



Slane

Neolithic to Christian

Meath

Always a visit to treasure

Welcome to Slane

Welcome to Slane, County Meath, an elegant 18th century hillside estate village on the beautiful River Boyne, only 45 minutes from Dublin city centre and 90 minutes from Belfast. Situated at an important intersection on the road from Dublin to Derry and the Northwest of Ireland, Slane has a long tradition of welcoming travellers.

Slane is the access point from the N2 to 5000 year old Newgrange, Ireland's most important archaeological site, Brú na Bóinne. It is rich in sites and legends from the more recent past, down to the monster pop concerts staged at Slane Castle, which have become a modern-day legend.

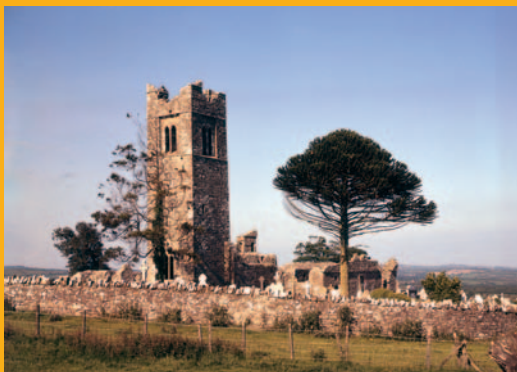
The early name for this beautiful little town was 'Ferta Fear Fiac' meaning 'the Graves of the Men of Fiac' and it appears to have taken its modern name from Slanius, a King of the legendary Fir Bolg, who is believed to be buried on the Hill of Slane.

There is no better place than the Hill of Slane to contemplate our origins in Paganism through the birth and establishment of Christianity. It was here that St. Patrick lit the first paschal fire in Ireland, symbolising the triumph of Christianity over Paganism. His friend, St. Erc, founded the hill-top monastery here, which in the 16th century became a Franciscan friary supported by the Flemings. An Anglo-Norman motte on the hill was the first stronghold of the Fleming family, Lords of Slane for 500 years. They were succeeded by the Conynghams who have lived here for over 300 years.

Work by some of the 18th century's leading architects can be seen in Slane Castle and grounds and in nearby



Newgrange



Slane Friary

© DoEH&LG

Townley Hall. It is the Conynghams who are responsible for the design and layout of Slane village, with its attractive octagon at the crossroads, its well designed churches, gate-lodges and street furniture.

The Mill is a fine example of Georgian industrial architecture, its weir and canal with tow-path now an interesting walkway. Wildlife abounds here and along the peaceful canal banks you can see typical gates, locks and bridges as well as stately homes and ruined castles and an old eel weir.

Slane's renowned World War I poet is remembered in the Ledwidge Cottage Museum. An exploration of Ledwidge country around Slane will delight the whole family, bringing you into close contact with the landscape that inspired the poet a century ago and still enchants those who take the time to enjoy it. There are forest walks and wild deer at Littlewood. At Newgrange Farm children can feed lambs, chickens and pigs.

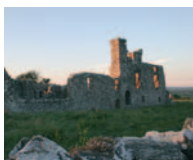
The popular Boyne Drive passes through Slane. For those with sporting interests the Boyne provides excellent fishing. Horse-riding, racing, golf, tennis, walking and canoeing are all available locally or lie within easy driving distance. It is under 20km to the coast where there are safe sandy beaches and miles of dunes to walk.

In Slane and its environs you will find an increasing number of specialist food producers, small restaurants and craft workshops – modern gems among the ancient treasures of County Meath. Enjoy discovering them.

See inside back cover for map.



1 The Hill of Slane



Above
The college
Top
**16th century friary
on Slane Hill**

The Hill of Slane, easily accessible, provides a vantage point from which to view a landscape containing some of Ireland's most historic sites. There is much to stimulate the imagination and to speculate about concerning the hill itself.

Did Dagobert II, King of Austrasia in Gaul 674–678AD, spend his childhood being educated in the safety of the monastery of Slane, as oral tradition holds?

Who was Ochré who, according to one medieval source, had a rath at Slane?

Was it Richard, Duke of York, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1447–1460, who had the arms of England and France planted in the walls of the monastery here?

The Paschal Fire

There is only oral tradition to support the legend that St. Patrick lit a fire on the Hill of Slane to celebrate Easter in the year 433AD. Patrick's fire challenged the Pagan law that forbade the lighting of any other fire while the festive fire at Tara still burned. Erc supported Patrick against the druids, and the High King Laoghaire allowed Patrick to continue his work of preaching Christianity throughout Ireland.

The Bishop's Tomb

The original monastery on the top of the Hill of Slane is believed to have been founded by St. Erc. In the graveyard two stones shaped like gable-ends are the remains of a tomb or reliquary of great antiquity known as Erc's Tomb or the Bishop's Tomb.

The Motte of Slane

Did Baron Richard de Fleming use Ochré's rath as the basis for the Motte and fosse which still exist on the northwest face of the Hill of Slane and on which he built his first (wooden) castle? We know that he arrived from Flanders via Wales and established a castle here in 1175. The Annals of the Four Masters tell us that Richard and his men made raids into the territories of Oriel (Louth, Monaghan and Armagh), Hy-Briuin (in Tyrone) and Meath and that in the year 1176 men from these northern territories plundered Slane Castle, killing Richard and over 500 of the English. The Flemings survived and remained Lords of Slane for 500 years.

The Friary and College

The ruined buildings on top of the Hill of Slane are the remains of a 1512 reconstruction of the old monastery which the Fleming family re-built for the Franciscans. The church has a fine west tower, about 19m high, with an

Below
**The west tower
with commanding view
over the flat plains
of Royal Meath**





Above

The mature tree in the graveyard is a Chillean pine, commonly known as the 'monkey puzzle'.

earlier gothic-style window. The college, a separate building forming a quadrangle, housed four priests, four lay-brothers and four choristers. Look for a number of carved heads and gargoyles. The Fleming arms are on the west wall of the quadrangle, and over the entrance in the southwest wall are the arms of England and France referred to above.

The friary was dissolved only 30 years later as the Reformation took effect in Ireland. In 1631 the Flemings tried again to restore it, but in less than 20 years the newly-installed Capuchin monks were driven out by Cromwell. It was finally abandoned as a place of worship in 1723.

2

Castles in Slane

Slane Castle

Slane Castle is one of Ireland's most important stately homes. Overlooking the River Boyne, it has been the home of the Conyngham family for over 300 years. When much of the castle was destroyed by fire in 1991, The Earl of Mount Charles, eldest son of the 7th Marquess Conyngham, and his wife undertook an extensive ten-year restoration programme. The castle re-opened for guided tours in 2001.

The castle in its present form dates from 1785 and is built on the foundation of an early Pale fortress. The estate was lost by the Flemings during the Williamite Confiscations and was purchased by the Conynghams in 1701. Originally from Scotland, they had settled in County Donegal.

Capability Browne, James Gandon and James Wyatt, assisted by his pupil, Francis Johnston, were all employed in the design of Slane Castle and grounds. The round ballroom, by Thomas Hopper, completed in 1821, has a superb tracery ceiling – one of the earliest examples of interior decoration in the Neo-Gothic style in Ireland.

Slane Castle

Slane, County Meath

T +353 (0) 41 9884400

F +353 (0) 41 9820847

E enquiries@slanecastle.ie

Open

May to August
(contact above for exact dates).

Sunday, Mon, Tues,

Wed & Thurs only

Closed Fri and Sat

Hours: 12 noon – 5 pm

Admission

Contact above

Visitors to the Castle will readily understand how King George IV, whose mistress was the first Marchioness Conyngham, enjoyed himself so much on a visit to Slane in 1821 that he asked at dinner one evening why he could not stay where he was and send Lord Talbot (Viceroy in Ireland at the time) as Lord Lieutenant to England.



Above
Fenor Castle

Below
Slane Castle

As well as having guided tours, Slane Castle Demesne is a magnificent venue for conferences, weddings and the famous summer pop concerts, when huge numbers of young people enjoy top entertainers like U2, Bob Dylan and The Rolling Stones in these lovely tranquil riverside surroundings.

3

Fenor Castle

On the hill south of the Boyne are the ruins of Fenor Church and Fenor Castle, an early 17th century house incorporating a medieval castle. A fragment of carved stone from Fenor Church is displayed in Slane Catholic Church.





4 The Village

The Square

Grey limestone buildings with slated roofs are a feature of this 18th century estate village. Some have attractive oriel windows, stone steps, archways, wrought-iron railings and period shopfronts. Slane's unique feature is the octagon created by the group of Georgian houses which face each other diagonally across the intersection of the Dublin–Derry and Drogheda–Navan roads. The houses were built at different times to similar plans as stipulated by the landlord. The oldest, on the northwest corner was originally an inn. The four houses of grey limestone, roughly coursed, have dressed quoins and cut stone window jambs with projecting keystones. Only the doorways are individual. A fountain in the centre of the octagon has disappeared but the tapered stone bases of some of the original eight wrought-iron lamp standards have survived.



Above
Oriel window
and Georgian door
on Main Street

Top
The oldest of the
four houses on the
square started life
in the 1760s as an
inn where the stage
coaches stopped

The Square, showing Slane's four distinctive Georgian houses of grey limestone



The Twelve Apostles

The buildings in Slane village are complemented by its many mature trees. Cedar and evergreen conifers adorn the Square. Chestnut and copper beech provide a backdrop for the Church of Ireland. A row of Western Red Cedars along the Old Rectory garden wall, known as the Twelve Apostles, was probably planted when the Rectory was built in 1807.

5

The Gate-Lodge

A pretty turreted gate-lodge on the bend of the road going down to the bridge is part of the Slane Castle demesne. The Conyngham monogram is on the gates. It was once used as a school for females, supported by the Marchioness Conyngham.

6

The Gothic Gate

At the bottom of the Mill Hill, facing the Mill is the former main entrance to Slane Castle. This, with the crenellated wall leading to a turret at the bridge, was designed by Francis Johnston at the same time as he was building nearby Townley Hall (1794–1801). The coat of arms over the gate is of Sir Henry Conyngham and his wife, Elizabeth Denison. He inherited the Slane property in 1796 and was created earl the following year. The arms are surmounted by an earl's coronet and below is the Order of St. Patrick, to which he was admitted in 1801.



The Gothic Gate, the former main entrance to Slane Castle



Francis Ledwidge

Some Famous Slane People

Slane has produced some outstanding people in the field of art, craft and literature, from James Farrell of Ardmulchan, a craftsman in iron whose initials are stamped on gates all over Meath and Westmeath, to the famous sculptor John Cassidy whose work can be seen around Britain. Some have memorials in the village.

7

John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial

The John Boyle O'Reilly (1844–1890) memorial in Slane commemorates this poet, publisher, rebel and humanitarian who was born at Dowth Castle in 1844. His concern for his downtrodden fellow countrymen led him into the Fenian movement which resulted, in 1886, in his deportation as a rebel to a penal colony in Australia. He escaped and went on to become editor of the Boston Pilot and one of the most influential Boston Irishmen of the 19th century, commemorated by The O'Reilly Memorial in that city.



The John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial

*I am tired of planning and toiling
In the crowded hives of men;
Heart-weary of building and spoiling,
And spoiling and building again.
And I long for the dear old river,
Where I dreamed my youth away;
For a dreamer lives forever,
And a toiler dies in a day.*

From 'The Cry of a Dreamer'
by John Boyle O'Reilly

John Cassidy

A successful and prolific artist in Victorian Britain, John Cassidy was born at Littlewood, Slane, in 1860. Having studied at Manchester College of Art, he lived in Manchester until his death in 1939. His work was exhibited at the Royal Academy, the Royal Hibernian Academy and Manchester City Art Gallery. His public sculpture can be seen all around Britain as well as in Manchester where his group 'Theology Inspiring Science and Art' dominates the foyer of the John Rylands Library and his matching statues of John Rylands and Mrs. Rylands adorn the reading room.

8

The Ledwidge Plaque and Museum

A plaque on Slane Bridge commemorates the poet Francis Ledwidge. The original, designed by Séamus Murphy, RHA, is in the Ledwidge Cottage on the Drogheda road where Ledwidge was born in 1887. This museum illustrates the life and times of the poet who grew up in poverty, left school aged 13, worked as a farm labourer, a houseboy, a roadworker and a miner before enlisting in the army, only to be killed near Ypres on 31st July 1917. His richly lyrical poetry, describing ordinary everyday life in the early 20th century countryside of the Boyne valley, is highly regarded. He is best known for his lament for his friend, the patriot and poet, Thomas McDonagh:

*He shall not hear the bittern cry
In the wild sky where he is lain,
Nor voices of the sweeter birds
Above the wailing of the rain.*

9

1798 Memorial

The Celtic cross which stands at the top of the village was erected in 1951 in memory of men of the Wexford Column killed here during the 1798 rebellion who are buried in the surrounding area and also *'the Meathmen who in May 1798 rose and died that Ireland might be free.'*



Ledwidge Museum

Janeville, Slane
County Meath

T +353 (0) 41 982 4544

E ledwidgemuseum
@eircom.net

Open

Daily 10 am – 1 pm
and 2 pm – 5.30 pm

Admission

Adults €2.50

Reductions for
students, children,
OAPs, families
and bus groups.



Churches

10

The Church of Ireland

St. Patrick's Church of Ireland was built in 1712 on a corner of Slane Castle demesne donated by Sir Henry Conyngham, *'the site of the old being of difficult ascent'*.

The tower, designed by Francis Johnston, was added in 1797.

A doorway and some stones salvaged from a medieval church at Stackallan are mounted on the outside of the west wall of St. Patrick's. Sir Barnaby Barnewall, whose arms are depicted on the Barnewall Tablet over the door, married Margaret Plunkett and died in 1493. One of the carved stone coffin-lids beside the door, dating from about 1300, commemorates Sir Richard Dexter of Castle Dexter, whose ruined castle stands on the Boyne above Slane. On the south wall is a late 12th century effigy from Painstown (Beauparc) church, demolished in 1958.



Above

The Barnewall Tablet

Top

The Church of Ireland
with tower designed by
Francis Johnston

The Catholic Church

The site for St. Patrick's Catholic church together with a donation towards its building was the gift of Earl Conyngham to Fr. Michael O'Hanlon. Some years earlier the then Colonel Conyngham's life had been spared by the intervention of Fr. O'Hanlon who happened to be in Paris when the Colonel was being tried there by a military tribunal. When Fr. O'Hanlon returned to Slane as parish priest the Earl asked him what particular wish he had and he replied that his people had only a barn to worship in. He was given the site, some money and the belfry – an unusual one standing separately from the church. This was to circumvent the rule prohibiting the building of a belfry on a church. Over the west door is inscribed MOUNT CHARLES CHAPEL 1802. Inside, the octagonal font is from the medieval friary church and a fragment of a Celtic cross from Fenor Church is imaginatively displayed near the altar.



Above
Font from the medieval friary

Below
Colonel Conyngham's answer to the law prohibiting belfrys on churches – a freestanding belfry





Waterways

12

The Mill

Completed in 1776, a time of relative peace and considerable prosperity in Ireland, Slane Mill was the biggest flour mill in the country at the time. Its granaries held 5000 barrels. It is an excellent example of Georgian industrial architecture. Though somewhat dilapidated it is still relatively intact, its flat, grey lime-stone walls relieved by the well-proportioned windows with their projecting cut-stone surrounds. The Mill House, in the same style, has an elegant Georgian doorway.



Above
The mill house

Top
Slane Mill – at one time the largest flour mill in Ireland

Slane Mill survived the repeal of the Corn Laws and the Great Famine of 1848, but its grindstones were overtaken by technology when roller milling was introduced in the 1870s. The mill gradually became derelict until it was revived as a flax-scutching mill in the 1920s. In the 1930s flour bags instead of flour were manufactured. Weaving and spinning continued here and in a new factory nearby until the 1990s. Slane Manufacturing Company was the only factory in Ireland producing sheets from raw cotton. The business closed in 1994 and the old mill is now used by small industries.



Above
The weir

From the canal lock at the top of the weir, horses were untackled from the barges which were poled across and floated down the mill-race. The barges, loaded with flour, had to be poled back up against the current.

Below
The Boyne passes through Slane Castle Demesne

**It may be necessary to use the road for a short section of this walk. Reasonably stout walking shoes are recommended for all walks.*

The Boyne Canal

In the 18th century the Boyne Canal was built to make the river navigable from Drogheda to Navan. Horse-drawn barges carried coal, grain and flour to and from the many mills along the river. Pleasure boats plied the route for a while in the 19th century, bringing tourists to Newgrange and Slane.

Canal Walks

Beside the 14th century Slane Bridge are two iron gates with cut-stone piers giving access to the tow-paths. The tow-path upstream leads past the weir and continues along the river bank past Slane Castle with its fine parkland and splendid trees. It passes Slane Castle Lock, then Lover's Leap (a white rock in a wooded escarpment), into Beau Parc estate with its classical mansion. The fisherman's path continues to Carrickdexter Weir. The ruined Dexter Castle is on the opposite bank.

Downstream the tow-path* goes to Ros na Rí Mill, passing a derelict eel-weir and 'the Tunnel', a natural arch in a 6m high rocky outcrop, through which the canal was cut. The double lock and stone bridge at Ros na Rí are fine examples of canal engineering. The path continues to Oldbridge, site of the Battle of the Boyne (see overleaf).





Sea lamprey
© DoEH&LG

Wildlife to look out for

The River Boyne has been designated a Special Area of Conservation for its otter, Atlantic salmon and river lamprey. With luck you may see a kingfisher near the water, or a buzzard (Ireland's biggest bird of prey) swooping overhead. Mute swans are resident on the weir; Hooper swans are winter visitors. Herons, water wagtails and dippers are plentiful. Among the dragonflies that feed on the reed beds in the flood plane at Slane bridge are the smaller damselflies (variable, blue-tailed and red) and the banded demoiselle fly. At night the Daubenton's bat feeds over the water and there are long-eared owls in the deciduous woods.

13

The Battle of the Boyne Site



Open
1 May to 30 September
Daily, 10.00–18.00

Last admission
45 mins. before closing.
Rest of year open to
group bookings (of 10
or more). Advance
bookings only.

The largest number of troops ever deployed on an Irish battlefield faced each other in Slane parish, near Oldbridge, in 1690 at the Battle of the Boyne. This was a battle of European significance fought on Irish soil. The defeat of the Catholic King James II of England by the Protestant King William of Orange affected the political shape of Europe, the British throne and Protestant power in Ireland. Both kings commanded their armies in person. The battle's international dimension is reflected in the many nationalities of soldiers who made up the armies: Irish, French, Germans, and Walloons versus Irish, English, Dutch, Germans and Danes.

There is a small exhibition with guided tours of the site available in the summer months. Walks, talks and displays are held during Heritage Week in early September. The Irish Government, who bought the site in 1999, plans to develop a visitor centre, exhibition, walkways and a peace garden, to promote respect and mutual understanding between the different traditions on this island.

Brú na Bóinne – Newgrange



Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre

Donore, Co. Meath

T+353 41 9880300

F +353 41 9823071

brunaboinne@ealga.ie

Open

Mar–Apr

Daily 09.30–17.30

May

Daily 09.00–18.30

June–mid Sept

Daily 09.00–19.00

Mid–end Sept

Daily 09.00–18.30

Oct

Daily 09.30–17.30

Nov–Feb

Daily 09.30–17.00

Last admission 45 mins
before closing time.

Shuttle bus for last tour
leaves 1 hr 45 mins
before closing time.

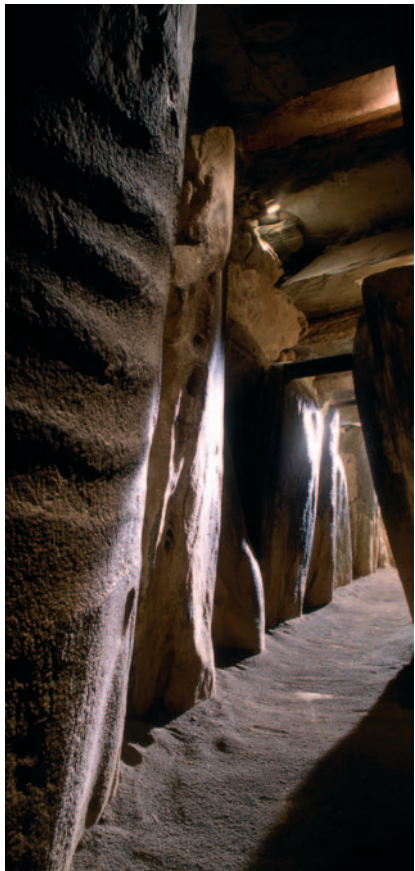
Access to monuments
is by guided tour only.

NB This is a very
busy site. Visitors may
experience a delay in
the summer months.

© DoEH&LG

Ireland's best-known collection of prehistoric monuments, designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, is 5km downstream from Slane. Brú na Bóinne, Pagan Ireland's royal burial place, contains 37 passage graves as well as the great tumuli of Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth. Here you can see one of the greatest displays of Neolithic art in Europe, dating back to 3200 BC.

Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre contains exhibitions that describe the society that created the Neolithic tombs, how they were built, the meaning of the megalithic art and the solar alignments in the Boyne Valley.





Sports and Entertainment



Above
Several golf courses lie
within easy driving
distance of Slane

Top
Racing at Fairyhouse

As well as fishing, canoeing on the Boyne is popular. There is horse-riding at many top-class equestrian centres nearby and racing at Navan and Fairyhouse. Townley Hall 18 hole golf course is within 7 km and several others lie within easy driving distance. Less serious golfers are catered for at Stackallen pitch-and-put course, 5 km away, where tennis is also available.

You can join in Slane's celebration of its traditional culture and music each year in May and July or see the paschal fire lit on the Hill of Slane at Easter. There is music in the local bars throughout the year. A good local taxi service will ferry those who would like to sample the nightclubs in Trim, Navan, or Drogheda, all within 15 minutes drive. An amazing variety of festivals and celebrations takes place annually in County Meath, and there are gardens, castles, stately homes, archaeological sites and battlefields to visit.

Shopping

With excellent shopping facilities in nearby Navan and Drogheda you will have no need to travel to Dublin, but if you do it is only 45 minutes to the city centre and there is a frequent bus service. You will find attractive shops and boutiques in all the local towns, some of which attract shoppers from Dublin.

Accommodation*

Bed and Breakfast

Hillview House B&B

Gernonstown, Slane, Co. Meath
Situated on the R163, 2km from Slane. Cosy family-run B&B with private parking. All rooms en-suite with tea/coffee-making facilities.
T +353 (0)41 982 4327
E hillview@o2.ie

San Giovanni House

Dublin Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Luxury home on the N2, 2km from Slane. 3 large rooms, all ensuite.
T +353 (0)41 982 4147
E newgrangebandb@ireland.com
www.meathtourism.ie

Bondique House

Dublin Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Situated on the N2, 2km from Slane village. All rooms ensuite with TV, tea and coffee facilities and hairdryer. Large private garden with picnic area.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4823
F +353 (0) 41 982 4823
E bondique@iol.ie

Boyne View

Slane Village, Co. Meath
Georgian period house overlooking scenic River Boyne with beautiful views from all rooms.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4121
E heveyboyneview@eircom.net
www.meathtourism.ie

Castleview House B&B

Slane Village, Co. Meath
Situated in the village overlooking Slane Castle Demesne. Hairdryer, TV, tea and coffee in all ensuite bedrooms.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4510
E castleview@oceanfree.net
www.meathtourism.ie

Lougher Farm

Lougher, Newgrange, Duleek, Co. Meath
Set in quiet rural countryside, 5 minutes drive from Newgrange (exit centre, turn right, second turn left). All rooms ensuite with tea and coffee making facilities.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4346
E lougherfarm@eircom.net

The Fáilte B&B

Main Street, Slane
Friendly home in Slane village. Ideal base for viewing historical sites as we are not far from the M1 motorway. We are in a prime location for Dublin Airport. All rooms ensuite.
T +353 (0) 41 9824760
E thefailtebandb@eircom.net
www.thefailtebandb.com

Glebe House at Dowth

17th Century Country House nestling in the historic Boyne Valley close to Newgrange and Knowth, Dowth is in the garden. All rooms ensuite. Country House tea-rooms and gardens, private functions catered for.
T +353 (0) 41 983 6101
F +353 (0) 41 984 3469

Self-catering

Slane Farm Hostel

Harlinstown House, Slane, Co. Meath
Award-winning hostel set on a working farm.
T +353 (0) 41 988 4985
F +353 (0) 41 988 4985
E info@slanefarmhostel.ie
www.slanefarmhostel.ie

* All accommodation is situated within 35 minutes from Dublin Airport

Slane Farm Cottages

Harlinstown House,
Slane, Co. Meath
4 star award-winning cottages
converted from old stone
building to provide luxury
accommodation.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4390
F +353 (0) 41 988 4985
E info@slanefarmcottages.com
www.slanefarmcottages.com

Hotels

The Conyngham Arms Hotel

Michelle Mathews
Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Individually designed bedrooms
with fourposter beds. Antique
pub with superb dining
restaurant.
Reservations@
conynghamarms.com
T +353 (0) 41 988 4444
F +353 (0) 41 982 4205
www.conynghamarms.com

Eating Out

Roadhouse Restaurant

The Brink, Rathdrinagh,
Navan, Co. Meath
Open for breakfast, lunch and
evening meals 7 days a week.
T +353 (0) 86 386 6489
F +353 (0) 41 988 4920
E derekgriffin@eircom.net

The Old Post Office Restaurant & Coffee Shop

Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Restaurant specialising in home
cooked Irish and European
food. Enjoy an evening meal in
a relaxing candlelit ambience.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4030

Macari's Take Away

Derry Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Traditional fish and chips,
kebabs, burgers, southern fried
chicken and delicious pizza.
T +353 (0) 41 988 4455
F +353 (0) 41 988 4455

Nightlife

Pubs

Boyles Pub

Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Beer garden and big screen
for all matches.
T +353 (0) 86 884 2674

The Village Inn

Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Enjoy a pint in friendly surround-
ings and view our extensive
Slane rock concert memorabilia.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4230
F +353 (0) 41 982 4230

Tourist Rest

Rossin, Slane, Co. Meath
Finest drinks and friendly
atmosphere.

Slane House Bar

Slane Village, Co. Meath
Big screen for all major sporting
events. Beer garden. Large
room available for private
functions and meetings.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4706

Shops/Businesses

Coffee Shops

George's Patisserie and Delicatessen

Chapel St, Slane, Co. Meath
Award-winning continental
bakery and confectioners.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4493
E georgheise@eircom.net
www.georgespatisserie.com

Shops

Smith's Shop

Rossin, Slane, Co. Meath. For all
your groceries and confectionary.
T +353 (0) 41 9824272

Murphy's Checkout

Churchlands, Slane, Co. Meath
Takeaway dinners daily; joint of
the day plus two vegs. Open till
late 7 days.
T +353 (0) 41 988 4933

McEvoy's Farm Shop

Newgrange Mall,
Slane, Co. Meath
Home-produced free-range
chickens and turkeys.
T +353 (0) 41 988 4938

Rossin Metal Supplies

Rossin, Slane, Co. Meath
T +353 (0) 41 982 4492
F +353 (0) 41 982 4492

Mimnagh's Gala Store

Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Post Office, convenience store
and newsagents, confectionary
and Lotto agent. Open 7 days,
7am to 9pm.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4218
E mimnaghsgala@eircom.net

Crafts, Gifts, Souvenirs

Connolly and Moore (crafts, antiques)

4 Newgrange Mall,
Slane, Co. Meath
Eclectic mix of crafts, interiors,
antiques, jewellery, wraps, silks.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4722

Pharmacy

Breen's Pharmacy

Main St, Slane, Co. Meath
Dispensing pharmacy,
medicines, healthcare advice,
fine fragrances, baby care and
vet and medical specialists.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4222
F +353 (0) 41 982 4222
E smythsparmacy
@eircom.net

Hairdresser

Solitaire Hair and Beauty Salon

Units 1 and 2 Churchlands,
Slane, Co. Meath
For all your hair and body
treatments. Gift certificates and
bridal packages available.
T +353 (0) 41 982 0866
F +353 (0) 41 982 0866

Laundrette

Spick and Span Laundrette

3 Newgrange Mall,
Slane, Co. Meath
Local area collection and
delivery. Dry cleaning service
provided.
T +353 (0) 41 982 0959
F +353 (0) 41 988 4920
E derekgriffin@eircom.net

Service Station

Smyths Service Station

Derry Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Londis food store, deli, wine,
ATM, petrol, diesel.
T +353 (0) 41 982 4555
F +353 (0) 41 982 4555

Garden Centre

Boyne Garden Centre

Ardcalf, Slane, Co. Meath
T +353 (0) 41 982 4380
F +353 (0) 41 982 4350
E boynegardencentre
@eircom.net
www.boynegardencentre.com

Post Office

Mimnagh's Gala Store

(see Shops)

Taxi and Car Hire

Practical Car and Van Rental

North Road, Slane,
Co. Meath, also Navan,
Drogheda, Dundalk
Central Booking
T 1850 210 250
T +353 (0) 41 982 4025
F +353 (0) 41 982 4882
E info@
practicalcarandvanhire.com

M and L Cabs and Mini Bus Hire Ltd

Slane, Co. Meath
T +353 (0) 87 214 3088 Cab
+353 (0) 86 360 1338 Bus

Activities/Attractions

Tankardstown House

Boyne Valley, Co. Meath
Georgian Manor House attributed by some to Francis Johnston and set in 60 acres of parkland. Winner of the Ellison Award for restoration and good design in 2004.

T +353 (0) 46 982 4621
F +353 (0) 46 982 4622
E tconroy@fastnethomes.co.uk

Newgrange Farm and Coffee Shop

Ireland's leading open visitor's farm where everyone can see, hold and feed animals and poultry. Play areas provided. Wonderful day out for all the family. Open Easter Sunday – September 1st.

T +353 (0) 41 982 4119
F +353 (0) 41 982 4119
E farmerbill@newgrangefarm.com

Horse Racing

Navan Racecourse

Proudstown, Navan, Co. Meath
Superb N.H. racecourse, 1 ml 4 furlongs set in 180 acres. Public bar/restaurant. Suites available for meetings and functions.

T +353 (0) 46 902 1350
F +353 (0) 46 902 7694
E info@navanracecourse.ie

Golf Clubs and Tennis

Stackallen Tennis and Pitch and Putt Club

Stackallen, Slane, Co. Meath
18 hole pitch and putt course, 6 all-weather floodlit tennis courts. Green fees and court fees available. 2km from Slane.

T +353 (0) 41 982 4279

Townley Hall Golf Club and Driving Range

Townley Hall Road, Tullyallen, Drogheda, Co. Louth

T +353 (0) 41 984 2229
F +353 (0) 41 984 2229

Bellewstown Golf Course

Bellewstown, Co. Meath
Situated north-east of Bellewstown Racecourse. Par 72 pay and play facility. 18 holes played over 6,700 yards with beautiful fairways leading to state of the art USGA greens.

T +353 (0) 41 988 2757
E bellewstowngolf@eircom.net
www.bellewstowngolf.com

Walking and Cycling

Newgrange Slane Bike Hire

Slane, Co. Meath
Explore the beauties of the Boyne Valley at your leisure. Bikes for adults and children.

T +353 (0) 86 069 5771
E kevinohand@eircom.net

Townley Hall Forest Park

Drogheda Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Explore the many trails through this wood overlooking the River Boyne.

Littlewood Forest Park

Collon Road, Slane, Co. Meath
Many trails and interesting wildlife to be seen.

Tours

Slane Castle

Slane, Co. Meath
T +353 (0) 41 988 4400
F +353 (0) 41 982 4401
E slanecastle@oceanfree.net
www.slanecastle.ie

A History of Slane

Walking Tours

Mick Kelly, Slane, Co. Meath
A history of Slane on a walking tour every evening starting from the hotel at 7 o'clock. Duration 2 hours.

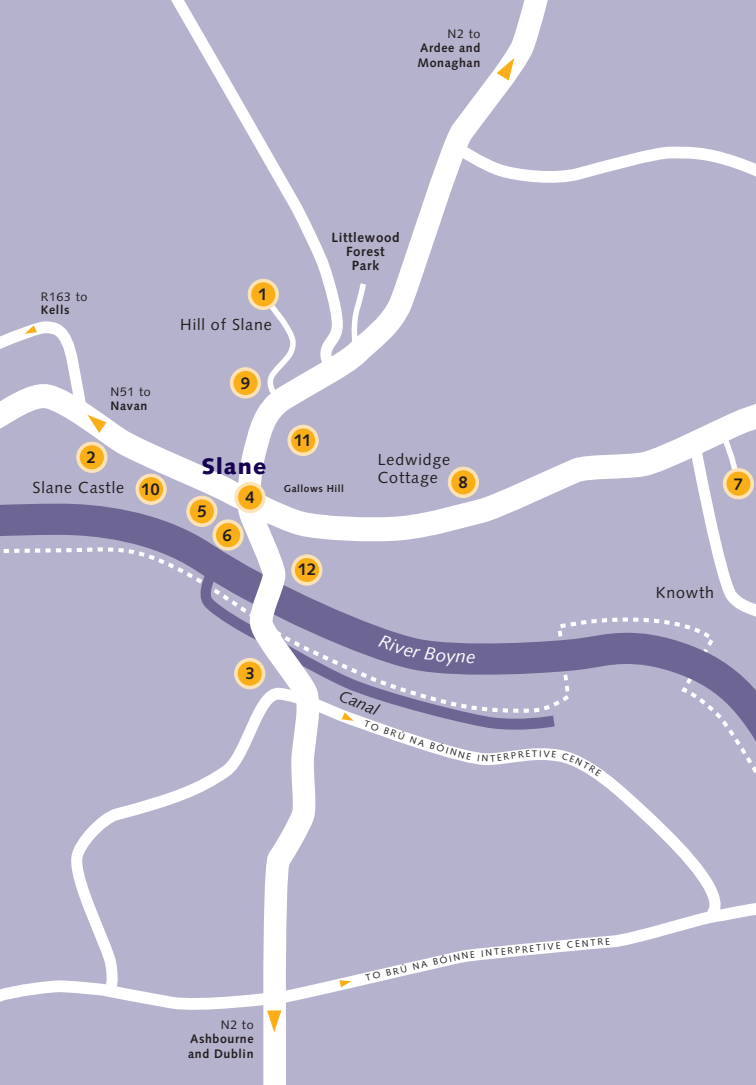
T +353 (0) 87 937 7040

< Map

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Slane

1. The Hill of Slane
2. Slane Castle
3. Fenor Castle
4. The Square
5. Gate-Lodge
6. Gothic Gate
7. John Boyle O'Reilly Memorial
8. Ledwidge Plaque and Museum



- 9. 1798 Memorial
- 10. Church of Ireland
- 11. Catholic Church
- 12. The Mill

- 13. Battle of the Boyne Site
- 14. Brú na Bóinne – Newgrange
- Tow-path walk



Slane – Newgrange: Defining moments in Ireland's past

Maybe it has something to do with the lushness of the area's rolling landscape, or the way the river winds its way through verdant hills, forests and fields? Whatever the reason, there is something special about this stretch of the Boyne Valley. It is here that Ireland's history has been written and the River Boyne has been central to the story.

Slane is an elegant 18th century village, synonymous with St. Patrick but steeped in history of every vintage.

Slane is situated on the N2 and off the M1 just 40 minutes from Dublin and 30 minutes from Dublin Airport.

www.slane.com
www.meathtourism.ie

Meath