www.maghuscastle.ie,

E-mail : maghuscastle@gmail.com or Find us on Facebook.

GLORE MILL ART CENTRE

Raftery's Countryside

The 1913 Glore Mill is newly renovated and is open for visitors by appointment. This is the location of the mill in Anthony Raftery's poem Cill Aodain. It is the new home of Sally McKenna's sculpture and painting studio. Sculpture and painting are hung on original stone walls and available for sale. A seminar, conference area and art room will soon be available. Visitors are given a tour which still has the Millrace, Mill turbine and Mill machinery placed around the grounds as garden features. There are labyrinths to walk and Sally's sculpture midst butterfly gardens featuring wild bog plants, a cottage garden and an evergreen garden for winter visitors. Labyrinth tours and talks are available year round. The Mill is open by appointment or for drop by during daytime hours if owners are home.



LIOS ARD

The High Fort, or Lios Ard and Ard Roi as it is known locally, is easily recognized by its line of beech trees which enable it to be seen from all access roads. It is located on the summit of a hill and this, together with its name, Ard Roi. Indicates that it was once the property of an important chieftain.

At the foot of the High Fort lies the hearthstone of what was once the home of Raftery, the blind 19th century folk poet. Raftery's poetry was never written down and, with the help of Lady Gregory and Lottie MacManus, Douglas Hyde collected and published his poetry at the turn of the 20th century. He is celebrated locally for his poem in praise of his native place, Cill Aodain, which he described as a land of milk and honey:

*'An baile a bhfasann gach nidh ann,
Ta smeara 's sub-craobh ann s measarda gach sort.'*

KILLEDAN CHURCHYARD

Killedan graveyard is located about two miles from Kiltimagh. Both the 8th century cell and 12th century parish church (originally thatched) were restored in 1992, incorporating the original stone where possible. A prototype of the original cell was built by the then parish priest, Thaddeus O Flaherty, in 1779 and houses the remains of a 13th century coffin tombstone. Mass is celebrated here annually at the end of July.



CULTRASNA FAMINE VILLAGE

2 km from the town there is an example of a 'clumped village'. This village formation was a result of the population rise 1800-1841. Subsequently the area was sub-divided into smaller plots where the people tried to sustain a living. This type of village suffered drastically during the family 1845-1849.

BALLINAMORE HOUSE

Located a short distance from Kiltimagh, this estate was granted to the Ormsby family by Queen Elizabeth I in the 16th century. The house was built in the 18th century and the church in 1779. Many of the Ormsby family and Lottie MacManus, a historical novelist who introduced Douglas Hyde to the area, are buried here. The church and graveyard are restored in 1996. The house is now a nursing home.

Activities

FISHING

County Mayo is truly a fisherman's paradise when it comes to game and coarse angling. Fishing on the world famous River Moy, the Loughs of Conn, Corrib and Mask are all within easy travelling distance. There is great pike fishing too in the various local lakes and rivers. Kiltimagh has hosted a number of National Pike Angling Federations Championships.

GOLF

Whether you are an accomplished golfer or playing for relaxation, there are a number of excellent golf course in County Mayo. Ballyhaunis (9 hole) Balla (Par 3) and Claremorris (18 hole) are within a 20 minutes drive.

CYCLING

Experience the true feeling of freedom in touring the landscape at your leisure. Cycle hire available locally.

WALKING

7 walks have been prepared and mapped for your convenience to get the most out of your stay in Kiltimagh

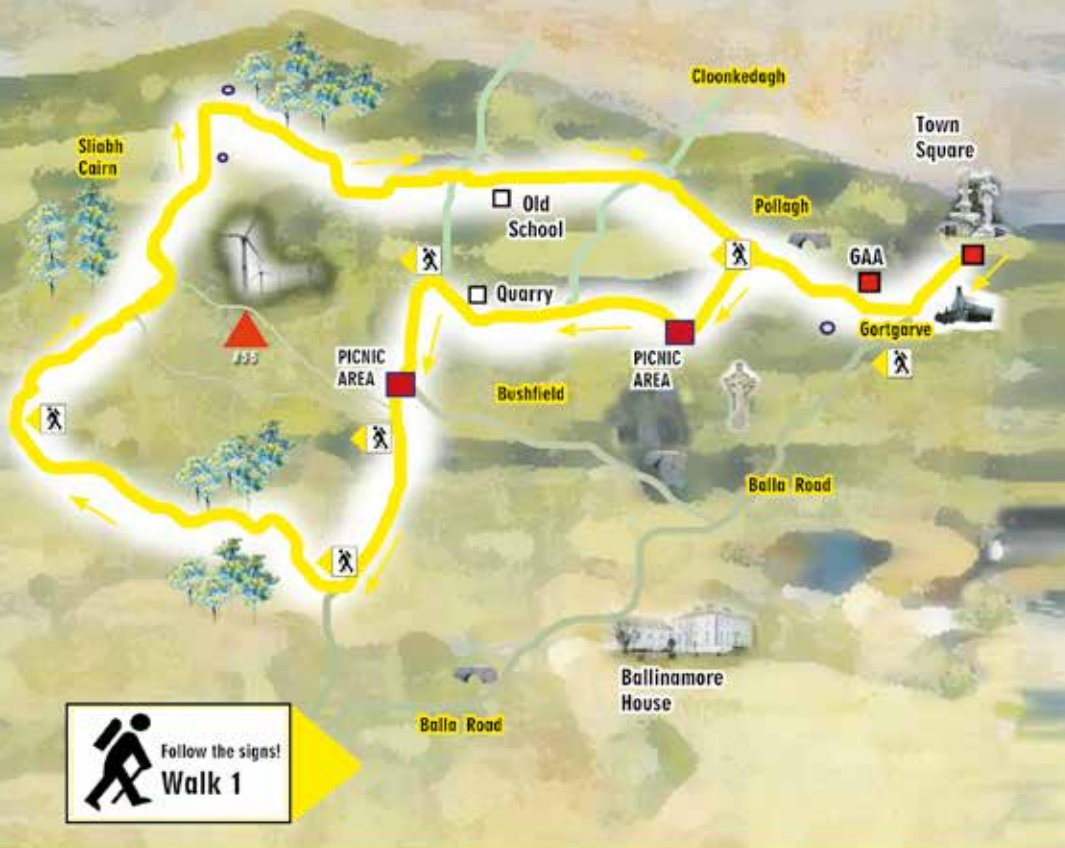
MAPS PAGES 16-25

COILLTE MACH Kiltimagh





Sliabh Cairn Peak



Distance :	16 Kilometres (approx)
Walking Time:	Allow a minimum of 4.5 to 5 hours at a leisurely pace. Plenty of time to stop and enjoy the scenery.

ESSENTIAL:
REMEMBER
CONTACT:

Comfortable walking shoes, rainwear, and a packed lunch
Always walk on the right hand side of the road, facing on coming traffic
Naturally West Holidays , Enterprise House, Kiltimagh
T: 353-94-9381494 F: 353-94-9381884

WALK1

STARTING POINT

The Market Square, walk south on the Balla Road, past the Church, **turning right** at bottom of hill towards the GAA Park. This is a moderate walk with several hills, including a steep ascent and a steep descent, as you negotiate the Slieve Cairn Ridge.

THE LANDSCAPE

Initially through farmland, bogland and reclaimed bogs, this walk climbs Slieve Cairn (850ft/250m) West of the town. The ascent is via the southern peak, transversing the ridge, and descending from the northern peak, through more reclaimed lands to regain the start

QUICK STOPS

POLLAGH RIVER:

The Pollagh is part of the Moy river catchment. About 5km north of this point the Pollagh joins with the Glore River to become the Gweeston. This in turn decants into the River Moy north of Bohola. The Moy is one of Ireland's (and Europe's) finest sport fishing rivers.

PICNIC AREA 1

Relax and rest your feet before the first ascent up the hill!

Enjoy the beautiful scenery as the town and countryside begin to unfold behind you.

PICNIC AREA 2

Catch your breath before once again ascending to the peak.

As you climb up you can see Ballinamore House. Originally home of the Ormsby Family, who were one of the landlords in the area during English Rule. The Estate now a nursing home probably began between 150 and 200 years ago.

As you reach the summit of Sliabh Cairn you will notice it is covered with Mountain Blanket Bog on the deeper peat, and Heaths on shallow peat and soils.

WIND TURBINES

The Wind Turbines are a new addition to the peak, helping to create clean and eco friendly electricity to the national grid.

DESCENT.

As you make your way back down from the peak be careful, as it is quite steep.

And most of all enjoy the beauty that is Kiltimagh



Spankers Hill



Distance :	16 Kilometres (approx)
Walking Time:	Allow a minimum of 4.5 to 5 hours at a leisurely pace. Plenty of time to stop and enjoy the scenery.

ESSENTIAL:	Comfortable walking shoes, rainwear, and a packed lunch
REMEMBER	Always walk on the right hand side of the road, facing on coming traffic
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WALK2 STARTING POINT

The Market Square, walk down the back road towards Supervalu supermarket and turn right.
This is a moderate walk with several hills, two of which are quite steep as you ascend the Slieve Cairn ridge

QUICK STOPS

PICNIC AREA
Have a quick stop before crossing over the Pollagh river and hitting the hills!
After the river, walk awhile until you reach a crossroads take a left turn.
This is a very scenic walk along the quiet roads of the surrounding Kiltimagh countryside.

SPANKERS HILL
Up till now you have ascended a steep hill as far as the renovated school house, now get ready for Spankers Hill, it is from this steep hill that the walk derives its name . Spanker Kilgallon was the name of a man from this area. The nickname "Spanker" was probably a family title, passed on from grandfather to father to son. The last holder of the name Spanker Kilgallon was cruelly murdered within living memory.

From here you can look back over the route you have taken.

WIND TURBINES
The Wind Turbines are a new addition to the peak, helping to create clean and eco friendly electricity to the national grid.

DESCENT.
As you make your way back down from the peak be careful as it is quite steep.

You return to the crossroads and walk straight through and retrace your steps back to the Market Square.

And most of all enjoy the beauty that is Kiltimagh



Walk 3

Glore River Valley

Cheshire Home



Killeadan Graveyard

Treenkeel

Main Bohola Road

Glore Bridge

Swinford Road

Old School Lisduff

Glore Park & Mill

Wetlands Park

Swinford Road

Corrahoor

Cleragh Bridge

Youth Shrine



Follow the signs!
Walk 3

Town Square

Railway Bridge

Aiden St

Distance : 14 Kilometres (approx)

Walking Time: Allow a minimum of 3.5 to 4 hours for this walk. There is plenty to see.

ESSENTIAL:	Comfortable walking shoes, rainwear, and a packed lunch
REMEMBER	Always walk on the right hand side of the road, facing on coming traffic
CONTACT:	Naturally West Holidays , Enterprise House, Kiltimagh T: 353-94-9381494 F: 353-94-9381884

WALK 3

STARTING POINT

The Market Square. Head down Aiden Street and turn right towards Swinford, and immediately after the railway bridge (Bumper Bridge) at Carrick Shrine turn right off the main road and you will quickly leave the town behind. This is a mostly flat walk with only minor inclines.

QUICK STOPS

GREAT SOUTHERN & WESTERN RAILWAY

You soon **cross the disused railway line**. For many decades the train was our only link with the outside world, with everything from cattle, newspapers, even film reels for the local cinema, arriving by train.

Close to this spot, one of the worst accidents on Irish Railways occurred just outside Kiltimagh Station, on the Swinford side, in December, 1916. 6 railway staff were killed and ten injured, some very seriously, when two trains collided in bad weather.

ANCIENT HABITATIONS

This walk brings you within viewing distances of at least 12 ringforts. These are prehistoric defensive enclosures, usually circular, that date from Celtic times, 2500 years ago.

GLORE RIVER

As you descend down towards a bridge you will be crossing the Glore river for the first out of five times on this walk.

Take care on **turning left** onto the main Swinford road, at stop sign, this can be a busy road. Take the **next right turn** off the main road to Glore Mill Park and Arts Centre.

GLORE MILL ART CENTRE

The 1913 Glore Mill is newly renovated and is open for visitors by appointment. (Full details pg 11)

THE HIGH FORT AT KILLEDAN

The largest of a group of 4 ringforts is visible on the high ground to the SW of the road. This is called The High Fort, or Lios Ard.

KILLEDAN HOUSE AND RAFTERY

Just SE of Lios Ard you can see a small woodlands. This is part of the Killeadan estate. Raftery, the poet, was born in the vicinity of the house.

KILLEDAN GRAVEYARD

This was the old graveyard for the Parish of Killeadan, which includes the town of Kiltimagh. Killeadan is the anglicised form of Cill Liadán, the church of Liadán. Fully renovated in recent years, it is thought to date from the 12th Century. This conflicts with some local feelings that the Franciscan lay brothers used the already existing church.

In the grounds are two cells. One with its corbelled roof extant. (Further Details pg12)

WETLANDS

After making your way back through Treenkeel you once again arrive onto the Swinford road, taking care as you walk towards the Wetlands Park.

This is a beautiful tranquil area to sit and relax. (Full details pg 10)

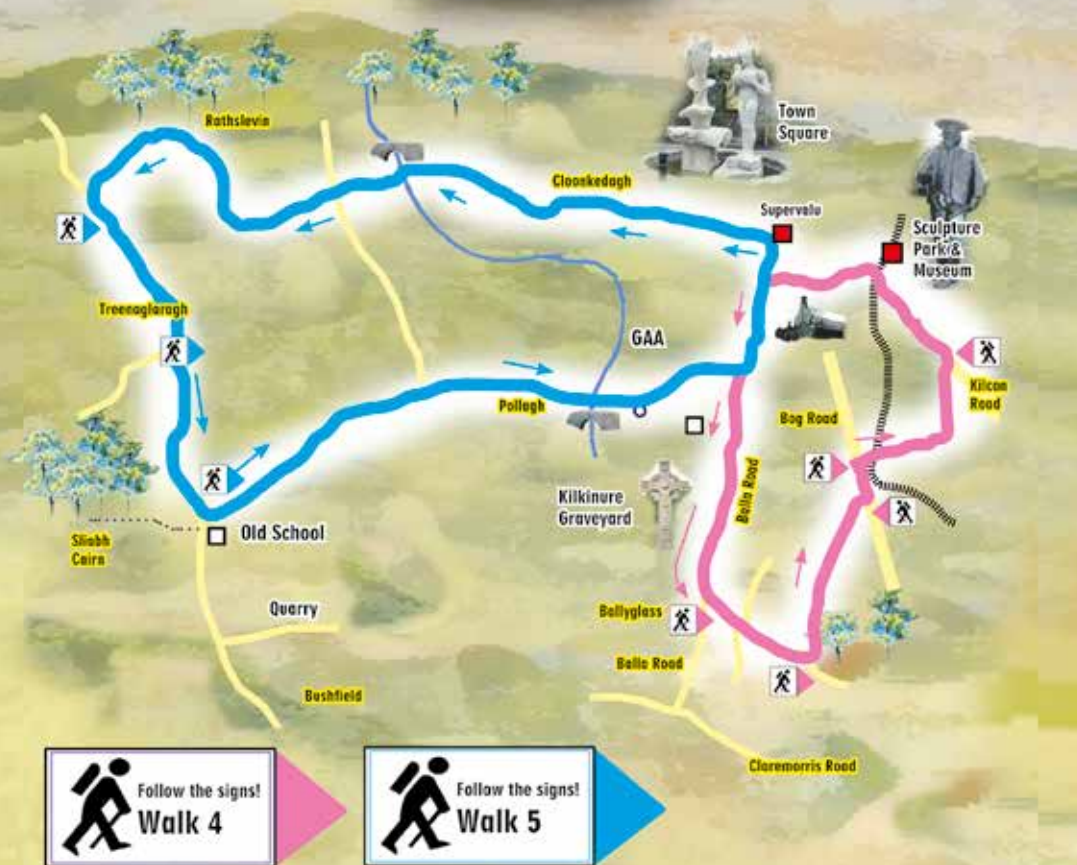
And most off all enjoy the beauty that is Kiltimagh



Ballyglass



Slieve Cairn Foothills



WALK 4

Distance :

5.5 Kilometres (approx)

Walking Time:

Allow a minimum of 1.5 for this short walk

WALK 5

Distance :

8.5 Kilometres (approx)

Walking Time:

Allow a minimum of 2.5 hours for this walk.

ESSENTIAL:
REMEMBER
CONTACT:

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WALK 4

STARTING POINT

The Market Square, **walk south on Main Street**, past the Church, and carefully continue on the Balla Road towards the Kilkinure Cemetery

QUICK STOPS

KILKINURE CEMETERY

Here all the deceased of the Parish of Kiltimagh are laid to rest. In this graveyard are the remains of another old church. Opposite Cemetery, **turn left** up the Ballyglass Road. This road leads you across a relaxing bog walk.

LOWLAND BLANKET BOG

Ireland holds most of the remaining bogs in Europe and they are attracting much conservation attention. This interesting habitat has developed due to the growth of the colourful bog Moss(Sphagnum).

Turn left onto the main road and **take first right** onto another bog road. Here you cross the old railway track. This will lead you onto the main Kilcon road. **Turn left** and you are on your way home.

SCULPTURE PARK and MUSEUM

SCULPTURE PARK

The Old Railway Station boasts a wonderful Sculpture Park, the result of a sculpture symposium held during the summer of 1993 whereby sculptors of national renown, assisted by local students completed the transformation of this delightful area.

MUSEUM

A few years ago the derelict buildings of the former railway station were transformed and now host our town museum depicting life in this area over the years.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Station Masters House was transformed to host the arts and has recently been taken over to house the School of Music, offering high quality affordable music instruction and performance opportunities to students of all ages.

WALK 5

STARTING POINT

The Market Square, walk down the back road **towards Supervale supermarket and turn right.**

This is a relatively short to medium walk with a gentle ascent into the foothills under Slieve Cairn. There is one steep descent. You quickly leave the town behind and almost immediately you are in farmland typical of the area.

QUICK STOPS

PICNIC AREA

Have a quick stop before crossing over the Pollagh river and hitting the hills! After the river, walk awhile until you reach a **crossroads just go straight through** and begin you ascent.

ABOVE THE PLAIN

The view from this elevation is very beautiful. The rounded hillocks and knolls that dot the landscape are a result of the melting of the glaciers at the end of the last ice age, 10,000 years ago.

This is a very scenic walk stretching across the foothills of Slieve Cairn and returning back past Pollagh River

POLLAGH RIVER:

The Pollagh is part of the Moy river Catchment. About 5km north of this point the Pollagh joins with the Glone River to become the Gweestion. This in turn decants into the River Moy north of Bohola. The Moy is one of Ireland's (and Europe's) finest sport fishing rivers.

And most off all enjoy the beauty that is Kiltimagh



Hidden Ireland



Cultrasna



WALK 6

Distance : 9.5 Kilometres (approx)

Walking Time: Allow a minimum of 2.5 to 3 hours to complete at a leisurely pace

WALK 7

Distance : 5 Kilometres (approx)

Walking Time: Allow a 1 to 1.5 hours for this short walk.

ESSENTIAL:

Comfortable walking shoes, rainwear, and a packed lunch

REMEMBER

Always walk on the right hand side of the road, facing on coming traffic

CONTACT:

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T: 353-94-9381494 F: 353-94-9381884

WALK 6

STARTING POINT

The Market Square. Head down Aiden Street and **turn right** towards Swinford, over the railway bridge (Bumper Bridge) and down the Swinford Road.

QUICK STOPS

GREAT SOUTHERN & WESTERN RAILWAY

You soon cross the disused railway line. For many decades the train was our only link with the outside world, with everything from cattle, newspapers, even film reels for the local cinema, arriving by train.

WETLANDS

Continue along the Swinford Road past the Wetlands Park, which is on your left hand side. This is a beautiful tranquil area in which you can sit and relax if you so wish. (Full details pg 10)

Leaving the Wetlands Park behind **take the first left** down through Treenkeel.

Turn left down a small road (before hill down to Glore Bridge). Continue until reaching the main Bohola road, **turn right** and carefully cross the main road to Cloonkedagh and continue home.

WALK 7

STARTING POINT

The Market Square, **walk south on Main Street**, turning up the Knock Road at the Community Centre

QUICK STOPS

SCULPTURE PARK and MUSEUM

The Old Railway Station boasts a wonderful Sculpture Park as well as a town museum depicting life in this area over the years.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The Station Masters has was transformed to host the arts and has recently been taken over to house the school of music. Offering high quality affordable music instruction and performance opportunities to students of all ages.

CULTRASNA FAMINE VILLAGE & PICNIC AREA

After walking out the Knock road **turn left** and walk up through Cultrasna. This village is now a mixture of new houses and 11 abandoned older houses. The layout of the original village , plus nearby small stone walled fields, give us a glimpse of this pre-famine community.

PICNIC AREA

Have a sit down and take in the atmosphere

The walk continues **across the Kilkelly Road**, through areas of reclaimed bogland and small glacial hills, and back to town by way of the bridge (Bumper Bridge) over the railway.

And most off all enjoy the beauty that is Kiltimagh

Annual Events

KILTIMAGH CHORAL FESTIVAL

Kiltimagh Choral Festival is now a permanent fixture on the Kiltimagh calendar. It runs over two days on the last Friday and Saturday in February. The Friday competitions are for School/Youth choirs and the Saturday competitions are for Adult choirs in various categories.

It brings hundreds of participants and their families to Kiltimagh and it provides a big boost to the economy during the winter months. It is held in the Park hotel in Kiltimagh which has proven to be an excellent facility to host the event. With the reopening of the newly refurbished Cill Aodain Hotel we can offer additional accommodation for our participants and supporters. We invite choirs from all over Ireland to our festival to come and enjoy not only the excellent singing but the craic and the hospitality Kiltimagh has to offer.



Email: kiltimaghchoralfestival@gmail.com **Facebook:** kiltimagh Choralfestival
Website: www.kiltimaghchoralfestival.ie **Twitter:** @kiltimaghchoral

RACE2GLORY ADVENTURE RACE - JULY

Race2Glory is a 40K adventure race which is held every July, it involves running through bogs, cycling up steep hills and running through rivers. For the less enthusiastic a second shorter race of 20K has been introduced. It has been taking place for the past four years and has been going from strength to strength. The race attracts large numbers from all over the country and it helps showcase local amenities and the beautiful scenery in the Kiltimagh area. Participants suggest that the community involvement in the race and the support for the competitors along the route is what makes it special. The local pubs provide excellent entertainment on the night which makes for a memorable experience.

The race caters for both the experienced athletes and for those who want to participate for the craic and the exercise, so be sure to register early next year and enjoy a great day, and a better night.

Find us on Facebook

Race2Glory, Enterprise House, Kiltimagh, Co.Mayo.

Tel: (094)9381494 / (087) 941 5338

Email: race2glory@gmail.com



Accommodation

Kiltimagh provides a wide range of excellent accommodation for the discerning visitor.

THE PARK HOTEL

The Park Hotel is set in its own grounds just outside the town. This modern hotel comprises of 46 large deluxe bed rooms, Cafe Bar and Bistro, The Garden Room Restaurant, and Banqueting & Conference Rooms. The hotel is well known for serving the best of locally sourced produce in a relaxed and ambient atmosphere. The hotel is open all year round and serves food daily.



CILL AODAIN COURT HOTEL

Enjoy wonderful cuisine at the 3 star Cill Aodain Court Hotel, in the centre of town, where friendship and Irish hospitality are at their best. Its bar stocks quality beers, wines and spirits while the cuisine from the bistro is served with flair and imagination.

Kiltimagh also has a choice of Quality Approved (QA) Bed & Breakfasts and Bord Failte approved self – catering premises.

ENTERTAINMENT

Kiltimagh, like other towns in rural Ireland, has an assortment of pubs, each with its own particular style, created for the clientele. Wherever you go, you can relax in a warm and friendly atmosphere, and enjoy traditional, disco or live music.

*So what are you
waiting for?*

*Come to Kiltimagh
and experience*

for yourself

all that is

wonderful about

Irish tradition

and culture.

*f*or further information
on any aspect of
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