



# Explore Tipperary's Littleton Labyrinth Trails



It's a living thing.



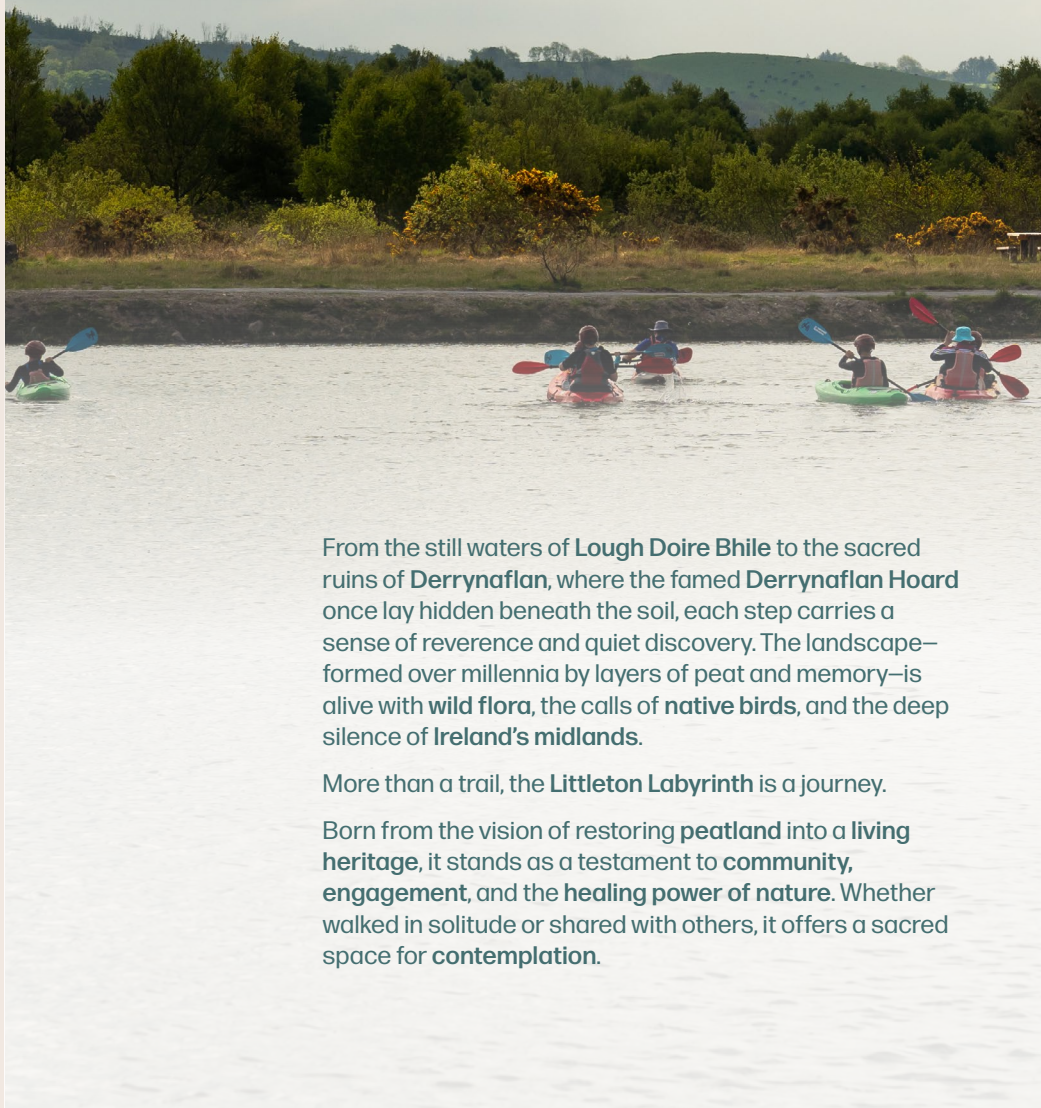
## Introduction

Welcome to the **Littleton Labyrinth**, a scenic walking and cycling trail nestled in the heart of Ireland's Ancient East and the heart of County Tipperary, near Littleton village.

Winding along a former **Bord na Móna railway line**, this **7.2 km trail** invites walkers and cyclists alike to slow their pace and immerse themselves in the gentle rhythm of the land.

### Getting Here

- 10 mins from Thurles
- 15 mins from Cashel
- 1 hr from Limerick or Kilkenny



From the still waters of **Lough Doire Bhile** to the sacred ruins of **Derrynaflan**, where the famed **Derrynaflan Hoard** once lay hidden beneath the soil, each step carries a sense of reverence and quiet discovery. The landscape—formed over millennia by layers of peat and memory—is alive with **wild flora**, the calls of **native birds**, and the deep silence of **Ireland's midlands**.

More than a trail, the **Littleton Labyrinth** is a journey.

Born from the vision of restoring **peatland** into a **living heritage**, it stands as a testament to **community, engagement, and the healing power of nature**. Whether walked in solitude or shared with others, it offers a sacred space for **contemplation**.



## About the Trail

The Littleton Labyrinth trail is a 7.2 km walking and cycling route located near the village of Littleton, County Tipperary. It begins at the Littleton Labyrinth Car Park, a short walk from Lough Doire Bhile, and continues through a restored peatland landscape rich in wildlife and native vegetation.

Key features along the trail include:

**Lough Dhoire Bhile** an idyllic lake with picnic benches and parking area. It's ideal for a gentle stroll, or to just sit back, relax and take in the wonderful natural surroundings.

**Interpretive signage:** Information panels along the route highlight the area's **natural ecology**, **industrial history**, and **cultural significance**.

**Wildlife and habitats:** The trail passes through **raised bog**, **woodland**, and **wetland areas** that support diverse flora and fauna.

The route is part of a broader **eco-tourism** and **community regeneration** project, with plans for future development.



# Find Your Way Through the Labyrinth

Address: Littleton Labyrinth Carpark,  
J78V+2P, Ballybeg, Chapel Hill

Littleton Labyrinth has three trail heads - each with their own car park.

The main **Littleton Labyrinth Car Park** is at the former **Bord na Móna works site**, and is the main access point for the Littleton Labyrinth walking and cycling trail.

**Lough Doire Bhile**, provides **free parking** and includes **picnic benches** and **interpretive signage**, making it a convenient and welcoming starting point.

You can also start your walk or cycle from **The Horse and Jockey Hotel**, with ample car parking, delicious refreshments and a place to relax and unwind afterwards.

The ancient **Derrynaflan Monastic Site** is accessible via a short detour.

Use the map to plan your route, locate **heritage sites**, and navigate safely through this unique blend of **natural beauty** and **cultural history** in the heart of **County Tipperary**.



## Points of Interest

### Lough Doire Bhile:

The trail begins here, a peaceful lake with picnic benches and ample parking. It is a popular local spot for birdwatching and relaxation.

### Derrynaflan Monastic Site:

A short detour from the main trail leads to this early Christian monastic settlement, where the Derrynaflan Hoard—a 9th-century treasure of liturgical vessels—was discovered in 1980. The site is surrounded by woodland and offers a quiet space for reflection.

*Bailey's Hotel in Cashel host the only exact replica of the Derrynaflan Chalice and they also run tours to Derrynaflan church.*

### Former Bord na Móna Railway:

The path itself is part of the region's industrial heritage. Interpretive signs along the route tell the story of peat harvesting and its transformation into an eco-friendly tourism project.

### Natural Habitat:

Visitors will walk through a restored bogland ecosystem rich in biodiversity. The landscape includes reed beds, mosses, heather, and native trees. Wildlife sightings may include skylarks, butterflies, frogs, and dragonflies.







## Access & Facilities

The Littleton Labyrinth is designed to be open and welcoming to all.



The 7.2 km trail has a level, gravel surface, making it suitable for **walkers, cyclists, families**, and those with **limited mobility**. Along the route, **rest areas and seating** are thoughtfully placed, while **interpretive signage** provides insight into the rich **natural and cultural heritage** of the area. The trail is **open year-round, free to access**, and is part of an evolving **community project** committed to **conservation, education, and wellbeing**.

The Littleton Labyrinth offers a welcoming experience for a wide range of visitors. Whether you're a **leisure walker**, part of a **family outing**, a **non-motorised cyclist**, or visiting as part of a **school or group trip**, the trail is designed to be **accessible and enjoyable**. It also attracts **heritage and nature enthusiasts** who come to explore the unique **landscape and cultural landmarks**. **Dogs** are welcome on the trail, but for the safety of **local wildlife**, they must be kept on a lead at all times.

The Littleton Labyrinth trail is a cornerstone of a larger **environmental and cultural regeneration project**—turning a **post-industrial landscape** into a space for **public enjoyment, learning, and wellbeing**.

A visit to the **Derrynaflan Monastic Site**, accessible from the trail, offers a glimpse into Ireland's early Christian past. Nature lovers may also enjoy the **Cabragh Wetlands**, a conservation area known for its biodiversity and walking routes. The Littleton Labyrinth Peatway is surrounded by a network of small, characterful villages like Killenaule, Glengoose, Ballysloe, Gortnahoe and Ballynonty, that offer a glimpse into the heart of rural Tipperary. A stop at the **Crossroad Café** in Ballynonty has become an essential for locals and visitors alike.

**The Littleton Labyrinth isn't just a walk, it's a step into nature, into history and into landscape that has been shaped by hands, art and time.**





For more information visit  
**[www.tipperary.com](http://www.tipperary.com)**



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