



The Boyne Valley Garden Trail 2014 includes 11 historic gardens in counties Meath and Louth.

From the historic banks of the River Boyne, gardens in public and private ownership are waiting to be explored. For opening hours, admission fees and year round events, please contact each garden directly.

An Griánan, (College for Lifelong Learning), Termonfeckin, Co. Louth

A walled garden under restoration and specimen trees on the lawn are to be found at An Griánan. The original house dates to the 1850's.

Opening arrangements: please contact owners directly.

Tel: 041 9822119 www.an-grianan.ie GPS 54.072283, -6.152344

Barmeath Castle, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

18th century gardens designed by Thomas Wright. Best months to visit May-June, Azaleas and Rhododendrons in flower. Best specimens: Monterey pines, woodland walks with mature Cedars.

Opening arrangements: 1st May - 9th June 9.00 - 1.00 pm.
Events: Heritage Week. Groups by arrangement.

Tel: 041 6851205 www.barmeath-castle.com GPS 53.823152, -6.337824

Battle of the Boyne, Oldbridge House and Gardens, Drogheda, Co. Meath.

Recently restored Victorian walled garden, glasshouse, a unique sunken Octagonal Garden and Garden Exhibition in the Bothy.

Open all year round, daily. Check website for opening arrangements. Free of charge to the Gardens and Garden Exhibition. Last admission is one hour before closing time. Tearoom Pavilion in the walled garden open daily serving delicious fare.

Tel: 041 9809950 www.battleoftheboyne.ie GPS 53.722910, -6.414290

Beaulieu House and Gardens, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

18th century walled garden with a vibrant herbaceous border, thought to be the longest in Ireland. Situated on the banks of the River Boyne, the house is one of the earliest examples of an unfortified house in Ireland. Best months to visit: June and July.

Opening arrangements: 1st June until 5th Sept, except for parties of 10 or more people - by prior arrangement, please ring to book. Monday to Friday: 11.00-5.00 pm, weekends: 1.00-5.00 pm - July and August only.

Tel: 041 9838557 www.beaulieuhouse.ie GPS 53.732466, -6.292419

Hamwood House, Dunbooyne, Co. Meath

A Palladian Georgian house with a walled garden laid out approx. 1800, currently undergoing restoration; a rose garden and woodland walks. Magnificent specimen trees, including the tallest Monkey Puzzle tree in Ireland. Best months to visit: April-June for flowering Camellias, Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Bluebell walks.

Open 1st April - 31st July. Groups by arrangement, contact owners directly.
Tel: 01 8255210 www.hamwood.com GPS 53.411988, -6.513562

Killineer House and Gardens, Drogheda, Co. Louth

The Early 19th century gardens have formal paths descending from terraces and lawns to a woodland garden with walks surrounding the attractive lake and summerhouse. Original 1.5 acres walled garden with vegetables, fruit trees and herbaceous borders. Best month to visit: May for Candelabra Primulas and Magnolias in flower. Specimen Holly, the longest single stem example in Ireland.

Opening arrangements: see website or contact owners directly.
Open for Heritage Week, see website for events.

Tel: 041 9838563 www.killineerhouse.ie GPS 53.743229, -6.376233

Francis Ledwidge Museum, Janeville, Slane, Co. Meath

The Francis Ledwidge Museum in Slane is the cottage birthplace of WWI poet-soldier, Francis Ledwidge. Sometimes known as 'poet of the blackbirds', Ledwidge's rural poetry was inspired by the flora and fauna of Meath. He was killed in action at the Battle of Passchendaele.

It is a perfect example of a 19th century farm labourer's cottage and houses the poet's works and artefacts from World War I, alongside memorabilia of the period.

The garden to the rear of the museum is a haven of tranquillity. In springtime it radiates with colour from daffodils, bluebells and primroses. The roses are a delight in summer along with all the other cottage garden flowers.

Opening Hours: March to October 10am to 5pm - 7 days. October to March 10am to 3.30pm - 7 days

Tel: 041 9824544 www.francisledwidge.com GPS 53.707104, -6.527456

Loughcrew House and Gardens, Oldcastle, Co. Meath

The result of years of restoration can be seen in the stunning garden, comprising of a magnificent yew walk, a walled garden, a canal and a parterre. Also woodland walks, an Adventure Centre and Coffee Shop.

Gardens open 7 days a week year round. Weekdays to 10.00 to 5.00 and weekends 11.00 to 5.00. Coffee Shop open weekends year round. Open weekdays from March 15th to October 31st.

Tel: 049 85 41356 www.loughcrew.com GPS 53.787672, -7.146606

Listoke Gardens, Drogheda, Co. Louth

Beautiful Edwardian walled garden and woodland walks. Film location for Asterix and Obelix movie starring Gerard Depardieu. Group bookings by appointment.

Best time to visit: May - June. Opening arrangements: May 1st to August 26th.
Tel: 041 9832265 GPS 53.748508, -6.345978

Rokey Hall, Grangebellew, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

Rokey Hall is an 18th century country house in the Neoclassical style built for Richard Robinson, Archbishop of Armagh. Designed by Thomas Cooley and built by renowned Irish architect Francis Johnston, Rokey is an elegant building with beautiful detailing which remains largely unchanged to this day.

The focal point of the gardens is the splendid Turner conservatory which dates to the 1850s and has recently undergone a full restoration.

Opening arrangements: open Monday to Saturday in May and September including Heritage Week: 10.00-2.00pm. Open for group visits with advance booking.

Tel: 086 8644228 www.rokey.ie GPS 53.805973, -6.349411

Sonairte Eco Centre and Gardens

The Ninch, Laytown, Co. Meath.

Sonairte is a great place for a day out for all the family. See the 18th century 1.8 acre walled organic garden, the nature trail alongside the River Nanny and our Bee Museum. Our Sunflower Cafe and Eco Shop have a wide selection of Irish food and Fair Trade gifts. We have a variety of courses and events throughout the year along with monthly Food & Craft Fairs. See our website for more details and opening times.

Opening: open Wednesday to Sunday 10.30am to 4.30pm. Free admission.
Tel: 041 9827572 www.sonairte.ie GPS 53.703211, -6.2677

BOYNE VALLEY Garden Trail 2014

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Killineer House and Gardens
Drogheda, Co Louth



GARDEN TRAIL EVENTS

Each garden member hosts events in their gardens, including walks, charity fetes, music events, outdoor theatre, exotic and rare plant sales and Harvest Festivals.

Become a Friend for €25 and get free access to the gardens, discounts at garden centres and notification of events. Also makes an ideal Christmas or birthday gift.

For more information about events visit www.boynevalleygardentrail.com

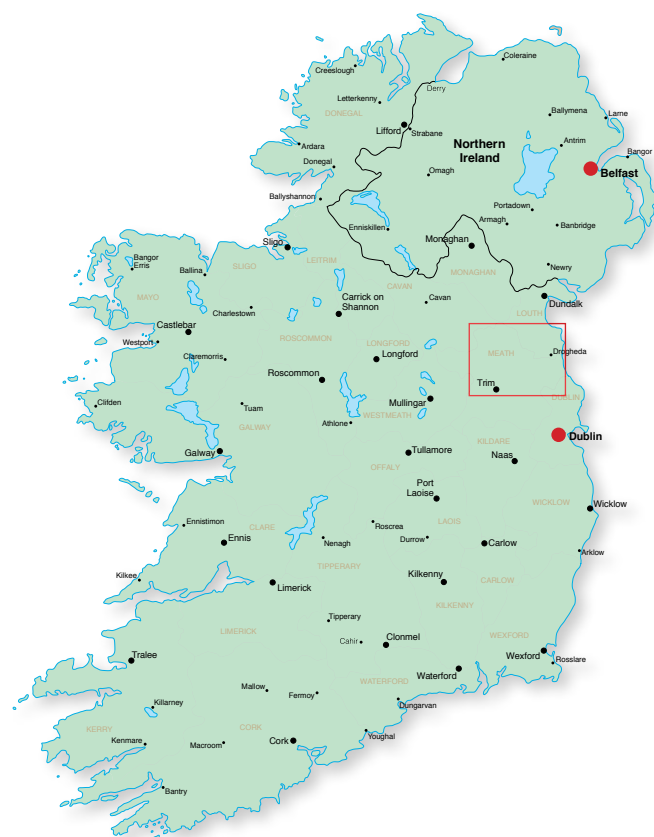
Or find the Boyne Valley Garden Trail on Facebook.



Barmeath Castle and Gardens,
Dunleer, Co. Louth



Beaulieu House and Gardens,
Drogheda, Co. Louth



Location

The Boyne Valley can be reached by motorway M1 from Dublin and Belfast within one hour, and from Dublin Airport, Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ports within one hour.

GARDEN CENTRES

Boyne Garden Centre, Ardcaif, Slane, Co Meath
Opening hours: March - Sept.: Mon - Sat. 9.30 am to 6pm, Sunday 2 - 6pm.
Oct - Feb: Weekends only. Saturday 9.30am - 6 pm, Sunday 2 - 6pm.
Admission charges: Free. Tea/coffee complimentary to all customers.
Bus tours welcome by prior arrangement.
Tel: 041 9824350 www.boynegardencentre.com GPS 53.745183, -6.577892

Ratoath Garden Centre: Raystown, Ashbourne, Co Meath.
Opening arrangements: Summer. Mon - Sun. 10am - 6pm,
Winter. Mon - Sun. 10 am to 5 pm. Free admission to gardens.
Tea/coffee light refreshments available in Wildflower Cafe
Tel: 01 8256678 www.ratoathgardencentre.ie GPS 53.532146, -6.42569

River Lane Nurseries: Roristown Lodge, Trim, Co. Meath.
Opening arrangements: Summer hours: March - Sept. Monday to Saturday
10 am to 6 pm, Sunday 12pm - 5.30 pm. Winter hours: October - February,
Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5pm, Sunday and Monday closed.
Tel: 087 6363506 www.riverlane.ie GPS 53.535564, -6.835556

Flower symbol denotes a garden centre. See map overleaf.
Discounts apply at garden centres for 'Friends' of the Trail.

Boyne Valley Garden Time Line

Year	Historical Events	Houses and Gardens
3,200 bc	Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth built	
3,000 bc	Loughcrew built	
600-400bc	High Kings at Tara	
433 ad	St. Patrick at the Hill of Slane	
480 ad	Monasterboice founded	
500 ad	Kells Abbey founded	
1142	Mellifont Abbey founded	
1173	Trim Castle built	
1649	Cromwell's siege of Drogheda	
1666		Beaulieu House built
1690	Battle of the Boyne fought	
1720s		Van der Hagen lays out gardens at Beaulieu
1740s		Oldbridge House built and Gardens laid out
1779		Hamwood House built and Gardens laid out
1785	Slane Castle rebuilt	Barmeath Gardens laid out by Thomas Wright
1839		Killineer House built and Gardens laid out
1850s		Loughcrew House built
1850s		Rokeyby Conservatory built
1880s	Millmount Tower built	
1887	Poet Francis Ledwidge born	
1900s		Listoke Gardens laid out
1986		Sonairte founded
2011		Restoration work begins on Walled Garden at ICA An Grianan
2012		Boyne Valley Garden Trail formed



The hedges are all drowned in green grass seas,
And bobbing poppies flare like Elmo's light

June by Francis Ledwidge.