

Accommodation in the Aclare, Curry & Tubbercurry areas:

Cawley's Hotel

Emmet Street, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo
Tel: +353 (0)71 9185025
www.cawleyshotel.ie
info@cawleyshotel.ie

Murphy's Hotel

Teeling Street, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo
Tel: +353 (0)71 9185034
www.murphyshotel.ie
info@murphyshotel.ie

Yeats County Inn

Curry, Co. Sligo
Tel: +353 (0)94 925 5050
www.yeatscountyinn.com
mail@yeatscountyinn.com

Haggart Lodge B&B

Aclare, Co. Sligo
Tel: +353 (0)71 91 81954
Mob: +353 (0) 87 9671339
www.haggartlodge.ie
haggartlodge@gmail.com

Masshill Guesthouse

Masshill, Cloonacool,
Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo
Tel: +353 (0)71 91 81920
Mob: +353 (0) 87 136 2703
www.masshillguesthouse.com
sineadmooney23@gmail.com

*Collection from local Airport/Bus/Train
Stations by local taxis can be arranged
for walkers.*

For further information and timetables,
check out these websites:

www.buseireann.ie

www.irishrail.ie

www.irelandwestairport.com

For more information on all our walks check out
our website www.southsligowalkingfestival.com
Email: southsligowalkingfestival@gmail.com

Find us on
Facebook



Comhshaoil, Pobal agus Rialtas Aitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



ox mountain development company

Haggart Lodge
ACCOMMODATION

MASSHILL
CAMPSITE

Sligo
Sets your spirit free



the
gathering
IRELAND 2013

WWW.

South Sligo Walking Festival.com

2013

the
gathering
IRELAND 2013

4th to 6th May, 2013
Bank Holiday Weekend

MASS ROCK

LOUGH EASKEY

Sli Shluigh
SLIGO WAY



ox mountain development company



The Annual South Sligo Walking Festival will take place over the May Bank Holiday Weekend 4th to 6th May, 2013.

There will be 3 Guided walks each day. The **SHORT** walk will suit those who prefer a leisurely pace (Country Lanes/Lakeside Walks) while the **MEDIUM** (Hillwalk) & **LONG** (Mountain Walk) will be more challenging. Beautiful scenery speckled with high altitude lakes & streams, giving participants a chance to experience at first hand the splendid isolation that is the Ox Mountains.

Registration takes place each morning for all walks at **Joe Dan's Pub, Mullaney's Cross** ...approximately 6 miles from Tubbercurry, on the R294 Ballina-Boyle Road.

Every year there are new walks added to the festival and this year is no exception with the Heritage Tour being a special feature (see opposite). Also, the newly created National Loop Walk at Lough Easkey, the Lough Talt Loop Walk, ancient megalithic tombs at "The Giant's Graveyard" in the heart of the Ox Mountains, The Sligo Way, and many more trails will be explored.



Prices:

Short Walk:
€5.00

Medium Walk:
€12.00

Long Walk:
€15.00

(Reduced price for walkers who partake in multiple walks over the weekend)

Cost of walks includes Bus transfers, refreshments and homemade soup on return to base. Warm, Rainproof clothing, suitable hiking/ walking boots are essential on all walks.

Please Note: Under 16's allowed ONLY under the supervision of a Parent/Guardian on all walks. No Dogs or Bicycles allowed.

Music Sessions held in Joe Dan's Pub over the Festival Weekend. Courtesy buses will take walkers from the local B&B's to the music sessions.

Environment:

The **Leave No Trace** message is all about helping outdoor enthusiasts to minimise their impact on the environment and based on a set of seven core principles:

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Be considerate of others
3. Respect wildlife and farm animals
4. Travel and camp on durable ground
5. Leave what you find
6. Dispose of waste properly.
7. Guard against all risks of fire, especially near forests.

Permission has been granted for walking access only. Dogs are NOT permitted on the walks.

Acknowledgements:

The Ox Mountain Development Company Ltd., acknowledges the continued support of Sligo County Council and the Co. Sligo The Gathering Steering Committee, who supported the funding of the Festival Brochures, also Co. Sligo LEADER Partnership Co. Ltd. in the creation of our new website.

Special thanks to Connacht Gold, Tubbercurry and O'Hara's Bakery, Foxford, Co. Mayo who will be supporting us during our festival weekend. All committee members, The Management & Staff of Joe Dan's Pub, Kennedy's Supermarket. Special thanks to all our Walking Leaders who give up time to lead the walks and RSS members who maintain the walks. Finally, we want to sincerely thank the landowners upon whose lands we walk, without their co-operation and support this Festival could not take place.

NEW

Local Heritage Bus (or Cycle) Tour

**Bank Holiday Monday
6th May, 2013**

**Bus departs at 12 noon approx
from Joe Dan's**

Surrounded by stunning scenery of the beautiful Ox Mountains or Slieve Gamph, the Ox Mountain Development Company Ltd., will be holding a series of Guided Walks/Cycles to local heritage sites and places of interest in the South Sligo Area, an area steeped in tradition and folklore, visitors will be transported back to an era of siogs (fairies) and banshees, walk part of the route taken by General Humbers French soldiers. The places that will be visited will be Holy Wells in the Kilmactigue Parish, (St. Attracta's, St. Ciaran's and St. Barbara's) visit the Grave of the 1798 French Solider in Gorterslin and the Famine Wall (Stirabout Wall), built by the people for the local landlord - Jack Taffee. Lough Talt, The Giants Graveyard - Megalithic tombs/passage ways. Visitors will also be taken to nearby Belclare Castle and Banada Abbey as part of the tour. At each site local historians will give a talk on the area and after the tour there will be an opportunity to meet the local historians and ask questions on the area. Homemade Soup and refreshments will be offered as part of the tour.

Duration: 2.5 to 3 hours.

The Walks

Choose a Short, Medium or Long Walk from any of the 3 days.
We hope you enjoy the South Sligo Walking Festival 2013.

Short Walks

Saturday 4th May 2013:

Kilmactigue—Carrowreagh—Clerhy Walk

This new walk is steeped in history which takes place in the shadow of the Ox Mountains. Starting at Kilmactigue National School, we go up McLoughlin's bothrin and we pass the *Lieutenants Well* (a source of fresh water for the English Army's troops, stationed nearby during the 1700s). Further along on the left you pass the entrance into St. Ciaran's Holy Well (Tobar Ciaran), reputed to have healing powers for sick animals and guarded by a Siog Og (young Fairy) in his absence. We pass megalithic tombs, beautiful South Sligo scenery and farmland in the townlands of Kincullew and Clerhy on our way home to Joe Dan's.

Distance: 3-4 miles Duration: approx 1-2 hours. Grade Level: Easy
Registration: 11 am at Joe Dan's Pub (Bus 11.30 approx)

Sunday 5th May 2013:

Kilmactigue—Letterbrone—Kincullew

Starts at Kilmactigue Church and up the Belclare road as far as Scaugh Bridge, down the Letterbrone road with a short stop just beside St. Ciaran's Graveyard, then back to Joe Dan's by the Kincullew/Carraloban road. This walk takes in beautiful views of the great outdoors along country lanes with plenty of fresh air.

Distance: 5 to 5.5 miles Duration: approx 2 to 2.5 hrs Grade Level: Easy
Registration: 11 am at Joe Dan's Pub (Bus 11.30 approx)

Monday 6th May 2013:

Blind Fish Lake—Mullarney Hill

Leaving Joe Dan's and heading along the Cloonacool Road for ½ km and then turning onto the Castlerock Road – a bog road that runs between Castlerock Hill and Mullarney Hill. Along the road lies Lough Nabrickeagh (Blind Fish Lake). We leave the road and travel west along the lake edge, then ascending to the top of Mullarney Hill. The route from here goes past the standing burnt remains of a conifer forest which is both breathtaking and eerie. Passing the ruins of an old homestead and descending to the South East on the final leg which brings us back down to Joe Dan's Pub.

Distance: 5 miles Duration: 2-3 hours
Registration: 12 noon Grade Level: Moderate/Hard

Medium Walks

Saturday 4th May 2013:

Gorterslin – Largan – Crummus

This walk starts at Joe Dan's and heading up the Gorterslin road passing by the "Frenchmans Grave" and down to Lough Talt with a challenging climb onto Crummus in the Ox Mountains. After the descent from the mountain we will be met with a welcome cup of tea before a pleasant road and track walk across hill and open bogland taking in super views of the surrounding countryside. Finally heading back for a bowl of Lena's homemade soup.

Distance: 6-7 miles Duration: 3.5 to 4 hours.
Registration: 10 am at Joe Dan's Pub
Grade Level: Moderate/Difficult

Sunday 5th May 2013:

Frenchman's Grave – Mullarney Hill – Lough Nabrickeagh – Tullyvella Lakes

Leaving from Joe Dan's and heading in a north-westerly direction up to the top of Gorterslin, taking in the Frenchman's Grave and the fantastic views of the valley below with Crummus to the west. We head off-road to the top of Mullarney Hill (254m high) for breathtaking 360° views of the Ox Mountains and surrounding valleys. Down towards Lough Nabrickeagh at the base of the hill near the Castlerock road, ascending then to the Tullyvella Lakes. There are three lakes nestled at 260m up in the Ox Mountains. From here we head back to Joe Dan's.

Distance: 9 miles Duration: 4.5 to 5.5 hours.
Registration: 10 am at Joe Dan's Pub
Grade Level: Difficult/Strenuous

Long Walks

Saturday 4th May 2013:

The Crummus Walk

Starting at Glanduff we follow an old track to reach the high ground, then head North East for 6 miles towards Lough Talt traversing wild, unspoilt, undulating heath-covered terrain. Passing huge boulders left high and dry since the last Ice Age, we come upon some small mountain lakes. Hidden away in obscure little valleys, they provide idyllic nesting sites for a few hardy seagulls. At Lough Talt after tea and sweet cake we make our way for 2 miles along the lake shore at the base of Crummus, then up along the old Gorterslin road passing the Frenchman's Grave where we pause briefly to reflect on "The Year of the French". From here it's all down hill towards Joe Dan's.

Distance: 11 to 12 miles Duration: 5.5 to 6 hours
Registration: 10 am at Joe Dan's Pub (Bus 10.30am)
Grade Level: Difficult/Strenuous

Sunday 5th May 2012:

Sligo & Foxford Ways—Mount Taffe Walk

The walk starts at the west end of Lough Easkey and tracks northwards to the top of the hill overlooking Lough Easkey, from where you can see Nephin and the golden sands of Enniscrone beach and on a fine day the Donegal Mountains. You will also reach the 2nd highest peak known as Knock na Lonie at a height of 544m. Heading down the hill towards the Tullyvella Lakes and the Stirring Rock and finally ending up at Joe Dan's for a well deserved drink.

Distance: 11 to 12 miles Duration: 7 to 8 hours.
Registration: 9 am at Joe Dan's Pub (Bus 10am)
Grade Level: Difficult/Strenuous



Use 'Discovery Map'
Series No. 24

Numbers to call in case of an emergency:

Fintan Mullarkey – Chairperson: 087-9057108
Maeve Leheny Fallon – Secretary: 087-9671339
Aclare Garda Station: 071-9181002
Emergency: 999 or 112

Complimentary Tea/Coffee and light refreshments served half way into the Medium and Long Walks, and a bowl of Lena's Homemade Soup after your walk!!

For further information on all walks and attractions in the

Lough Talt / Lough Easkey Area visit www.southsligowalkingfestival.com

