



## **2-Day Stay at the Forum-Mountmellick (Family)**

The Forum-Mountmellick, nestled in County Laois, beckons travellers with its promise of exploration and discovery in the enchanting unspoilt Province of Leinster.

The Forum-Mountmellick is conveniently located just a 50-minute from Dublin's bustling Euston Station. Mountmellick serves as a gateway to the region and Dublin's plethora of tourist delights.

Whether you're starting your journey from near or far, the Forum-Mountmellick offers the perfect launchpad for personalised adventures or pre-planned trips.

For those craving autonomy and flexibility, seize the opportunity to plan your own day trips, each tailored to your unique passions and preferences. Explore the rich tapestry of Ireland's heritage with visits to nearby national attractions, each easily accessible on your journey to or from the Forum-Mountmellick. Whether it's tracing the footsteps of ancient ancestors at historic sites or immersing yourself in the natural splendour of verdant landscapes, the possibilities are endless.

Alternatively, for those seeking seamless travel experiences, our pre-planned itineraries offer a stress-free way to immerse yourself in the best that the region has to offer. Indulge in a carefully curated two-day adventure, brimming with captivating excursions and insider insights. From guided tours of historic landmarks to leisurely strolls through picturesque villages, every moment is thoughtfully orchestrated to ensure an unforgettable experience.

Whether you choose to chart your own course or embrace the convenience of pre-planned adventures, the Forum-Mountmellick invites you to embark on a journey of exploration and delight. With endless possibilities awaiting just beyond our doorstep, your next unforgettable adventure begins here.

## 2-Day Stay at the Forum-Mountmellick (Family)

### Day.1 - Morning

Start your day with a self-catering home cooked breakfast at the Forum or enjoy a full Irish Breakfast at Noras Café (The Square) or at The Hare Corners Restaurant known for its delicious award-winning food renowned for their friendly atmosphere. These are both short walking distances from the Forum.

The morning could begin with a scenic drive through the County Laois countryside, eventually reaching Castleview Open Farm, Barrack quarter, Cullihill, County Laois R32 E932 3-minutes' drive from Mountmellick. <https://castleviewopenfarm.ie/>

Upon arrival at the farm, you are greeted by the warm hospitality of the Saunders family who operate the farm. Stepping inside the farm, children can avail of the indoor play areas. There is a mud kitchen where children can unleash their creativity, crafting culinary masterpieces from mud and sticks. An imaginary play area allows them to transform into farmyard characters, while the electric go-karts provide a thrilling race around a designated track.

As lunchtime approaches, the aroma of freshly baked goods wafts from the on-site café, which offers which offers c Coffee, tea Ice cream, Milkshakes , Sweet treats, and a range of hot food including Burgers, Vegetarian Burgers, Chicken selects, Cocktail Sausages and Chips. This outing-is ideal for bringing a picnic basket.

### Day.1 - Afternoon

After lunch, it's time to explore the extensive outdoor area. A network of walkways winds its way past paddocks teeming with domesticated wildlife. Spot giant rabbits with fur as soft as velvet, and majestic alpacas with their calming presence. Briana, the resident Eagle Owl, hoots from her perch, her amber eyes glinting curiously.

The afternoon could wind down with a visit to the farmyard petting zoo. Here, children can cautiously interact with a pot-bellied pig, stroke the fur of a friendly goat, or chase after fluffy ducks waddling across the yard. No trip to Castleview Open Farm is complete without tackling the challenging maze.

**Notes:** Families could easily spend a day or most of the day here. If you still have time to do something else, the 15-minute drive from Castleview Open Farm to The Dove Sensory Gardens, Abbeyleix is worthy of a visit. The Dove sensory garden uses plants, textures, and water features to stimulate all five senses. [Dove Sensory Gardens](#)

### Day.1 - Evening

Exhausted but exhilarated, families pile back into the car, their hearts full of happy memories. The drive back to the Forum should hopefully be filled with chatter about the day's adventures, and the promise to return to Castleview Open Farm soon.

## 2-Day Stay at the Forum-Mountmellick (Family )

### Day.2 - Morning

Start another day with a self-catering home cooked breakfast at the Forum or enjoy a full Irish Breakfast at Noras Café (The Square) or at The Hare Corners Restaurant known for its delicious award-winning food renowned for their friendly atmosphere. These are both short walking distances from the Forum

Visit Mountmellick Playground & outdoor gym. It has something to offer everyone in the family! The children can play ship, swings, sandpit and enjoy the water area, while there's also an outdoor gym.

If you need a coffee and snacks, cross the road to the Hares Corner Restaurant.

### Day.2 - Afternoon

Pack a picnic with food to feed the ducks and take a 15-minute drive from Mountmellick to Emo Court, a stunning neo-classical mansion designed by the renowned architect James Gandon (1743-1823), famous for his great public building, including The Customs house Dublin, and the Four Courts in Dublin, Ireland. Enjoy a family walk in Emo Court gardens and parklands and join the children feeding the ducks. Picnic benches are provided or enjoy a lunch or coffee with a pastry in Emo Court tea rooms. ~~Embark on a~~ Guided tours are available to discover the history of the once-powerful family and marvel at the opulent interiors.

<https://www.emocourt.ie/>

Alternative plans might include an 18-minute trip from Mountmellick to Portarlinton Leisure Centre which offers a 25m pool plus a learner pool for children, a gymnasium, a café, and a nearby playground for children.

<https://www.laoisleisure.ie/>

Rainy Days: **Consider indoor activities such as**

Roll N Bowl Portlaoise

<http://www.RollNBowl.com>

Odean Cinema Portlaoise

<https://www.odeoncinemaportlaoise>

Clownaround Portarlinton

<https://clownaround.ie/>

### Day.2 - Evening

For a lazy evening free of cooking and/or dining out, try the local fish and chip shops. These are located close-by to the Forum and serves a wide range of fast-food classics for the family including chips pizzas and kebabs. Next door to the Forum is the Golden Grill or further down the main street towards the Church you will find Robertos.

Golden Grill

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063812372968>

Robertos

<https://robertos-mountmellick.com/>