



COUNTY KILDARE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Four day excursion to Donegal and the Northwest
Tuesday 16th – Friday 19th May 2017.

The Society's annual four day excursion will take place this year by popular demand, to Donegal and the Northwest, from Tuesday 16th to Friday 19th May 2017 and it will be led by Hugh Crawford, Siobhán McNulty and Bernadette Doyle.

Travel

The coach will depart from Toughers, Naas, at 8.30am [sharp] on 16th May with pick up at the Glen Royal Hotel, Maynooth at 9.00am. Estimated time of return approximately 7.30pm on Friday 19th May.

Hotel

Accommodation has been reserved at the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal, a magnificent 4-star hotel overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and Bundoran golf course, offering gorgeous rooms, many with spectacular views and a superb leisure centre with swimming pool.

Provisional Itinerary:

Tuesday 16: Break for morning coffee/tea at Lough Rynn Castle Estate together with a short tour. Proceed for lunch at Lissadell House, (home of Countess Markievicz), followed by a tour of the House and gardens. Afterwards journey to the Hotel for check in.

Wednesday 17: Enniskillen: Commencing with a visit to the Castle & Museum (home of the famous Inniskilling Fusiliers), followed by a waterways cruise to Devenish Island - 6th century monastic site with lunch on board. After lunch visit St. Macartin's Cathedral and adjoining important historic sites.

Thursday 18: Donegal Town: Visit the site of the ruined Abbey (where in 1632, work began on the compilation of the Annals of the Four Masters), followed by a visit to Donegal Castle (once the home of the O'Donnell chieftains). Afterwards, proceed to Magees of Donegal for lunch in the Weaver's loft restaurant; view a demonstration of tweed making followed by a visit to the famous shop and avail of a special discount voucher.

Friday 19: Following checkout, a short trip to the world famous Belleek pottery. As part of the homeward journey, lunch, by special request, will be in Donaghy's Coach Lane Restaurant, Sligo. There will be a short stop in Boyle to allow a visit to the restored King House, once the seat of the King family and later the Depot of the Connaught Rangers.

Costs

Please note that there are two sets of costs to be paid:

1. Members will be responsible for paying for their own hotel accommodation, as per the instructions which will be advised on booking the trip with the Society. The hotel cost, which will include three nights' accommodation and full Irish breakfasts and dinners, is €165 per person sharing, and €210 for single occupancy.
2. The cost of the logistics element, which includes coach travel, entrance to sites, lunches on all days, wine with dinners and en route refreshments, is € 240 per person.

There is already considerable interest in this excursion, the location having received an overwhelming vote in a 2016 survey. In keeping with previous excursions the Society wishes to continue its programme of providing the opportunity for its members to view national heritage and historical sites under professional guidance. Members interested in joining this excursion, in the first instance, should contact Siobhán McNulty as soon as possible at siobhan.m.mculty@aib.ie or 087 6879221 and by completing the attached booking form. Where members wish to bring a friend this must first be cleared with the organisers.

A deposit of €120 per person will be payable on booking, which should be accompanied by the booking form. The remaining €120 per person will be due by 25th April 2017.



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BOOKING FORM

Please reserve places on the Society's trip to Donegal and the Northwest.

Room Type: Double/Twin/Single

Deposit enclosed: €.....

Name(s):.....

Address:

Email: Mobile No:.....

Please send to Siobhán McNulty, 83 The Elms, Ballymany, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.