# Tell me a story from before I can remember...

## Castles & Conquests

#### A Nenagh Castle, Nenagh



Roscrea Castle is an amazing 13th century state-of-the-art royal castle located in the heart of Roscrea. The castle grounds consist of a gate tower, curtain walls and two corner towers. Originally erected by King John 1 of England,

storey Queen Anne style house is an example of pre-Palladian architecture. Come and see the splendour of these two amazing pieces of architectural design. The close proximity of Roscrea Castle and Damer House make them an essential stop on the trail of Ireland's Ancient East.

#### C Fethard Medieval Town, Fethard

A near perfect example of an Anglo Norman walled town dating from c. 1200 AD. In Fethard, the encircling Town Wall, Holy Trinity Church (c 1200), and the Augustinian Abbey (1305) discover Tipperary's unique equine heritage in the Fethard Horse Country exhibition centre.

#### D Ormond Castle, Carrick-On-Suir

Ormond Castle was acquired by The Butler Family in 1315 and is the finest example of an Elizabethan manor house in Ireland. The 3rd Earl of Ormond, commonly referred to as 'Black Tom', spent some years at the court of his cousin Oueen Elizabeth 1 and while there he became so inspired by the Elizabethan-style of architecture that he decided to add a Tudor manor house to the front of the original castle. Come and see the remarkable features of decorative plasterwork exemplifies some of the



The Rock of Cashel is one of the most spectacular landmarks in Ireland. Perched on an elevated limestone plain, overlooking the Golden Vale, it is an incredible sight to behold. The history of the rock implicates the Devil himself. The story goes that the Rock was originally part of a mountain that stands 30km north of Cashel (the Devil's Bit). During East. A must see.

#### E The Main Guard, Clonmel

within its ancient walls. Don't miss out on visiting this remarkable monument.

#### F Swiss Cottage, Cahir

Ireland's most exquisitely beautiful cottage and arguably one of the most romantic cottages to be found anywhere in the world. The Swiss was situated in the centre of Lord and Lady Cahir's private domain (estate) and was used for fishing and hunting parties and for entertaining guests. Surrounded outside by fragrant roses, lavender and wisteria, its delightful interior contains elegantly decorated rooms. The wallpaper in the Salon was

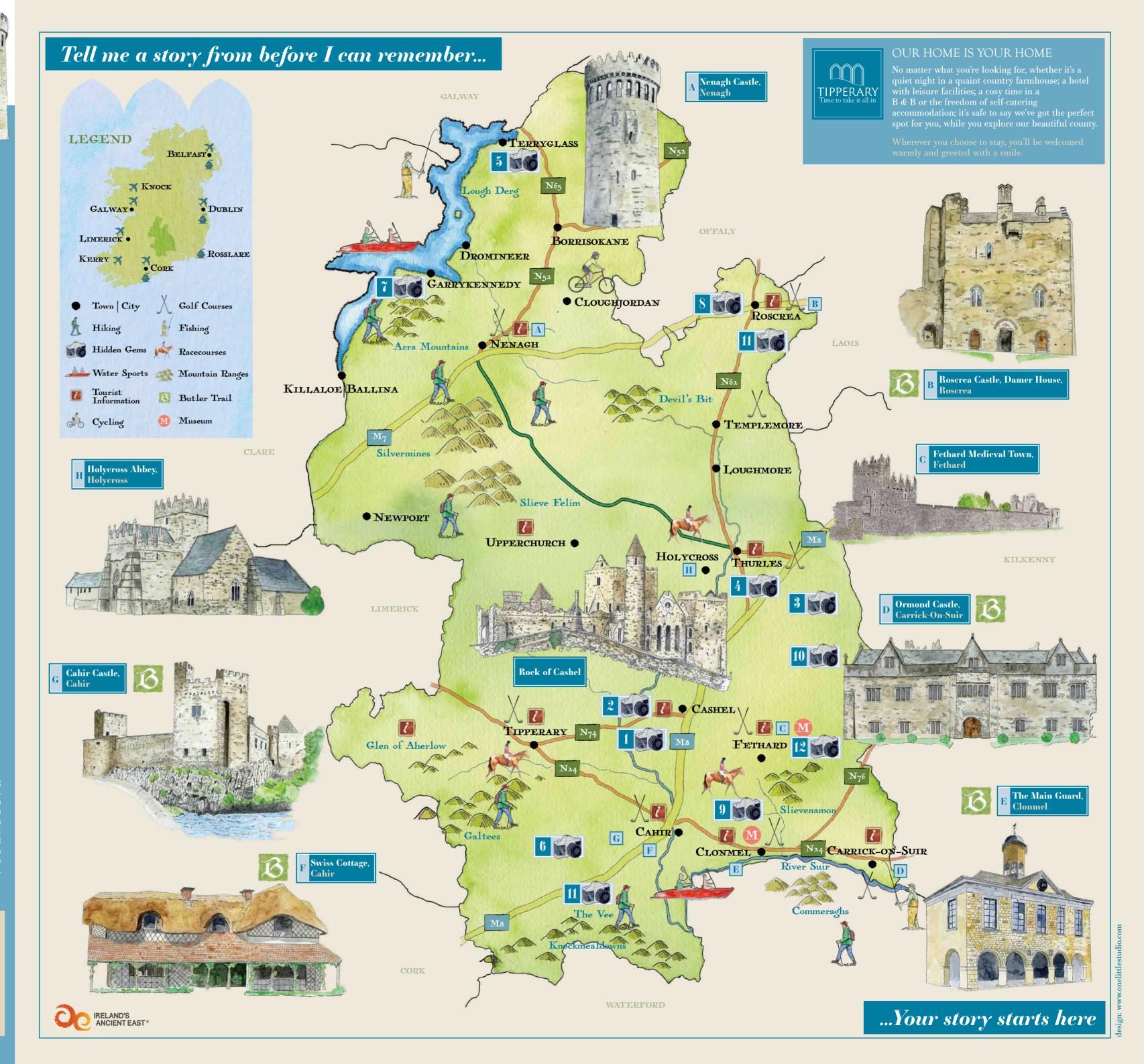
#### G Cahir Castle, Cahir

Walk. A 2km walk from the castle to the Swiss

#### H Holycross Abbey, Holycross

As a popular pilgrim destination spanning to centuries, it has a rich and colourful pas sacred relic of the true cross, which gave its name to the Abbey and village. Today this working Parish church is a peaceful landmark and a place for quiet contemplation and historical discovery. The Padre Pio meditation

an epic battle between St. Patrick and the Devil, the Devil bit a chunk of rock out of the mountains. Afterwards in a rage, the Devil spat out the rock, which landed in Cashel. Once the traditional seat of the kings of Munster, it is one of the foremost pieces of Celtic art and medieval architecture in Europe. Most of its buildings date back to the 12th and 15th centuries. A truly remarkable piece of history, it is an integral monument in Ireland's Ancient





Wandering off the beaten track is exhilarating. Discovering that quiet, hushed little secret is a rewarding experience; a treasure uncovered from a wonderful adventure. We are all drawn to the authentic: Tipperary embodies it. Time to discover it for yourself.



#### 1 Athassel Abbey, Golden

Built by William Fitz-Aldhelm de Burgho for the Augustinians in the 12th century, the abbey was one of Ireland's biggest monasteries, stretching out over four beautiful acres of land along the banks of the River Suir.

#### **2** Cashel Folk Village, Cashel

Cashel Folk Museum has a magnificent collection of historical memorabilia relating to the 1916 Rising, the Irish War of Independence, and the Irish Civil War. There is also a section documenting The Great Irish Famine of 1845 - 1852, with lifelike exhibits and an audiovisual show.

#### 3 Derrynaflan Trail

Discover the rich ecclesiastical heritage of Tipperary on this driving trail. Leading you to church sites, old monasteries, graveyards, holy wells and other sacred places, the heritage sites contain a wealth of stories and history spanning fifteen centuries, from the earliest years of Christianity in Ireland in the decades after St. Patrick, to modern churches. Derrynaflan Trail is a driving trail with a free audio guide.

#### 9 St. Patrick's Well, Clonmel

Situated at the base of a limestone cliff, this beautiful natural well is a great location to relax and enjoy a picnic. At the bottom of a set of winding stone steps, the waters from the well flow into a big shallow pond, with an ancient stone cross on a little island in the middle. The site also has a stone statue of St. Patrick.

#### 10 The Famine Warhouse, Ballingarry

national monument today.

camera icon on the map.

To find out more see www.tipperary.com

#### 4 Farney Castle, Holycross

The first early Norman fortification at Farney Castle is a must-see hidden gem in Ireland's Ancient East. Built around 1185, after Richard de Clare (Strongbow) arrived in Ireland, the castle was synonymous with the Butler family name for centuries.

#### 5 Lorrha Monastic Village, Lorrha

Lorrha has a rich ecclesiastical history, as shown by the ruins throughout the village. Among the notable monastic sites in the village are: The Augustinian Priory & Domincan Friary, St. Ruadhan's Church and the impressive Lackeen Castle and Redwood Castle are close by.

#### 6 Mitchelstown Caves, Near Cahir

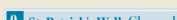
Discovered in 1833, when Michael Condon accidentally came upon the vast underground network of caves whilst quarrying for limestone. On the guided tour you will follow ancient passageways and visit massive caverns in which you are surrounded by indescribable dripstone formations. You will also see one of Europe's finest columns, the "Tower of Babel", which stands some 9 meters in height. The largest cavern, known as the Concert Hall, has even hosted music concerts. Be sure to visit these timeless masterpieces.

#### **7** Millennium Cross, Portroe

Follow in the footsteps of Brian Boru, the most famous High King of Ireland, with a hike to the Millennium Cross in Portroe and be amazed by the panoramic views of Lough Derg and beyond. Don't miss the lookout point below for a great photo opportunity!

## 8 Round Tower & Black Mills, Roscrea

This marvelous 11th century round tower in Roscrea rises to a height of 20 metres. The Black Mills behind the tower have been renovated and turned into a museum and visitor centre.



Ballingarry Famine Warhouse was the principal site of the Rebellion by the Young Irelanders in 1848: when rebels besieged 47 police who had barricaded themselves into the McCormack farmhouse. The exhibition on display places the Famine Rebellion in the context of 1848 as Europe's Year of Revolutions. Experience this historic

To find the location of our Hidden Gems, look for our

There are so many wonderful gardens to near Roscrea.

racing legend.



#### 11 Tipperary's Gardens

visit in Tipperary, such as Ballyboy Garden & Woodland - with its stunning views of the Knockmealdown and Galtee mountains - and the incredible Fancroft Mill and Gardens

#### **12** Fethard Horse Country Experience

If horses are your thing, make sure you add a stop at the Fethard Horse Country Experience. Just off the Butler Trail, the museum gives a beautifully vivid and modern display of the history of the land and the role horses have played from draught horse to

#### go on a horse trek or simply want to revel in Tipperary's natural beauty by taking a relaxing river cruise.

Looking to sit back and relax, whilst taking in the splendor of Lough Derg? A leisurely cruise is the ideal way for the family to enjoy the beauty of Lough Derg

Adventure & Days Out

or visit one of Tipperary's many festivals.

Diverse landscapes and terrain ensure biking

trails range from challenging to leisurely.

The North Tipperary Cycle Routes cover

the eastern shores of Lough Derg where the

character of the lakeside villages such as

Dromineer and Terryglass can be explored.

Experience the thrill of downhill mountain

Whether you are looking for a leisurely stroll

or a challenging hiking experience, there are

so many trails to choose from in Tipperary.

Walk and hike through the majestic Munster

Vales taking in the Knockmealdowns.

Comeraghs and Galtee Mountains. Take in

the breathtaking sights of the Golden Vale

and enjoy our historical attractions along

the way. The magnificent River Suir, home

to otters and herons, adds greatly to the

tranquility of the trails along its course.

Visit www.tipperary.com for a full list

biking at Bike Park Ireland in Ballingarry.

**Biking/Cycling** 

Walking/Hiking

With magnificent mountain ranges, unspoiled valleys, scenic

hillsides and serene rivers and lakes, adventure awaits at every

turn. Enjoy an evening out with friends at the greyhound races

#### Templemore Park Fairy Trail

TIME FOR

Family

This picturesque woodland trail is a wonderful place to unwind and stroll about. Or you can take the Fairy Trail challenge and see if you can find all of the little fairy doors concealed in the trees.

#### **Heritage Centres & Museums**

Loose vourself in stories from the past and turn the key to the rich heritage of Tipperary with a visit to Nenagh, Carrick on Suir, Cloughjordan and Cashel heritage centres. Listen to the local stories and history of the people and the places. Don't miss out on excellent exhibitions in the Tipperary County Museum in Clonmel.

#### The Butler Trail 🌃

For over 5 centuries of turbulence, the Butlers were the most powerful aristocratic family in Tipperary and they have left an indelible

mark, Explore the Butler Trail through the towns of Carrick on Suir, Clonmel, Roscrea and Cahir with a free audio guide and App to guide you along the way: available on www. of Ireland's Ancient East and its network of stories as they relate to a landscape that stretches back over 5,000 years.

Power down the engines and follow the trail of

Tipperary's River Suir from Cahir to Carrick-

on-Suir. There are 56km of great kayaking

opportunities along the river but if you want

a steadier pace, get on your bike for some or

The Lough Derg Blueway will blow your

mind with its stunning lake dotted with small

islands and inland beaches. If you feel the

need for the earth beneath your feet, get

yourself up one of the summits and see it all

Visit www.discoverloughderg.ie for more

There are so many wonderful festivals and

events that take place in Tipperary throughout

the year, from the Clonmel Junction Festival

and Feile Brian Ború in Ballina to the

all of the 19km stretch of trails.

**Lough Derg Blueway** 

from a bird's eye view.

Tipperariana Book Fair.

Visit www.tipperary.com

for more information.

#### **Ballina Outdoor Pool**

With such ease of access, so many wonderful accommodation choices available

and a laid-back atmosphere, there is something for the whole family: whether

you are looking to visit an authentic Irish farm and interact with the animals,

Brave the outdoors with a dip in the swimming pool located in the Riverside Park in Ballina. Attractively located alongside Lough Derg, it is the perfect place for the whole family to unwind on a lazy afternoon.

#### Who do you think you are?

Why not trace your ancestry and try one of our genealogy services that can be found at Nenagh Heritage Centre, Tipperary Excel Centre, & Brú Ború Cultural Centre, Cashel.

#### **Arts, Crafts and Cultural Centres**

Arts, crafts and cultural events take place throughout the year at the Source Arts Centre, Thurles, Nenagh Arts Centre, Tipperary Excel Centre, South Tipperary Arts Centre, Clonmel, & the Craft Granary, Cahir.



A haven of heritage and natural beauty, Tipperary boasts some of Ireland's most spectacular sights. The rich pastures of the Golden Vale offer up a range of local produce, from artisan cheeses and black pudding to juices and jams; something to savour after a day of fishing or horse riding.



#### Fishing/Angling

Whether you are a beginner or an expert, there are so many options for anglers and fishermen. With gently flowing rivers, quiet streams, as well as lakes, there is a broad spectrum of fishing experiences on offer. The River Suir, which rises on the slopes of the Devil's Bit Mountains, has plentiful reserves of brown trout. There are over 12 miles of brown trout fishing on the River Suir and River Aherlow, while the River Shannon and Lough Derg present a great opportunity to spend a day fishing on a lake for trout, bream, pike or perch.

## The Apple Farm

The whole family can savour the delightful flavours at the award-winning Apple Farm in Cahir with its delicious juices, lemonades and jams. Come and pick your own fruit for your own unique jam and juice experience.

#### Horse Riding

Is there anything more beautiful than a gathering of horses in a country meadow on a lovely still evening? If you love to watch horse racing or you enjoy horse riding, and would like to learn, you have come to the right place. Tipperary is famous for producing world champion racehorses and is a base for many of Ireland's most experienced jockeys and trainers. Coolmore Stud, in Fethard, is headquarters of the world's largest breeding operation of thoroughbred racehorses.

There is a choice of equestrian centers available that offer tuition and trekking through picturesque, unspoiled mountain pastures. This is a wonderful opportunity to see some of Ireland finest horses. Experience spectacular off-road mountain treks, riding lessons for children and adults, pony camps, and residential riding holidays.



Tipperary boasts a huge variety of hikes and walks spread throughout the county, with a range of beautiful linear and looped trails.

#### Beech Trail, Cloughjordan

Knockanacree Woods covers 41 hectares of land. It is teeming with wildlife, from sparrowhawks and red squirrel to foxes and badgers. It is particularly beautiful in springtime with the blossoming of bluebells and wild garlic.

#### **Devils Bit Loop**

A wonderful 5km loop that utilises forestry tracks and hillside paths to provide a pleasant walking trail with views of Lough Derg and Slievenamon and distant views of the Comeragh and Knockmealdown Mountains.

## Sli Eala Walk, Nenagh

Slí Eala (the Way of the Swan) is a beautiful 10km linear walking trail that follows along the banks of the Nenagh River from the historic lakeside village of Dromineer.

## **East Munster Way**

Explore part of The Butler Trail, which starts at Ormond Castle in Carrick on Suir. The trail follows the River Suir as far as the quaint village of Kilsheelin.

#### **Marlfield Fox Covert Loop**

Fox Covert Loop is one of two looped trails in Marlfield Wood, the other being the Glenbawn Loop. The woods are teeming with wildlife and diverse plant species, making a very peaceful place for a leisurely walk.

#### Goatenbridge - Liam Lynch Loop

Follow beautiful forestry roadways and travel along the shoulder of Crohan Mountain; walk along the Glengalla River and take in fantastic views of the Knockmealdown Mountains

#### Glen of Aherlow

The Glen of Aherlow has 8 different looped walks in the Galtee Mountains.

#### The Beara-Breifne Way

Follow the Multeen Way and the Ormond Way through Tipperary, the two walks form part of the 500km Beara Breifne Way, the longest way marked trail in Ireland.

#### Eamonn an Chnoic

Located in the village of Upperchurch near Thurles, this looped trail passes along quiet country roads and forestry boundaries. It has beautiful views of the Comeragh, Knockmealdowns, Galtees, Slievenamon and Devil's Bit Mountains.

#### **Slieve Felim Way**

Brings you right to the heart of Tipperary's beautiful countryside. The trail from Toor to Silvermines gives walkers a series of stunning views from a number of different mountains along the route.

Maps and more walks are available on www.tipperary.com



Tipperary

Time to Discover

IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

## ...Your story starts here

Revitalise yourself in the fertile vales of Tipperary: an undiscovered wonder of Ireland's Ancient East with landscapes to take your breath away. There are so many spectacular sights to see in the farming heartland of Ireland: the majestic Galtee and Knockmealdown Mountains; historic landmarks such as the Rock of Cashel, Cahir Castle and Holycross Abbey; and so many delightful towns and villages.

**Discover** Tipperary for yourself. Here, pilgrim paths and heritage towns are the backdrop to rolling mountains, which are brought to life by beautiful tracks and trails and engaging local folklore. Explore stunning valleys and unspoilt hillsides, wander off the beaten track and lose yourself in nature.

**Immerse** yourself in 5,000 years of history and culture. Mingle with the locals, whose ancestry can be traced back to these lands for generations. Partake and enjoy our hospitality. Tipperary has something to offer for the whole family: whether you are looking to stay at a cosy hotel or country house, looking to experience an authentic Irish pub or café, or you just want to revel in the natural surroundings by taking a relaxing river cruise on Lough Derg.

**Relax** and enjoy our hospitality while savouring the flavours of the Golden Vale and beyond, sampling the artisan produce of this rich and fertile land in our outstanding selection of restaurants. You are sure to leave feeling refreshed and fulfilled. Make our home your home.

There is so much to see and do.

## www.tipperary.com







