

4-day Long Weekend in Mountmellick (Taste of Ireland)

Day.1

Morning

Arrive Dublin Airport Thursday Morning or any morning of your choice

Head to the iconic Guinness Storehouse, where you can learn about the history and brewing process of Ireland's most famous beer. Enjoy panoramic views of Dublin from the Gravity Bar as you savour a complimentary pint of Guinness. https://www.guinness-storehouse.com/

Alternatively, head to the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin. Delve into the museum's extensive collections, which include artifacts ranging from prehistoric times to the medieval period. Highlights include the Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch, and the famous bog bodies. Gain insights into Ireland's ancient past and cultural traditions through fascinating exhibits and interactive displays.

Day 1

Afternoon

Head out of Dublin on the N7 Southbound for Mountmellick, stopping off a Tracys Thatched pub In Killinard for a hearty lunch and top on some refreshments.

At your leisure, complete the last leg of the Journey to the Forum-Mountmellick where a warm welcome awaits you.

Day 1

Evening

Enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere in the pubs, which have a variety of music playing at the weekends.

If dining after 6pm, The Hares Corner are happy to plate up a dinner for you to have in the Coach House later. Alternatively, a 15-minute drive to Portlaoise or 20-monutes to Tullamore opens a wider range of restaurants to choose from.



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Day.2

Morning

A trip to the Rock of Dunamase a Norman castle located about a 20-minute drive from Mountmellick. Perched high on a rocky outcrop, The Rock of Dunamase was built in the 12th century and is one of the most impressive Norman castles in Ireland. Discover the ruins of this ancient fortress and learn about its rich history, which dates back over a thousand years. The site is perfect for a leisurely walk and a picnic while soaking in the scenic vistas. You can climb to the top of the rock for stunning views of the surrounding countryside. DiscoverIreland/rock-of-dunamase.ie

Take a trip into Portlaoise for a bite to eat in one of the many bars and restaurants. Jerimiah Grants comes highly recommended for tasty bar food. After lunch take a stroll and visit the Old Fort Quarter in the town centre.

Day 2

Afternoon

By car take a trip cross country to the village of Timahoe to explore the Round Tower. It is one of the finest examples of its kind in Ireland, featuring an intricately carved doorway in the Romanesque style. Dating from the 12th century, the tower stands nearly 30 meters tall and is the sole surviving structure of an early monastic settlement.

Dav 2

Evening

Treat yourself to a fine-dining experience at The Osprey Restaurant at Ballyfin Demesne, a luxurious hotel located nearby. Savour exquisite dishes prepared with fresh, local ingredients in an elegant setting. Ballyfin.com



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Day.3

Morning

For the outdoor - intrepid explorer, the Slieve Bloom Mountains offer a myriad of walks and hike to the summit of Arderin, the highest peak in the range, and drink in the breathtaking views. Or, delve into the hidden depths of ancient woodlands, where ancient oaks stand sentinel amidst a tapestry of ferns and lichens. Head for the boardwalk where the journey starts.

Day 3

Afternoon

Embark on a whiskey-themed excursion to Tullamore in County Offaly to visit the Tullamore D.E.W. Visitor Centre. Learn about the history and craftsmanship behind Ireland's beloved whiskey brand through interactive exhibits and guided tours. Enjoy tastings of Tullamore D.E.W.'s finest blends and discover what makes Irish whiskey truly special.

Visit one of the many pubs / hotels to avail of a hearty lunch

Day 3

Evening

Enjoy the warm and friendly atmosphere in the pubs, which have a variety of music playing at the weekends.

If dining after 6pm, The Hares Corner are happy to plate up a dinner for you to have in the Coach House later. Alternatively, a 15-minute drive to Portlaoise or 20-monutes to Tullamore opens a wider range of restaurants to choose from.



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Day.4

Morning

Pack your bags and bid farewell. Commence the return journey to Dublin Airport taking in the National Stud and Japanese Gardens in Kildare for a day of tranquillity and beauty. Explore the world-renowned stud farm, home to some of Ireland's finest thoroughbred horses, and stroll through the serene Japanese Gardens, designed to promote harmony and relaxation.

Day 4

Afternoon

Complete the journey to Dublin Airport and commence your recuperation on your homeward journey and hopefully with great memories of your stay.