

## 7. SEÁN HEALY PARK

Telling History in Stone - the row of limestone Standing Stones, sculpted by one of Ireland's leading artists, Tony O'Malley, is located in Seán Healy Park on the Clonmel Road. Erected in 2004, each standing stone sums up in words and carved motifs the lived and living story of Carrick-on-Suir, celebrating the local life, culture, music and sport of the town. The inscriptions are based on the poetic work 'All Souls' by local poet Michael Coady.



## NEARBY TREASURES

### SLIEVENAMON

Slievenamon, (Sliabh na mBan), 'The Mountain of the Women', is situated northwest of Carrick-on-Suir, offering a dramatic view from the top over the south east of Ireland and beyond. The origin of the mountain's name is explained in Irish mythology. According to the tale, Fionn Mac Cumhail was sought after by many young women. It is said that he chose his wife by picking the winner from a group of women who raced up the mountain. Gráinne won after Fionn showed her a shortcut to the top. There are two prehistoric cairns on Slievenamon, one at the very top, and the other on a lower summit to the northeast known as Sheegouna.



### AHENNY AND KILKIERAN HIGH CROSSES

East of Slievenamon, about 5 miles north of Carrick-on-Suir, the Ahenny High Crosses are located in Kilclispeen graveyard. A splendid example of early Christian art and craftsmanship, these 8th century High Crosses are ornately carved with intricate Celtic designs. The base of each cross has carved figures depicting Biblical scenes including Daniel in the Lion's Den and Adam naming the animals. Both crosses are made of sandstone and stand over 3 metres high. Located close by are the Kilkieran High Crosses from the 9th century which are between 2.8 and 3.5 metres high. The West Cross is probably the most similar to the Ahenny High Crosses. Beautiful paintings of the crosses by local artist Sheila Wood are currently on display in the Main Street in the town.



## KNOCKROE PASSAGE TOMB

This megalithic burial site was only excavated in 1990. It dates back more than 5,000 years and is unique in that it aligns with both the rising and the setting Winter Solstice Sun. The Newgrange Passage Tomb which is a World Heritage Site is only aligned with the rising Winter Solstice Sun. Situated in the townland of Knockroe, County Kilkenny, the site predates the Pyramids in Egypt and Stonehenge. From Carrick-on-Suir take the R697 north for 10km then take a left turn for Knockroe.



## COMERAGH DRIVE

Carrick-on-Suir is flanked to the south by the foothills of the Comeraghs leading to the Comeragh Mountains themselves, one of Ireland's best kept secrets. Containing some of Ireland's best examples of glacial corries or armchair lakes, this mountain range is hugely varied and stretches from the coast near Dungarvan inland as far as Carrick-on-Suir and Clonmel to form part of the Munster Ridge. Every visitor should try the 'Magic Road' and visit the spectacular Mahon Falls, a 240 ft waterfall tumbling from the glacial range. Also located nearby are Curraghmore House and Gardens, Mount Congreve Gardens and the Waterford Greenway.



## THE ARTS SCENE

Carrick-on-Suir also boasts a flourishing arts scene, with two renowned theatres, Brewery Lane Theatre and the Strand Theatre, along with a vibrant commercial arts collective nestled in between. Visit the Tudor Artisan Hub, beside the Strand Theatre, only steps from Ormond Castle, to find out what's on. The Hub is a quirky Aladdin's cave of unique gifts and treasures created by an eclectic collective of over fifty artists from Carrick-on-Suir, the Suir Valley region and beyond. It has five rooms spread over two floors, brimming with a diverse range of art and handcrafted products in a space teeming with character and charm.



### GUIDED TOWN WALKS:

Every Wednesday at 2.30pm from July to August there is a guided historic town walk with local historian Tom Walsh. Tickets are €5 per person or €10 per family from the Heritage Centre. The tour commences at the Heritage Centre and takes about 2 hours. For more information please contact the Heritage Centre on 051 640200.

## WHERE TO EAT IN CARRICK-ON-SUIR

Carrick-on-Suir boasts some of the oldest established retail businesses in Ireland. A stroll through the Town Centre will reveal thriving businesses that date from the early 1800's. There are plenty of excellent Bars, Restaurants, Cafés, Takeaways and Delis to relax in and enjoy a meal and a drink.

### MAP PLACES TO EAT - KEY

#### HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND BARS

1. The Carraig Hotel
2. The Junction Bar and Bistro
3. O'Ceallachains Bar and Bistro
4. Kilkieran Cottage Restaurant



#### CAFÉS AND DELIS

5. Martys Pantry
6. Café West
7. Sunnyside Café
8. Lily Mai's Café – Dovehill Irish Design Centre



#### ORIENTAL RESTAURANTS

9. Far East Restaurant
10. Dragon Inn Chinese Restaurant



#### FAST FOOD OUTLETS

11. Central Grill
12. Roberto's Takeaway
13. Jimmys Takeaway



## BUTLER TRAIL AUDIO GUIDE APP

Download the Butler Trail Audio Guide App and enjoy a stroll around our town, learning about our rich past from medieval and Tudor times. For over 650 years the Butlers were one of the wealthiest and most powerful families in Ireland. They built the finest Elizabethan manor house in Ireland, brought the woollen industry to the town and left a wonderful 17th century silver collection. Hear fascinating stories of alleged intimacies with an English Queen, tragedy on the river and hidden treasure in an Irish pub. Then continue the Butler Trail through the nearby towns of Cahir and Clonmel.



Visit [www.carrickonsuir.net](http://www.carrickonsuir.net) for more information on what to see and do in and around Carrick-on-Suir and follow COSBA (Carrick-on-Suir Business Association) on Facebook.



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## A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU

## CARRICK-ON-SUIR



**TAKE TIME TO EXPLORE**  
Our Market Town renowned for  
Heritage, Business and Leisure

## Welcome to Carrick on Suir

Carrick-on-Suir is an unspoilt and charming heritage market town in a spectacular setting in the heart of the Golden Vale. The town nestles on the banks of the River Suir, in the lush, fertile and tranquil valley between the iconic Mountain of Slievenamon and the Comeragh Mountains. Carrick-on-Suir is a compact town and is easily explored on foot via the heritage trail. The town's intriguing history offers an unrivalled experience for both tourists and the casual day tripper. Take time to explore our rich heritage and cultural attractions, take a bike ride or walk along the River Suir Blueway and savour our food, arts, culture and shopping experience along the way.

## Top Visitor Attractions

### 1. ORMOND CASTLE

Ormond Castle is the finest example of an Elizabethan Manor House in Ireland. It was built by 'Black Tom' Butler, the 10th Earl of Ormond, in the 1560s. Thomas spent virtually his entire childhood at the English royal court. During this time, not only did he develop a very close relationship with his cousin Princess Elizabeth, he was also inspired by new trends in architecture and by the extravagant lifestyle. On returning to Ireland Thomas incorporated these ideas into his new, unfortified mansion. Closely integrated into the earlier 15th Century towers, it contains some of the finest decorative plasterwork in the country. The fact that the Manor House is without significant defences and contains large windows and many ornate features is testament to the power and wealth of the Butler family at that time.



Part of the town's old fortified wall is located directly opposite the entrance to Ormond Castle and adjoining Castleview Tennis Club. In medieval times Carrick-on-Suir was the largest town in Tipperary with 36 acres of land enclosed by the Town Wall. Vital work was recently carried out at this section to make it structurally sound. Other sections of the wall can be seen on New Street, at the back of the Heritage Centre, at the West Gate and next to Super Valu.

### 2. THE HERITAGE CENTRE - TOURIST OFFICE

Open Tuesday - Friday, 10am-4pm all year round. The Heritage Centre houses the Fáilte Ireland approved Visitor Information Point where knowledgeable staff are available to offer advice on the many tourist attractions in the area. The Heritage Centre is situated within the heart of Carrick-on-Suir, off Main Street with rear access from Town Wall. It stands on the site of the original 13th century church and exhibits local memorabilia and artefacts. The grounds hold an interesting array of headstones,



including a memorial to Thomas Butler, (died 1604), an illegitimate son of Thomas, 10th Earl Of Ormond. Items on display include the Butler Silver Church Plate Collection from the 17th century and the Sonny Cash exhibition showcasing photographs of Carrick-on-Suir and the surrounding areas from 1902 to 1917. A Farmers' Market is held every Friday in the grounds where local produce is available.

### 3. THE OLD BRIDGE

In 1447 a stone bridge was built linking Waterford and Tipperary, now known as the 'Old Bridge'. This is one of the most handsome stone bridges in Ireland and it predates the voyage of Columbus to the New World. For centuries this was the first bridge above the estuary of the Suir and hence of strategic importance as a link between South Leinster and East Munster. The city of Waterford had no bridge until 1790s.



### 4. ST. MOLLERAN'S CHURCH

Just across the River Suir is St. Molleran's Church. It stands on the site of a 13th century Friary, fragments of which are incorporated into the present building. The Earl of Ormond gave the land to the Franciscans, who occupied the site until the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII. The front wall stands as a reminder of the Great Famine: local people constructed it as part of a work-for-food project in the 1840s.



### 5. THE WEST GATE - TOWN CLOCK

Medieval Carrick had defensive walls, gates and towers to protect its citizens. Little survives except for a 100m section of Town Wall at the northeast corner of its original circuit. The 16th century tower house at West Gate was part of the original defences. A wine merchant named Gallwey who lived in Ormond Castle paid for the town clock to be installed in the tower in 1784.



### 6. RIVER SUIR BLUEWAY - STARTS SEÁN KELLY SQUARE

Officially launching in 2018, the River Suir Blueway is a walking, cycling and paddling trail from Carrick-on-Suir to Cahir. The perfect place to start or end your journey on this beautiful Blueway is Seán Kelly Square named in honour of the world famous cyclist regarded as one of the best Classic cyclists of all time. Here you will find local eateries and food stores to stock up for your journey, or to refuel after your Blueway Experience!

