



Great National

Ballykisteen
Golf Hotel

-ESCAPE-



Groups & Tours

at Great National Ballykisteen Golf Hotel



Day 1

Start your day off with a visit to Cashel Heritage Centre and Tourist Information Office. This award winning Heritage Centre and Tourist Office is located on the main street and is ideal as your first stop in Cashel. Admission is Free. The Heritage Centre hosts a craft shop where local ware including Rossa Pottery and Farney Castle Ceramics can be purchased. Also available to purchase are a large selection of woollen sweaters, hats, scarves, linens, books, including Ordnance Survey Maps, CD's, Tin Whistles, Jewellery and Souvenirs.

Next you will visit The Rock of Cashel set in the Golden Vale of Tipperary and home to a spectacular collection of medieval buildings representing Hiberno-Romanesque and German influences.

The Rock of Cashel was the Seat of the High Kings of Munster and supposedly the site where Aengus, The King of Munster was converted by St. Patrick in the 5th Century AD. Delve into the past as you encounter a 12th century round tower, High Cross and Romanesque Chapel, 13th century Gothic cathedral and a 15th century Castle as well as the Hall of the Vicars Choral.

Other attractions available to the public include an audio-visual show and exhibitions.

From here you can take a leisurely walk to Cashel Folk Park. The renowned Folk park village and museums have a history that dates back almost 400 years with artefacts on site dating as far back as 20,000 years. Other historical attractions on site include The Easter Rising, War of Independence, Civil War Museum (with audio/visual show), The Famine Museum (with audio visual show) and much more.

Finally visit the Bru Boru Cultural Centre in Cashel. Enjoy the "Sounds of History" exhibition which tells the story of Ireland's song and dance history to the present day.

Brú Ború hosts the Genealogy service of the Irish Family History Foundation for South Tipperary. If you would like to research their records for South Tipperary or meet with their Genealogist please contact info@bruboru.ie to arrange a time in advance of your visit.

Return to the Great National Ballykisteen Golf Hotel, Limerick Junction, Co. Tipperary for a sumptuous meal in our bar / restaurant and a good night's sleep, before progressing onto day 2 of your tour.



Day 2

Today starts with a visit to the attractive and elegant town of Cahir. Enjoy the History and sights of Cahir Castle and Park. You would be forgiven for thinking that the castle appears to grow from the rock where it stands.

An impressive 13th-15th Century structure, the castle has been the site of sieges and attacks for centuries. A stronghold of the Anglo-Norman family of Butlers, who came into the possession of the castle in 1375. The castle was captured three times in its history.

If you enjoy visiting historic and geological sites in Ireland, Cahir castle is not to be missed.

Next, travel on over the bridge to the Swiss Cottage, a thatched two-storey cottage, featuring a cottage orné or ornamental cottage. The exterior view of the cottage and its' charming setting is instantly recognisable by many, as it features in lots of guide books about Ireland.

The interior is equally as stunning and features exclusive hand-painted wallpaper and fine furniture of the period. So step back in time and enjoy the unique settings of the music room, sitting room, bedrooms, foyer, and staircase as well as the beautiful lawns outside.

Finally, continue on to the beautiful Mitchelstown Caves in County Tipperary!

Situated at the foothills of the Galtee Mountains,

Mitchelstown Caves were discovered accidentally on the 3rd of May 1833 by Michael Condon who was quarrying limestone at the time. This is sure to be a memorable experience as you witness the amazing rock formations, stalactites and stalagmites.



Day 3

Start the day with a visit to Holycross Abbey founded in 1180 AD.

The Abbey is a restored medieval Cistercian monastery on the banks of the River Suir and one of Ireland's national monuments with a rich and enthralling past.

Many Pilgrims travelled to Holycross Abbey to worship the relic of the True Cross which lends its name to the abbey and the village. A second relic, the Ormond Relic, was also enshrined in the Abbey. This is a great place to enjoy unique architectural features which date from the 15th century rebuild. Admission to the Abbey is free.

Travel on to Farney Castle which is the only round tower in Ireland occupied as a family home by the Cullen family. The History of the castle tells us that the first castle was built in 1185, while the present round tower was built in 1495 by Thomas Butler, 7th Earl of Ormond and formed part of a defensive system created by the Butlers to protect their land in Tipperary. There is an interesting history associated with the castle. The Butlers were in Farney Castle for 500 years, but in 1536 the castle was commandeered by King Henry VIII of England. He returned the lands again to the Butlers in 1538 when he married Anne Boleyn who was the daughter of James, 3rd Earl of Ormond. The castle was occupied for short periods by two other English monarchs namely King James 1st from 1617 - 1625 and King George 1st from 1716 -1721.

Currently the castle is the family home to Irish international designer, Cyril Cullen, where his famous handmade knitwear designs and fine porcelains are produced, and sold in the castle shop.

Return to The Great National Ballykisteen Golf hotel and indulge in a pamper session at the Ballykisteen Beauty and Treatment rooms, where you can choose from our extensive list of treatments including express facials, massage, shellac nails, Indian head massage.

Or enjoy the beautiful surroundings against a backdrop of the Galtee Mountains while you test your skill on our Championship golf course.



Day 4

Today starts with a visit to the attractive and elegant town of Cahir. Enjoy the History and sights of Cahir Castle and Park. You would be forgiven for thinking that the castle appears to grow from the rock where it stands. An impressive 13th-15th Century structure, the castle has been the site of sieges and attacks for centuries. A stronghold of the Anglo-Norman family of Butlers, who came into the possession of the castle in 1375. The castle was captured three times in its history. If you enjoy visiting historic and geological sites in Ireland, Cahir castle is not to be missed.

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