



Welcome to the 7th edition of the Visit the Burren Newsletter.

We have an action-packed spring ahead!!!

Following on from the hugely successful launch of Burren Dinners in October, and the revalidation of the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Geopark in November, our proud members were awarded their Code of Practice Certificates in December. The Code is the only responsible tourism standard of its type in Ireland, and because of our commitment to it, the Burren is held up as a model in sustainability!!

burren.ie



Visit the Burren, *Stay another Night!*



For ongoing updates visit our Facebook Page and Like us to get a regular newsfeed from the Burren. You can also keep an eye on what is going on the area on our main website

www.burren.ie



So what's happening

Geopark Code of Practice Awards night held in Doolin.



The proud members of the Burren Ecotourism Network were presented with their Code of Practice Awards at HOTEL Doolin in December by Tim Madden (Geopark Manager) and Deirdre O'Shea of Clare County Council. The event followed on from the recent revalidation of the Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark for the next four years, all of which made for a fantastic end to 2019!

The Burren Ecotourism Network is a membership organisation embedded in a sustainable tourism ethos. Now representing 65 businesses in the Geopark, and in line with international sustainability principles, the purpose of the network is to connect tourism enterprises in the Burren region and enable them to work together to deliver economic, social and environmental benefits, both for themselves and for their communities. The Network has existed for the past decade and is comprised of a substantial number of well-established businesses that collectively employ over 1,000 people in the area. The Code of Practice which is the only one of its kind in Ireland has provided a standard that monitors waste output along with water and energy usage and assists the businesses in becoming increasingly more efficient. Burren Ecotourism Network member businesses range from hotels, guest houses, glamping and camping providers, restaurants, pubs, island ferries, castles, caves cliffs, walking guides, cycling guides, farm tours, distilleries, brewers, butchers, bakers, fish smokers, retailers, heritage sites, food producers, growers and interpretive centres!! The wide span of experiences and offerings allow the network to offer itineraries and trails close proximity that visitors can chose from. The Burren offers its guests a chance to engage in an action-packed holiday and the reassurance that their trip will have minimal impact on the environment. The businesses engage in initiatives such as Adopt a Hedgerow where groups of members will engage in physically maintaining the ancient walls and hedges that the Burren is famous for!



Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!



"BURREN DINNERS" BOOK LAUNCH



Ministers of State Brendan Griffin and Pat Breen at the launch of Burren Dinners

On Saturday evening, 26th of October 2019, The Burren Food Trail were delighted to see the launch of the long-anticipated book Burren Dinners by Trevis Gleason. The publication features many of the people from all over the Burren engaged in livestock farming, growing, fishing producing as well as those involved in food service and hospitality.

The stories of families that have lived here for many generations alongside the many people that have moved here bringing their talent and enterprise together is what makes this book a great read.

The excellent photography captures the Burren in all its glory while the recipes and creativity of the chefs makes the reader realise how the Burren has become such a well-recognised food destination.

The excellent photography captures the Burren in all its glory while the recipes and creativity of the chefs makes the reader realise how the Burren has become such a well-recognised food destination.



Burren Dinners Book - where can I buy?

Now available in:

BALLYVAUGHAN

@Quinns Craftshop,
@Aillwee Cave
@Wild Atlantic Lodge
@Gregans Castle Hotel
@Burren College of Art
@Burren Fine Wine & Food
@Hazelwood Lodge

DOOLIN

@Irish Crafts
@Hotel Doolin
@Doolin Cave
@Doolin Inn

ENNISTYMON

@The Falls Hotel
@The Market House

LAHINCH

@Wild Kitchen

INAGH

@St Tola Goats Cheese

LISDOONVARNA

@The Burren Smokehouse

KILFENORA

@Vaughan's Pub

@Burren Hub

KINVARA

@The Merriman Hotel

ENNIS

@Craft Works

The book is an ideal gift for anyone that knows the farmers, producers and chefs of Burren and who loves great food.

Burren Dinners is also available on-line at

<https://www.irishcraftsonline.com/products/burrendinners>



Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!



New Chairman of BEN

The last board meeting of the Burren Ecotourism Network saw George Quinn of Hylands Burren Hotel in Ballyvaughan elected as chairman, following the very successful tenure of Brid Fahy.

George Quinn is a Ballyvaughan native with extensive International business experience and operates a wide range of tourism related businesses in Ballyvaughan, ranging from retail shops, self-catering accommodation and hospitality.



**HYLAND'S BURREN HOTEL REOPENS
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7th!**

Welsh/Music weekend - Valentine's weekend.

CLIFFS OF MOHER

Ireland's Favourite Visitor Attraction Award Winner



The Cliffs of Moher won Ireland's Favourite Visitor Attraction at the Irish Independent Reader Travel Awards in January in the Mansion House as voted on by thousands of readers.

The prestigious award was accepted by Geraldine Enright Director of the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience on behalf of Clare County Council.

CIE International Tours Service Excellence Award 2019

The Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience also won a CIE International Tours Service Excellence Award 2019 for consistently exceeding customer expectations.

This is the 10th consecutive year they have won!



**Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!**



FIDDLE + BOW



All the team here are delighted to be heading into our second season in Doolin.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the year ahead with the most recent being the addition of another room.

The Loft

Is a beautiful double room with its own private entrance.

Finished to the highest standard you are guaranteed to have great night away.



We are currently only open on weekends.
We will be open 7 days a week from March 12th

Phone: 065 6700 200 Email: reservations@fiddleandbow.ie

Explore: www.fiddleandbow.ie



POL AN IONÁIN
DOOLIN CAVE
the great stalactite

NOW OPEN EVERY DAY
10am - 4pm

TOURS ON THE HOUR

SHUCK FF!



“AN ENTHRALLING
INTERACTIVE TOUR
INTO THE WORLD
OF OYSTERS...”



www.redbankfoodco.com

*Halfway between Galway and
The Cliffs of Moher*



PRIOR BOOKING ESSENTIAL

To book simply

email: feedme@flaggyshoreoysters.com

phone: +353 86 2549837

Redbank Food Co.

New Quay Pier, Burren,

Co. Clare, Ireland H91 E7TE

@flaggyshoreoysters



Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!





FALLS HOTEL & SPA
ENNISTYMON

Wedding Inspiration Day



Sunday Feb 16th from 1 pm - 4 pm

Launching our freshly renovated reception area!

Meet with Michael, John, Patrick and our wedding team, see our wedding suites all dressed up, engage with some wonderful local wedding suppliers and imagine yourself here on your wedding day!

Bridal Fashion Show with Catwalk Model Agency

For the weekend that's in it, we have a romantic Valentine's treat for Saturday, February 15th. B&B with dinner for two people, bubbles & chocolates upon arrival and a late checkout on Sunday for €149 in total!

Weddings at the Falls Hotel & Spa - Just Wonderful

Falls Hotel Ennistymon, Co Clare, Ireland.

+353 (0)65 707 1004 | weddings@fallshotel.ie | fallshotel.ie

AILLWEE CAVE, BALLYVAUGHAN



WE ARE CELEBRATING A VERY SPECIAL YEAR
THIS YEAR, THE BEGINNING OF A NEW
DECADE & A LEAP YEAR... IT IS A YEAR WITH
AN EXTRA SPECIAL DAY, SO WE ARE
CELEBRATING THE NUMEROUS SPECIAL DAYS
THAT OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!



FEBRUARY 14TH, 15TH
16TH,
VALENTINE'S DAY
AFTERNOON TEA

OPENING HOURS:

- 10am – 5pm

Guided Tour of Aillwee Cave:

- Depart every 20 minutes and last a duration of 35 minutes.

Birds of Prey Centre:

- Watch an interactive, free flight demonstration scheduled daily at 12pm & 3pm. Marvel at Eagles, Owls & Falcons as you enter the centre.

Hawk Walk:

- Private Hawk Walk with an experienced falconer, where you learn about the art of falconry:
- Prebooking essential

Farm Shop:

- See and sample the award winning Burren Gold Cheese that is made onsite.

Join us as we celebrate a globally recognised day every month throughout 2020. It is going to be fun, exciting & different.

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on our year of celebration @aillwee.

TUESDAY 17TH MARCH
ST PATRICKS DAY
ANYONE WITH FIRST NAME:
PATRICK & PATRICIA GAINS
FREE ENTRY. ID REQUIRED

OPEN DAY AT "TASTE THE ATLANTIC"



New interactive visitor centre at the Burren Smokehouse

Open Day at "Taste the Atlantic" interactive visitor experience

Since the end of October, Lisdoonvarna has another attraction to draw in visitors from all over the world. At the Burren Smokehouse, the interactive visitor experience "Taste the Atlantic - Salmon Experience" tells the story of the Irish Salmon through the times, from the intriguing shadow play telling the legend of the Salmon of Knowledge to TV footage from decades gone by to nutritional values and impact on coastal communities. This is a wonderful experience for all age groups, and can of course be linked with a visit to the newly refurbished Burren Smokehouse visitor centre next door, where tastings can be had.

<https://www.burrensmokehouse.com/blog/taste-the-atlantic-experience/>

Masterclasses & Picnics

Ever wondered how salmon is actually smoked?

Now you can learn it comfortably in the Burren Smokehouse Visitor Centre. Hour-long masterclasses are offered all year round and can be booked by email and by phone. Here is an idea for your lunch: Get a picnic at the Burren Smokehouse with everything you need and want, find a lovely place in the Burren or on the shore of the Atlantic and enjoy a feast for the senses! Opening hours January to March: Every day (Monday to Sunday) from 10-4pm

www.burrensmokehouse.com



**Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!**



TOUR DE BURREN 2020

It's time to oil the brakes, pump up the wheels and get a few miles on the legs for the 16th annual Tour de Burren Cycle on June 20, 2020.

TOUR DE BURREN

Truly a local event organised by the Burren Cycling Club, the cycle will bring 1,000 regular and would-be riders out into the beautiful landscape of the Burren Geopark in County Clare. Can there be a better way to engage with our awe-inspiring scenery than to ride along the Wild Atlantic Way on two wheels? And with excellent signage on the route as well as an army of marshalls, participants feel safe, relaxed and can enjoy the spin.

This year, we're reducing the entry fee with a special early bird rate of €30 for the first 200 entries, €35 for the next 300 and €40 for the final 500 participants. So get in gear and sign up! Online booking will open on the 6th February. More information can be found on www.tourdeburren.com.

MONKS BALLYVAUGHAN

Set Dancing with Bill Lynch continues every Thursday night

Beginners are welcome at 8pm while improvers can join in at 8.30pm. These classes are open to locals and visitors alike. Admission to class €5.

Sunday Music Session

Takes place every Sunday afternoon from 3.30pm. Enjoy some traditional Irish music while you feast on fresh, local seafood.

Oíche na mBan

Oíche na mBan will take place on Saturday 29th February. Oíche na mBan is a fundraising event for Sláinte an Chláir and Home Carers. Tickets are on sale from Ballyvaughan Service Station.



**Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!**



OÍCHE NA MBAN

7PM, SAT. 29TH FEB

€30

PROSECCO RECEPTION
2 COURSE MEAL
DANCING UNTIL LATE

ALL PROCEEDS TO
SLAINTE AN CHLÁIR &
HOME CARERS

TICKETS ON SALE FROM
BALLYVAUGHAN SERVICE STATION

EVERYONE
WELCOME
FROM 10PM

DJ UNTIL LATE

PROUDLY HOSTED BY:

MONKS BALLYVAUGHAN

*Congratulations to Sheedy's Hotel Lisdoonvarna on winning first place
in the Good Hotel Guide 2020 editor choice for Walking!!*



**Editor's Choice
Walking**

**Sheedy's
Lisdoonvarna**

STONECUTTER'S KITCHEN - DOOLIN



Stonecutters Restaurant is reopening again for the 2020 season on March 28th at 12.30 and we are looking forward to an exciting new season.

*We are offering you a **10% discount** on all food offerings, just quote the code **BEN2020** when you arrive to pay at the restaurant!!*

ST. TOLA - INAGH

St Tola Goat Cheese in Inagh are opening their doors once again to the public to come and have a look at the farm and taste their delicious cheeses.



Gates open during the mid-term break on Friday 21st February at 10.15 for a 1 hour tour starting at 10.30 sharp!

€10 adults, €5 children or a family ticket €30 for 2 adults and 3 children.

See you all there!



We have a March Yoga Retreat coming up! - details on doolininn.ie

For Valentine's, we're promoting our B&B rate which is from €119 that weekend.

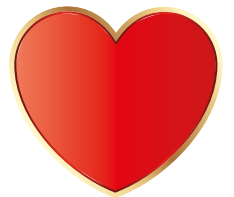
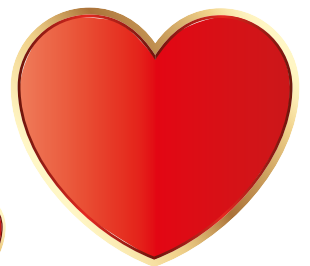
VIP Your Room for extra indulgence from €39!

(VIP My Room - Wine, Cheese & Lazy Mornings: €39)

♥ Bottle of House Wine ♥ A Burren Cheese Plate ♥ Late Checkout

(VIP My Room - Bubbles, Fruit & Lazy Mornings: €49)

♥ Bottle of Prosecco ♥ A Bowl of Fresh Fruit ♥ Late Checkout



FEBRUARY MIDTERM OFFER

***2 Nights Bed & Breakfast in a Family Room,
Admission to Doolin Cave & Admission to the Birds of Prey Centre
from €409 (based on 2 adults & 2 children).***

***We also have a number of special offers available including our
Taste the Burren package, Winter Warmer Break
and Shannon Airport Red Eye Special.***



VALENTINE'S MENU



MINISTRONE SOUP

Classic Italian Vegetable Soup served with Toasted Ciabatta Bread

DUCK SPRING ROLLS

Homemade rolls with Lambic Lettuce and a Sweet Chili Sauce

GOLDEN MUSHROOMS

Braised Mushrooms with Caramel Blue Cheese, Radish Salad and Corn Dip

ATLANTIC OYSTERS

Kelly's Oysters served on a bed of Seaweed, with a choice of Tabasco, Mango Sauce or Perini



10 OZ STRIPLOIN STEAK

Prime Irish Hereford Beef cooked to order, served with Portabello Mushrooms, Fried Onions, choice of Peppercorn, Blue Cheese Sauce or Garlic Butter

IRISH CHICKEN SUPREME

Grilled Fillet of Chicken on a pillow of Choux à la Reine

SEAFOOD TAGLIATELLE

Homemade Pasta with King Prawns, Mussels, Clams and Smoked Salmon

CREAMY RISOTTO

Wild Mushrooms and Asparagus



CHEF DARISUZ'S VALENTINES DESSERT PLATE.

Freshly Brewed Benley's Tea or Coffee

€32.50 per person

includes Glass of Bubbly,
Ferrero Rocher
and a Flower
for the Ladies.

MAKE A NIGHT OF IT
with Dinner and
B & B for 2 persons

€139.00

BURREN CENTRE - KILFENORA



*The Burren Centre Tea Rooms
open Monday to Friday from 10a.m. to 5p.m.
until mid-March.*

All facilities will re-open on Thursday 12th. of March for 2020 season.

*For bookings or enquiries please email – info@theburrencentre.ie
or telephone 00353657088030.*

BOGHILL CENTRE - KILFENORA



*Boghill have the
national tree
planting day
coming up on the
18th of
February and
we always love to
see people coming
out for that!!!*

We have some interesting workshops!

- 7-9 of February Japanese Ink workshop for beginners,
- 21-23 February Soul whisperings retreat with Sharon Fitzmaurice,
- 6-8 March Tribal spirit Drumming with John Bowker,
- 20-22 March Wild writing workshop with Paul Kingsnorth
- 30th of March Sharon Blakie is coming back for 2 workshops.

Details for most can be found on our website <https://www.boghill.com/events-at-boghill/>



Burren Farm Experience

Our unique guided experience in one of the most distinctive UNESCO designated landscapes in Europe with your own regional tourist guide and fifth generation Burren farmer.

Choose from a relaxed seated tour to a gentle stroll or strenuous hike and rustic picnic through our privately owned 500 acre farm in the Burren National Park with informative commentary.

Walk highlights include vast limestone pavement expanses, Burren speciality wild flowers, archaeological points of interest, lavish views of the Burren Mountains, Lough Bunny lake and much much more...

www.burrenfarmexperience.ie

mobile: 086 399 04 40

e-mail: info@burrenfarmexperience.ie



Airmid

NATURAL HANDMADE SKINCARE



PLANT BASED
SMALL BATCHES
HANDCUT

**VALENTINE'S
OFFER**
20% OFF
ALL ONLINE ORDERS
FOR FEBRUARY
USE CODE:
VALENTINE2020
AT CHECKOUT



- Sustainability is at the heart of this family business, based in Kilfenora.
- Airmid grow all the herbs and flowers for the range by organic methods in their Burren garden.
- Local beeswax is collected from coastal beekeepers for Airmid lotion bars and balms.
- Atlantic Irish Seaweed is hand harvested off the Kerry Coast.
- Green Man men's range of shaving and beard care products and accessories.



Connect with us . . .



AIRMIDSOAP.com



*This year, the team are introducing a fairy trail
and a new environmental /GAA trail
especially for families in March.*

*Shane Gilmore sculptor has been commissioned
to do a wooden hurley /football structure
at the main entrance
which will be unveiled in March also.*



We are delighted to announce we are now official partners with The National Botanic Gardens Glasnevin. We have been working together on an unofficial basis for some time with the National Collection of Burren Flora at Burren Nature Sanctuary.

We will now also be a satellite resource for seed collection for the new National Seed Bank that was launched at the Biodiversity Conference last year. The Burren is the most biodiverse place in Ireland and it is essential that we conserve our native plants with a back-up collection and seed saving.

In 2019 we also became partnered up by Botanic Conservation International, Kew, with the botanic gardens in the Balearic Islands, the Jardí Botanic de Sóller. <https://www.burrennaturesanctuary.ie/sharing-experiences-botanical-partnership-with-jardi-botanic-de-soller-mallorca/>

Also see the blog about some new members to BNS!
<https://www.burrennaturesanctuary.ie/the-native-scots-pine/>

NEW FOR 2020 PIG WALK BIRTHDAY PARTIES!

<https://www.burrennaturesanctuary.ie/book-a-birthday-party-for-children-in-burren-nature-sanctuary/>

Stone, Water and Ice:

The Burren - A Landscape shaped by Time



This 5 night introductory evening course is designed for all with an interest in the Burren and a curious mind.

No geology experience required. No exams!

Course delivered by Colin Bunce (Burren Outdoor Education Centre) and UNESCO Global Geopark geologist, Dr. Eamon Doyle

2020 Course Outline:

Feb 5th

Introduction to Geology

Feb 12th

Geology of Ireland

Feb 19th

Geology of the Burren

Feb 26th

Burren Landscapes

Feb 29th (Sat)

Burren Fieldtrip

March 4th

Special Guest Lecture

Dr. Gordon Bromley NUIG



BURREN AND CLIFFS OF MOHER

**GEO
PARK**

PEOPLE. PLACE.
LEARNING. LIVELIHOOD.

Where: Burren Outdoor Education Centre,
Turlough, Bell Harbour, Co. Clare

When: Wednesday evenings 7.30 - 9.30pm

Feb 5th - March 4th inclusive

Cost: €60 - includes day fieldtrip, tea/coffee and biscuits

Contact: colin.bunce@lcebt.ie or edoyle@clarecoco.ie

or call Burren Outdoor Education Centre 065 7078066



Geological Survey

Suirbhíreacht Gheolaíochta
Ireland | Éireann



Burren and Cliffs of Moher
UNESCO Global Geopark



The Imperial Hotel will be back open on the 25th March 2020.

It will open for certain days of the week only and will fully open from April 2020. For more information on open days please contact info@imperialhotel.ie

NEWLY RENOVATED ROOMS

We have done some extensive refurbishment work in the Imperial Hotel having completely renovated 15 rooms over the winter period!!

IRISH NIGHTS

Our Irish Nights will kick off in April 2020 for more information on the Irish Nights please contact the hotel info@imperialhotel.ie

For more information visit

www.burren.ie

Or find us on our Visit the Burren Facebook Page

*Please see a list of our proud members
and associates below*

BUSINESS MEMBER	LOCATION	WEBSITE
Aillwee Cave and Birds of Prey Centre	Ballyvaughan	www.aillweecave.ie
Airmid Natural Handmade Skincare	Kilfenora	www.airmidsoap.com
Anam Coffee	Kilfenora	www.anamcoffee.ie
Ballinsheen House Garden	Lisdoonvarna	www.ballinsheen.com
Burren Distillery	Ballyvaughan	
Burren Experience Guided walks	Corofin	www.mullaghmore-burren.com
Burren Farm Experience	Boston	www.burrenfarmexperience.ie
Burren Fine Wine Food	Ballyvaughan	www.burrenwine.ie
Burren Free Range Pork Farm	Kilfenora	www.burrenfreerangepork.com
Burren Nature Sanctuary	Kinvara	www.bns.ie
Burren Smokehouse Ltd	Lisdoonvarna	www.burrensmokehouse.ie
Cafe Linnalla ice cream	New Quay	www.linnalla.ie
Caherconnell Fort	Carron	www.caherconnellfort.com
Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience	Liscannor	www.cliffsofmoher.ie
Doolin Cave	Doolin	www.doolincave.ie
Doolin Campsite and Caravan Park	Doolin	www.doolincamping.com
Doolin Ferry Co.	Doolin	www.doolinferry.com
Doolin Inn	Doolin	www.doolininn.ie
Doolin Music House	Doolin	www.doolinmusichouse.com
Doolin2Aran Ferries	Doolin	www.doolin2aranferries.com
Dunguire Castle	Kinvara	www.dunguirecastle.com
Ekotree Knitwear	Doolin	www.ekotree.ie
e-whizz electric bikes	Kilfenora	www.e-whizz.com



Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!



BURREN ECOTOURISM NETWORK - MEMBER LISTING

BUSINESS MEMBER	LOCATION	WEBSITE
Falls Hotel	Ennistymon	www.fallshotel.ie
Fiddle and Bow Hotel	Doolin	www.fiddleandbow.ie
Flaggy Shore Oysters	New Quay	www.redbankfoodco.com
Gregans Castle	Ballyvaughan	www.gregans.ie
Hazelwood Lodge	Ballyvaughan	www.hazelwoodlodge.ie
Hotel Doolin	Doolin	www.hoteldoolin.ie
Hylands Burren Hotel	Ballyvaughan	www.hylandsburren.com
Irish Crafts Online	Doolin	www.irishcraftsonline.com
Irish Herbal Roots	Lahinch	www.irishherbalroots.ie
Linannes Lobster Bar	New Quay	www.linnanesbar.com
Market House	Ennistymon	www.markethouseennistymon.com
Merriman Hotel	Kinvara	www.merrimanhotel.com
Michael Cusack Centre	Carron	www.michaelcusack.ie
Monks	Ballyvaughan	www.monks.ie
Newtown Castle	Ballyvaughan	www.newtowncastle.com
Roadside Tavern	Lisdoonvarna	www.roadsidetavern.ie
Sea View House	Doolin	www.seaview-doolin.ie
Sheedys Hotel	Lisdoonvarna	www.sheedys.com
StoneCutters Family Restaurant	Doolin	www.stonecutterskitchen.com
St Tola Cheese	Inagh	www.st-tola.ie
The Boghill Centre	Kilfenora	www.boghill.com
The Burren Centre	Kilfenora	www.theburrencentre.ie
The Farmyard	Corofin	www.thefarmyard.ie
The Lodge Doolin	Doolin	www.doolinlodge.com
Vaughans Guesthouse	Kilfenora	www.kilfenorahostel.com
Walk with Pius	Corofin	www.walkwithpius.com
Whites Hotels	Lisdoonvarna	www.whitestours.com
Wild Atlantic Lodge	Ballyvaughan	www.thewildatlanticlodge.com
Wild Honey Inn	Lisdoonvarna	www.wildhoneyinn.com
Wild Kitchen	Lahinch	www.wildkitchen.ie



Visit the Burren,
Stay another Night!





burren.ie

