



Leitrim
explore • experience • enjoy

EXPERIENCE LEITRIM 2009

Wednesday 15th to Wednesday 22nd April


Ireland

Glenade Valley

Fáilte go Liatroim



Parkes Castle



Leitrim Design

Building on the success of previous Roots Festival, Experience Leitrim 2009 is an innovative new way to indulge yourself in what Leitrim has to offer. Come and join in the celebrations and get a flavour of the wide range that this most inspiring County has to offer - from coach tours to pleasure cruises to 'real' traditional music song and dance!

Take this opportunity to build your very own Leitrim experience. Choose from the varied menu of activities to suit all ages. Be guided by our expertise in helping you to relax. Take a day out of life to do something different!

Leitrim is a country steeped in heritage and history in a glorious unspoilt setting. With breathtaking scenery in a rural setting which enjoys many a storytelling from the local characters, and a welcome you will never forget. A warm welcome awaits you. If you are unable to make it to Leitrim at this time then why not explore further packages at a date that suits you on our website.

Leitrim can offer accommodation to suit all tastes and budgets from self catering cottages to luxury Castle Hotels.

| Special rates have being negotiated for this event | |
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| Bed and Breakfast | from €30.00 per person per night |
| 3 star Hotels | from €40.00 per person per night |
| 4 star Hotels | from €65.00 per person per night |
| Castle Hotel | from €54.50 per person per night |
| Self Catering | from €300.00 per house per week |



Leitrim, West of Ireland

For further details and more offers log on to our website www.enjoyleitrim.com/experienceleitrim

EXPERIENCE LEITRIM - 2009 Wednesday 15th to Wednesday 22nd April

| Wednesday 15th | Thursday 16th | Friday 17th | Saturday 18th | Sunday 19th | Monday 20th | Tuesday 21st | Wednesday 22nd |
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| Fáilte go Liatroim! | Famine Day | Lakes and Legends | North Leitrim Highlights | Industrial Heritage | Free Day | Leitrim Roots | Literary Day |
| Join us today in welcoming you to lovely Leitrim. | Join us as we remember the hardships of Ireland's Great Famine. | Rich in poetry, rural splendour and ancient history..... Let the land of W.B. Yeats inspire you. | The unspoiled landscape of North Leitrim waits to be explored. | Recreate the past experiences of Leitrim's coal miners and workers | Today is free to relax or, if you would prefer, take part in one of the many 'build your own experience' activities available in county Leitrim. | In the period between 1849 and 1990 the population of Leitrim fell from 160,000 to 26,000. The Great Famine led to massive emigration and whole families were decimated. | Leitrim, a county internationally recognised for its musicians and writers. |
| Registration will take place in the Bush Hotel Carrick on Shannon from 3:00pm – 5:30pm Followed by an Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception at the Civic Offices of Leitrim County Council. Tonight join us for some local entertainment in an Irish Pub. | Today visit the newly restored St. George's heritage and visitor's centre. The story of Leitrim, its landscape, its history and its people is introduced with audiovisual and interpretative displays. You will also visit St. George's church, a place of worship for the local area for over 200 years. Just a short walk away is the restored workhouse attic and Famine Graveyard of Remembrance. Lunch at your leisure in Carrick on Shannon. In the afternoon continue the famine theme and visit Strokestown House and Gardens which have been restored to their former glory and include the Famine Museum which documents events of the famine years in Ireland. This evening you are invited to a night of traditional Irish music in Cryan's Bar in Carrick on Shannon. | This morning's journey takes you to the beautiful Glencar Lake and Waterfall which inspired William Butler Yeats and is immortalized in his poem 'The Stolen Child'. We then travel along the shores of Lough Gill visit Parke's Castle which was once the stronghold of The O'Rourke clan. This is followed by a cruise on Lough Gill, with lunch provided, to view the Lake Isle of Innisfree. Entertainment is also provided on this trip. Optional: 5 Course meal at €50.00 per person. This evening is optional to join us at a Festival Dinner where you will have the opportunity to meet with fellow participants and locals to share experiences and hear about life in Leitrim. | Today go to the border town of Kiltyclogher to visit the homestead of Sean McDiarmada one of the leaders of the 1916 rising. Then travel through the scenic countryside and arrive at Rossinver Organic Centre for a guided tour of their organic show gardens. At the centre you will also get the opportunity to learn how to cook organically. This demonstration is followed by an organic lunch at the Grass Roof Café. After lunch travel to the historic town of Manorhamilton where you can take part in one of the many activities on offer: Optional: • Take a Heritage Walk around Manorhamilton (€10.00 per person). • Visit the Leitrim Sculpture Centre • Visit Ard Nahoo eco-retreat for a relaxing yoga session (€15.00 per person). This evening is free to enjoy local entertainment available in County Leitrim. | Church Services available locally. This morning join the local historian in a walking tour of Leitrim's Industrial Heritage in Carrick on Shannon. Lunch at your leisure in Carrick on Shannon. This afternoon take a scenic tour of the Arigna Valley, along the shores of Lough Allen to visit The Arigna Mining Experience. Here an underground tour recreates the experiences of local miners who worked in some of the narrowest coal seams in the western world. Optional: Tonight you are invited to join Radio Presenter Joe Finnegan from Shannonside Radio with his guest star Larry Cunningham who made the ballad 'Lovely Leitrim' famous worldwide. Admission €15.00 per person | Free Day | Today a fascinating journey back in time to discover your Leitrim Roots. At the County Library in Ballinamore, County Librarian and local historian, Sean O'Suilleabhain will examine the process of genealogy with a lecture on 'tracing your ancestors'. Lunch at your leisure in Ballinamore. In the afternoon a variety of activities are available including: Optional: • Visit your ancestors final resting place • Spend time in the Genealogy Centre tracing your Leitrim roots • Relax in the cinema viewing archival film of Leitrim life in days gone by • Visit the Glenview Folk Museum (€5.00 per person) • See an Irish Bread and Boxtty making demonstration in Cannaboe Confectionery (€15.00 per person) • Learn some Irish phrases over a cup of tea or coffee. Optional: You are invited to attend live entertainment at Leitrim's integrated arts centre, The Dock, Carrick on Shannon. Admission (€15.00 per person). | This morning attend lectures on the internationally acclaimed writer John McGahern and the famous 18th century harpist Turlough O'Carolan in the luxurious surroundings of Lough Rynn Castle Hotel and Gardens. Lunch will follow and then an opportunity to explore the splendid walled gardens and meandering parkland corridors of Lough Rynn Castle. This afternoon we visit the lovely village of Drumsna, walk the Trollope Trail, visit the famous explorer Parke's grave and hear about the life of Robert Strawbridge who was responsible for bringing Methodism to the USA. Afterwards demonstrations of traditional butter making, straw broom making, rope making and displays of local crafts, with take place where you will have the opportunity to have a chat and enjoy many stories from the local characters over refreshments. Our final evening until we meet again..... Join us to experience a typical Irish Ceilí evening in the Tidy Towns award winning village of Dromod. Locals will be on hand to teach you some of the steps associated with the art of ceilí dancing. |

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| Rates Include Coach Travel, Guiding and Admissions. Optional tours / events not included | FULL WEEK PROGRAMME €399.00 PER PERSON | WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY €315.00 PER PERSON | TUESDAY – THURSDAY €140.00 PER PERSON | For Bookings and Further Information – Contact Experience Leitrim Office at 00 353 (0)71 962 3274 info@enjoyleitrim.com www.enjoyleitrim.com/experienceleitrim |
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| Special Notes | Group Tours – Rates Available On Request..... | Tailor made itineraries within the constraints of the programme available on request (additional charges may apply) | Airport Transfers available from: Ireland West Knock airport €35.00 return Shannon and Dublin airports €50.00 return |
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BUILD YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE - Select from the following activities to add to supplement or add to your itinerary while in Leitrim Check out our website www.enjoyleitrim.com/experienceleitrim

| Horseback Riding & Treks | Pamper Yourself | Family Fun | Walks | Water | Golf | Live and Learn |
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| Horseback Riding for the novice, the enthusiast and all those in between at any of Leitrim's equestrian centres. | Are you up for the serious pleasure of pampering yourself? Indulge in a soothing massage at Ard Nahoo ...relax amid the splendor of Lord Leitrim's Lough Rynn castle ... or enjoy the magnificent lakeside retreat of Drumshanbo Ramada Hotel ...luxuries all, for the body, spirit and mind. | Rain or sun shine, there is a wide range of things for all the family to enjoy.... | Experience some of the freshest air in Ireland...walk over mountains...past archeological treasures...stop by a holy well...gaze on a lake...visit an old dance hall. A range of guided walks will be on offer over both Saturday and Sunday of the Leitrim Experience. | Navigate the river Shannon, Ireland's longest river, enjoy 140 lakes and so much to do...fish...kayak...raft... we will have activities for all level of adventurer. Fishing Classes, Kayaking Classes, Canoeing Classes | Enjoy the waterside challenges... Golf inspired and informed by Leitrim's landscape. Why not try Leitrim's parkland courses with both 9 and 18 hole available | Up for the challenge of some great Irish activities? You're never too old or young. Indoor... outdoor... half day or full day... It is all happening. |

Experience Leitrim committee reserve the right to amend the above programme at any stage

Lovely Leitrim.....

“Well I’ve travelled far through these great lands from the east onto the west
But of all this islands I have seen I love my own the best
And if ever I return again there is one place I will go
It will be to Lovely Leitrim where the Shannon waters flow...”

(Lovely Leitrim)

For further information and bookings please contact:

Experience Leitrim Booking Office

Tel: +353 71 962 3274

Email: info@enjoyleitrim.com

Web: www.enjoyleitrim.com/experienceleitrim

Web: www.discoverireland.com/leitrim



Fáilte Ireland

National Tourism Development Authority

