Ireland's All Here...
into Kildare
COUNTY KILDARE TOURISM BOARD
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Royal Canal
GREENWAY
One Trail, Endless
Discoveries

Suggested Itinerary

Start your journey in the historic town of Maynooth, home to Ireland's first seminary in 1795 which was extended to a Pontifical University in 1896. The 12th century Maynooth Castle, former residence of the FitzGeralds, is contrasted by the neighbouring Maynooth University campus.

Enjoy an overnight stay in the surrounds of the four-star Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth. Start your day with a wholesome breakfast in Shoda Market Café, Ireland's newest lifestyle café before heading off on the towpath toward the harbour of Maynooth. The small island in the centre has been left as a sanctuary for wildlife.

Continue on the track, under Bond Bridge, along the walls of the Maynooth College, before reaching Jackson's Bridge – easily identifiable by its five arches. As you approach Kilcock, discover the gem of the village's canal banks and the harbour of Kilcock. With a selection of places to stop for lunch, including Blackforest Bakery, Timeless Café and the Rye River Café, you'll be refreshed and ready for the return journey.

Retrace your steps or take the train, the rail station is next to the canal, back to Maynooth. Alternatively, continue 13km along Greenway to Enfield, Co Meath and onwards.

Day 1:
3pm   Check in at the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth
4pm   Maynooth Castle (open 10am to 6pm): an exhibition of the castle and the FitzGerald family [note: not currently open due to Covid-19]

5.30pm   Leisure Centre

7pm   Dinner in Arkle Bar & Restaurant at the Glenroyal Hotel or in one of the restaurants in Maynooth town

Day 2:
            Check out of Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth
9am   Breakfast in Shoda Market Café

10.30am   Walk the Royal Canal Greenway toward Kilcock (6km)

11am   Enjoy a refreshment and bun before the return journey to Maynooth

1.30pm   Picnic lunch at Maynooth Harbour

Alternatively, if you carry onward to Enfield (13km)

2.30pm   Lunch in The Bridge House, Enfield

4pm   Take a train back to Maynooth or overnight at Johnstown House before heading west to continue on the Greenway.