

WEXFORD

READY TO DISCOVER THE BEST OF WEXFORD?

Fall in love with Wexford in just 48 hours with our suggested travel itineraries



48-HOUR GUIDE



**DISCOVER MORE
AT VISITWEXFORD.IE**

EXPLORE WEXFORD IN 48 HOURS WITH THIS SELF-GUIDED TRAVEL ITINERARY






Discover what County Wexford has to offer in just 48 hours - you'll be surprised how much you'll fit in! From Wexford's top-class attractions, history and heritage, adventure and more, there's so much to discover with this 48-hour tour itinerary.

Each time stamp stated throughout this 48-hour guide is just a suggestion, so stay as long as you like at each location. Keep an eye out for our insider tips for places to eat, things to do and more.

We advise that attractions venues are contacted directly for large group bookings as group access and bus parking will differ from the information in this guide.

Please note: If you are travelling with people with visual, hearing and/or mobility impairments, please contact venues directly for access information. While a large number of the venues listed will have systems in place, we can't confirm or guarantee it in this guide.

The information in this guide was correct at the time of writing.

-  Time
-  Location
-  Parking
-  Website
-  Required Fitness Level

-  Food & Drink
-  History & Heritage
-  Sea & Coast
-  Farm & Countryside
-  Nature
-  Shopping
-  Entertainment
-  Local Tips

DAY 1

WEXFORD

STOP 1

Ballyfad Woods



L 9.00am (stay approx 2 hours)

P Coolgreany

P Free parking

👉 wexfordtrails.ie for more info

🏠 Moderate

Get the city out of your head and start your stay with a restorative walk of Ballyfad Woods. As one of the Coillte Forests undergoing restoration, this 200-acre woodland is filled with mature oaks and beech dating back to pre-famine times.

Scattered throughout the forest paths you'll find the usual fairy doors, but also the ancient road to Dublin and a number of marked and ancient heritage trees.

STOP 2

Explore Gorey Town



L 11.30am (stay approx 2.5-3 hours)

P Gorey – 22 min drive

P Paid parking and charging points

👉 lovegorey.ie and gallivanting.ie

🏠 Low

Head back to civilisation and an opportunity to see why the town of Gorey is so well-known for its shops. This market town may have started out with chickens and horse fairs but these days it's populated with beautiful boutiques, wine shops and galleries - What's not to love?

There are plenty of hotspots to explore including Frenches of Gorey, which is Wexford's oldest pub left unchanged since the early 1800s and still occupied by the same family.

Pre-book and take a Food & Folklore Walking Tour with Lorraine of Gallivanting.ie, or grab a bite to eat in one of the many bars or cafés before you hit the road again.

DAY 1

WEXFORD

STOP 3

Ferns Heritage Village



L 2.30pm (stay approx 2 hours)

P Ferns – 28 min drive

P On-site Parking

👉 fernsvillage.ie

🏠 Low

Time for a little history lesson as you make a quick detour off the N11 to Ferns Village. Once the capital of Leinster, this now small rural village packs in a lot.

Take a visit to the Ferns Medieval Experience and discover how and why an Irish Celtic King invited the Normans to Ireland.

Book a walking tour and explore the village with a guide to take in the vibrant street art and Europe's smallest cathedral. Then climb to the top of Ferns Castle for some fantastic scenic views!

STOP 4

Shrulle Equestrian Centre



L 4.30pm (stay approx 1.5 hours)

P Ballygarrett – 24 min drive

P Car parking on-site

👉 schrulleequestrian.com

🏠 High

Ready for a little more excitement? Head to the coastline for an hour of horse riding along some of Wexford's most stunning beaches and dunes with the lovely team at Shrulle Equestrian Centre.

Don't worry if you have never ridden a horse before, because you can opt for the beginner's canter along the quiet country lanes that surround the family farm at Shrulle. Either way, you'll be surrounded by the most beautiful animals in the world - you can't complain!

Local Tips

Enniscorthy is just 10 minutes from Ferns village, so don't be afraid to travel to another of County Wexford's historic towns along the way if you have the time to spare!

DAY 1

WEXFORD

STOP 5

The Strand Cahore



- L** 6.00pm
- P** Cahore – 8 min drive
- P** Parking on-site
- 👉** thestrandcahore.ie
- 🍷** Low

To finish off day one, visit The Strand Cahore which overlooks a small harbour and promises to be the perfect spot to relax with a drink and a lovely meal.

The Strand has an extensive menu but it's certainly best known for delicious pizzas cooked in a 400° eucalyptus wood-fired oven.

Or, why not opt for a takeaway and eat it on the pier and watch as locals and holiday makers alike sail and swim in the waters of the pier?

It's the best spot to enjoy the sunset and reflect over your day exploring County Wexford!

Fun Fact



Here's a fun fact about one of the destinations that will be explored on day two of the trip...Hook Lighthouse is one of the oldest operating lighthouses in the world.

It was listed as one of the top 14 attractions in Ireland by Lonely Planet.

If you have time



Campile is home to the best 99 in Ireland as voted by listeners of Today FM. Drop into Hayes Daybreak and try one for yourself. They even have a sundae named "The Bomb."

Did you know?



Patrick Kennedy, great grandfather of John F. Kennedy and descendants was born in New Ross in Wexford. Visit the Kennedy Homestead in New Ross on day two if you have time to explore more in a museum and farm still run by his descendents!

DAY 2

WEXFORD

STOP 1

Tintern Abbey



- L** 10.30am (stay approx 2 hours)
- P** Tintern Abbey
- P** On-site parking
- 👉** colcloughwalledgarden.com
- 🍷** Moderate

Having explored the north of County Wexford, it's now time to head south as you start day two with a visit to Tintern Abbey. This stunning Abbey holds the title of the "Most Romantic Ruins in Ireland" but we'll let them tell you why!

Don't rush off though. After your tour of the Abbey, take the short walk through the trees to Colclough Walled Garden - said to be the oldest walled garden in Ireland. Colclough Walled Gardens are home to an abundance of plants, from stunning floral displays to fruit and vegetables, hops, tobacco and even grapes and lemons. Also, be sure to check out the 200-year-old pear tree still providing fruit.

STOP 2

Hook Lighthouse



- L** 12.00pm (stay approx 45 mins)
- P** Hook Peninsula – 23 mins drive
- P** On-site parking
- 👉** hookheritage.ie
- 🍷** Low

A visit to Wexford would not be complete without a visit to Hook Lighthouse! As the oldest functioning lighthouses in the world and now a World Heritage site, the tour takes you through its 800- year history and leaves you at the top for utterly breathtaking views - and that's not just because it's so windy!

It's a hotspot for the perfect Instagram shot and an iconic must-see attraction for those visiting Wexford - it's certainly not to be missed.



Local Tips

Tour days can certainly be long so be sure to stop in some of the local shops, restaurants and cafés to grab a taste of local goodness as you adventure on day two. Visit TasteWexford.ie to see Wexford's local producers!

STOP 3

Roches Bar Duncannon



- L** 1.00pm (stay approx 1 hour)
- D** Duncannon – 20 min drive
- P** Car parking available
- W** rochesbar.ie
- C** Low

By now, everyone is getting peckish so its time for a spot of lunch. We'd recommend heading to the nearby village of Duncannon and the award-winning Roches Bar.

Roches Bar is said to have the creamiest chowder in Wexford. They also stock a large range of craft beers and spirits from local producers and businesses from across Wexford and Waterford. Be sure to try County Wexford's famous Jackford Potato Gin while you're there.

STOP 4

Ballyhack Estuary Heritage Tours



- L** 2.00pm (stay approx 2 hours)
- D** Ballyhack – 8 min drive
- P** Car park available
- W** visitwexford.ie for more info
- C** Low

Now it's time to explore the area from a different vantage point. Hop on board the Orinoco for a boat tour of the Estuary.

Your guides will point out all the historical sites from Duncannon Fort and Ballyhack Castle to Dollar Bay, where it is said €4million of Spanish pirate gold is still hidden. So sit back, explore and even dream that you're about to find that treasure!

STOP 5

Dunbrody Famine Ship



- L** 4.00pm (stay approx 1 hour)
- D** New Ross – 20 min drive
- P** Paid parking at Quay Park
- W** dunbrody.com
- C** Low

Time for another ship but rather than hearing about its history, on this ship you'll experience the happenings aboard the Dunbrody. The Dunbrody is an authentic reproduction of the 19th-century passenger ship and on board, you'll meet your fellow passengers for the journey to the new world.

An emotive yet surprisingly entertaining tour takes you back to the famine era in Wexford as you discover the story of Patrick Kennedy and his fiancé Bridget as they left New Ross to start a new life together in America. And the rest is history...

STOP 6

Explore New Ross



- L** 5.00pm (stay approx 1 hour)
- D** New Ross
- P** Leave car at Quay Park
- W** visitnewross.ie
- C** Low

Staying in New Ross, take some time to wander around this historic town and check out the striking street art depicting the Normans and the history of this medieval town.

You'll find yourself wandering down meandering medieval lane ways and stopping to admire the original Victorian shop fronts. If you have time, be sure to stop at The Bakehouse and pick up some of their homemade cakes to enjoy later!



Did you know?

Wexford produces a light and sweet barley due to it's added hours of sunshine. Wexford's barley is used primarily in the drinks industry, so those golden fields you pass will one day end up as stout, beer or whiskey!

STOP 7

Explore Wexford Town



- L** 7.00pm
- P** Wexford Town – 30 min drive
- P** Paid parking available along quays
- 👉** visitwexford.ie for more info
- 🌿** Low

For the last detour of your trip, take the scenic route back to Wexford town along the N25 giving you the most fantastic coastal views along the way. In the heart of Wexford town, you will find an abundance of spots to enjoy a delicious dinner. We recommend Cistin Eile for meat-lovers, they source their beef from a local cattle farm and slow cook it over 12 hours! Seafood lovers will love La Côte, a blending of fresh fish and foraged ingredients like seaweed and wild herbs into gastronomic delights is divine.

Afterwards, take a wander amongst the thriving pub scene for a final drink to end your stay in County Wexford!

STOP 8

Fun Fact



Wexford town was founded by Vikings in 800 AD and sieged by the Normans in 1169. It was also a predominantly English settlement during the Middle Ages.

The name 'Wexford' evolved from the Scandanavian name 'Waesfjord' which means an "inlet of flat mud lands."

If you have time



Pop into some of Wexford's lovely artisan shops, clothing boutiques, Wexford Arts Centre and more.

Be sure to take a walk along the quay, especially at sunset!

Did you know?



Parts of Steven Spielberg's 1998 Oscar winning film 'Saving Private Ryan' were filmed on Curraclloe Beach not far from Wexford town.

Curraclloe beach is a must visit when in County Wexford.

i Fun Fact
The National Opera House in Wexford town plays host to Wexford Festival Opera - one of Europe's biggest opera festivals - each year in October.

