

Sea View House

Fisherstreet, Doolin, Co. Clare, Ireland

THINGS TO DO IN DOOLIN WHILE STAYING AT SEA VIEW HOUSE

1. *THE CLIFFS OF MOHER: They are one of Ireland's top Visitor attractions and are just 5 minutes away by car). The Cliffs are 214m high at the highest point and range for 8 kilometres over the Atlantic Ocean.*

Opened in 2007 the grass roofed Visitor Centre is set into the hillside. Inside you will find Atlantic Edge Exhibition Area (additional charge) a Cafe, Restaurant, shop, graphic displays and images of the Cliffs including a stunning photo's, public toilets & ATM.

2. *DOOLIN CLIFF WALK: On our door step is the Doolin Cliff Walk. A spectacular coastal walking trail that will take you from Doolin along the Cliffs of Moher to the Cliffs of Moher Visitor experience. Its one of the best ways to experience the Cliffs of Moher. The trail starts right outside Sea View House and its a 8km 2.5hr hike along a gravel trail to the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience. Once there you can explore the Visitor Centre and then either hike back or get a bus or taxi back to Sea View House.*

3. *GUIDED CLIFF WALKS: Our neighbour and Local Farmer Pat Sweeney organises guided walks along the trail from Doolin to the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience. The walk starts at 10:00 am every morning just across the road from us at Gus O'Connors Pub and takes about 3 hours.*

1. *CLIFFS OF MOHER CRUISE: The local ferry companies run hour long trips from Doolin to the bottom of the Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs of Moher are home to one of the major colonies of cliff nesting seabirds in Ireland and this is a great way to see them. Trips normally run from 12:00hrs to 17:00hrs. (Easter to October)*

4. *DOOLIN CAVE AND NATURE TRAIL: Doolin Cave and its Great Stalactite is one of Europe's most compelling cave attractions and should not be missed. Hourly tours (on the hour) from 10:00am - 5:00pm in the summer months and 12:00pm - 5:00pm in the winter. Closed January.*

5. *BURREN FOOD TRAIL: The Burren Food Trail has been named the Irish winner of the "European Destination of Excellence - Tourism and Local Gastronomy" (EDEN) award for developing a tourism offering based on their local gastronomy that balances sustaining the local environment with the promotion of viable tourism. Follow the food trail and discover award winning restaurants and local producers with Burren Food Trail Map available downstairs.*

6. *AILWEE CAVE CHEESE: Not only do they have a show cave they also produce a wonderful cheese at the Aillwee Cave Farmshop. Located near Ballyvaughan they have been producing award winning Burren Gold Cheese since 1985. Milk for their farmhouse cheese is sourced from a very local farm, where their Friesian Dairy Herd graze the unique rich grasses and herbs of the spectacular Burren region of North County Clare.*

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7. *ST TOLA GOAT FARM: Take a tour of the St Tola Goat Farm. It takes approx 1 hour to 1.5 hrs and includes a full tour of our working farm. There is a chance to pet their beautiful goats, see them during feeding time and get a better understanding of sustainable farming. A cheese making demonstration is included and also a tasting of our gourmet cheeses. Tours are not held every day. They must be booked in advance. Contact Tel: 065 683 66 33 or info@st-tola.ie*
8. *ARAN ISLANDS: Take a day trip to the Aran Islands. (Easter to October) Three miles off the coast of Doolin, the Aran Islands, are rich in the language, culture, geology, archaeology and heritage of Ireland. The islands offer great peace and tranquillity, weathered monuments on awesome cliffs, great labyrinths of limestone, meandering walls, patchwork fields, quiet beaches and a welcoming island people. Ferry services operate daily from Doolin to the Aran Islands. Ferries run daily from Doolin pier to the Aran Islands from March to October (Weather permitting) The two main ferry operators are Doolin Ferries: 065 7074455 and Doolin 2 Aran: 065 7075949.*
9. *BURREN SMOKEHOUSE: Visit their gourmet shop in Lisdoonvarna and get a tasting of the Burren smoked salmon.*
10. *BURREN BREWERY: The Roadside Tavern in Lisdoonvarna houses a micro-brewery under its roof producing, The Burren Gold, Burren Red and Burren Black a smooth and full-bodied stout.*
11. *BALLYVAUGHAN FARMERS MARKET: This market takes place every Saturday from 10am-2pm during the months of May-October in the Village Hall car park in Ballyvaughan, County Clare.*
12. *LOCAL CRAFTS: Irish Crafts stock a number of local crafts. You can also pick up an Irish Sweaters there or in one of the sweater shops on Fisherstreet.*
13. *PITCH AND PUTT: Doolin Pitch and Putt located half way between Sea View House and the Harbour. Its open to non members all year round. Call 065 70747289.*
14. *SEA KAYAKING: Go Sea Kayaking with North Clare Sea Kayaking. Each of our their tours can be done as either a full day or half day and they provide all equipment including wetsuits, life vests, and wind breakers. They also offer free pick up and drop off from Sea View House. All of our tours are designed to suit all skill levels, including complete novices! Call 085 119 5489.*
15. *BIKE HIRE: Rent a bike and explore the Geopark. Kalkhoff Electric Bikes available from E-Whiz. They supply everthing you need including self guided tours and will deliver the bikes to Sea View House. Call 065 7088846 Doolin Rent A Bike in Fisherstreet also have bike for rent.*

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16. *GOLF: Take in a round of golf at the world famous Lahinch Links course. Here they provide two 18-hole links courses, the Castle Course and the famous Old Course, the gem of Irish golf courses. Lahinch Golf Course occupies a very special place in Irish golf: its location, its history, and its character layout all contribute to a really special experience for any golfing enthusiast.*
17. *SURFING: Take a surf lesson in Lahinch with BEN's Surf Clinic. They offer a focused professional approach to teaching surfing to all levels. They also have Indoor climbing, bouldering and archery for high tide and blown out days.*
18. *THE BURREN: Spend some time in the Burren. The Burren is an amazing place. It is a karst limestone region of approximately 300 sq km starts at Doolin and extends to the north and east... It is composed of limestone pavements, which are eroded in a distinctive pattern known as karren. This pavement is crisscrossed by cracks known as grykes and underneath the pavement there are huge caves and rivers that suddenly flood when it rains. It contains dozens of megalithic tombs and Celtic crosses and a ruined Cistercian Abbey from the 12th century, Corcomroe. You can find villages abandoned since famine times and green roads on which you can walk for miles without ever seeing a car. And if you go in springtime you will find rare wildflowers such as gentian and orchids and bloody cranesbill.*
19. *BURREN PERFUMERY: Visit the Burren Perfumery, Ireland's oldest perfumery in the heart of the Burren.*
20. *WALKS AND TRAILS: There are many trails and walks within the GeoPark. A full list of walks and trails are available in our guest lounge. Our favourite is the trail around Mullaghmore Mountain, a loop walk in the Burren National Park. This mountain is one of the most impressive landmarks in the Burren. The mountain is a magnificent swirl of contorted limestone. The rocks of Mullaghmore consist of carboniferous limestone, a sedimentary rock that was laid down under the sea 350 million years ago. (Ask us for details)*
21. *MULLAGHMORE: Climb Mullaghmore Mountain on a loop walk in the Burren National Park. (ask us for details). This mountain is one of the most impressive landmarks in the Burren. The mountain is a magnificent swirl of contorted limestone. The rocks of Mullaghmore consist of carboniferous limestone, a sedimentary rock that was laid down under the sea 350 million years ago.*
22. *DOLMEN'S: Be inspired by the Poul nabrone Dolmen in the Burren. Dating back to before 3000 BC this Dolmen is one of the most famous and most photographed Irish dolmens. Poul nabrone translates into Irish as 'The hole of the sorrow's.*
23. *FORT'S: Visit Caherconnell stone fort in the Burren. This large and perfect fort 140-145 feet in external diameter dates back to 400 to 1200 ad.*
24. *HIGH CROSSES: Check out the Celtic High Crosses in Kilfenora. Kilfenora was the site of an important early monastic settlement. St. Fachtnan founded an abbey here in the late 6th Century. Kilfenora gained the title "City of the Crosses," a reference to the high crosses within or near the cathedral.*

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25. *THE BURREN CENTRE* in Kilfenora gives the visitor an introduction to the visual delights and ancient mysteries which await to be discovered in this unspoiled corner of Ireland. This **walk through time** will take you back through the aeons to a time when this area lay beneath a warm tropical sea. Follow the story of the formation of the Burren's lunar landscape where man hunted bear, and wolves roamed the forests.
26. *CORCOMROE ABBEY* is a ruined Cistercian Abbey from the 12th century and is an amazing place. Here you can view the amazing stone work from a world gone by. The fishbone pattern on the ribs that support the vaulted roof over the sanctuary, the effigy of a Chieftain king, carved faces and flowers resembling bluebells atop the large columns are amazing.
27. *MUSIC*: Catch a music "Sessiun" in one of our local pubs. (Music usually start around 9:30pm, check locally) or a local music house.
28. *JAM*: Call into the Clare Jam shop on your way to the Cliffs of Moher. They make a really good range of Jams, marmalades and chutneys.
29. *SEA KAYAKING*: Go Sea Kayaking with North Clare Sea Kayaking. Each of our their tours can be done as either a full day or half day and they provide all equipment including wetsuits, life vests, and wind breakers. They also offer free pick up and drop off from Sea View House. All of our tours are designed to suit all skill levels, including complete novices! Call 085 119 5489.
30. Take a drive along the coast and visit some of our famous local sea food bars. Ask us for details.