



5 Francis Ledwidge Museum
 Janeville, Slane, Co. Meath, C15 DK82
 Tel: +353 (0)41 982 4544 E: info@francisledwidge.com
 W: francisledwidge.com
 World War I poet and soldier, Francis Ledwidge, was born and raised in this lovingly restored C19th labourer's cottage, containing memorabilia of the poet's life and work. The pretty cottage garden reminds us of the poet's love for nature deep in the countryside around Slane.
 Open: Mar-Oct, Mon-Sun, 10am-5pm. Oct-Mar, Mon-Sun, 10am-3.30pm. Fee: Adults €4, Seniors & Students €3, Family €8.50. Please see website for more details.

6 Killineer House and Gardens
 Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 P8K7
 Tel: +353 (0)86 232 3783 E: charles.p.carroll@gmail.com
 W: killineerhouse.ie
 Early C19th spectacular woodland garden with beautiful spring flowering shrubs and trees. Formal paths and terraces lead to a picturesque lake and summerhouse.
 Guided tours of the house available on dates below. Groups by appointment. Open: Feb 1-20, May 1-17 and 25-31, Aug 17 - 1 Sept. Fee: €10 garden. No dogs.

7 Kilgar House Gardens,
 Gallow, Kilcock, Co. Meath, W23 E7FK
 Tel: +353 (0) 87 134 4950 E: kilgargardens@gmail.com
 W: kilgargardens.com
 Kilgar Gardens covers an area of 3 acres comprising of beautifully planted formal and informal garden rooms, graduating to a more naturalistic style of planting towards the outer reaches. Please see website for full details, opening times and group bookings by appointment.

8 Loughcrew House and Gardens
 Oldcastle, Co. Meath, A82 X4Y1
 Tel: +353 (0)49 854 1356
 E: admin@loughcrew.com W: loughcrew.com
 Magnificent restored gardens with yew walk, woodland walk, canal, parterre and fairy trail - nestled close to the iconic Loughcrew Cairns. Coffee shop situated at the entrance. Please see website for full details, opening times and admission charges.

9 Rokeby Hall
 Grangebellew, Dunleer, Co. Louth, A92 HX52
 Tel: +353 (0)86 864 4228 E: info@rokeby.ie W: rokeby.ie
 Built by architect Francis Johnston in the C18th, Rokeby won the An Taisce Ellison Award, 2014, for the restoration of its Turner designed Conservatory. This and the garden can be visited at times listed below. Groups more than 8 must be booked in advance. Please see website for more details. Open: May 1-31, Mon-Sat, 10am-2pm. Sept 1-30, Mon-Sat, 10am-2pm.
 Heritage Week: 10am-2pm. By appointment at all other times.
 Fee: €10 Adults, €5 Students/Children. No dogs.

10 Sonairte Visitor Eco Centre and Gardens
 The Ninch, Laytown, Co. Meath, A92 D9XH
 Tel: +353 (0)41 982 7572 E: hello@sonairte.ie W: sonairte.ie
 Sonairte is a Visitor Garden and Eco Centre within an historic Georgian farmstead, featuring a walled organic garden, nature trail and ancient Rath with views of Ballygarth Castle, the river Nanny estuary and Irish sea. The centre also features a charming Bee Museum, and an Energy Education suite showcasing renewable energy. Our café offers a range of delicious vegetarian and vegan options, and our Eco Shop stocks a wide range of organic, zero waste, fair trade and low carbon footprint products. Please see website for full details, opening times and admission charges. Groups by appointment.

Historic Gardens are open at set times as above. Some gardens offer tea/coffee by arrangement and some houses also open. Groups should book in advance.

By Appointment Only Gardens

- A Beaulieu House and Garden**, Drogheda, Co. Louth
- B The Poppy Garden**, Milltown, Oldcastle, Co. Meath
- C College Hill House**, Braystown, Slane, Co. Meath
- D Collon House**, Collon, Co. Louth
- E Herberts' Garden**, Churchtown, Navan, Co. Meath
- F Julianstown Village Garden**, Co. Meath
- G Rosemount**, Julianstown, Co. Meath
- H Tankardstown House**, Rathkenny, Slane, Co. Meath
- I The Cottages Ireland**, Bettystown, Co. Meath
- J The Station House Hotel**, Kilmessan, Co. Meath

Garden Centres

- K Boyne Garden Centre**, Ardcaif, Slane, Co. Meath
- L Elmgrove Farm**, Drogheda Road, Gormanston, Co. Meath
- M Ratoath Garden Centre**, Raystown, Ashbourne, Co. Meath
- N Riverlane Nurseries**, Roristown Lodge, Trim Co. Meath

Historic Gardens 2024-2025

- 1 Augustinian Garden of Remembrance**
 Shop Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 P522
 Tel: +353 (0)41 983 8409 E: drogheda.augustinian@hotmail.com
 Adjoining the Augustinian Church, and drawing on its monastic heritage, the garden holds the names of loved ones to be remembered in a peaceful setting formed by pleached lime trees and standing stones surrounding a water memorial. Holly, juniper, soft fruit trees, flowering herbaceous varieties and aromatic herbs fill the garden. Open: Apr-Oct 9am-5pm, Nov-Mar 9am-3pm. Fee Free. Groups by appointment.
- 2 Balrath House and Garden**
 Navan, Co. Meath, C15 W26N (Situated on the L1160)
 Tel: +353 (0)41 9825749 / +353 (0)87 954 7883
 E: frances.balrathhouse@gmail.com W: balrathcourtyard.ie
 Superb Georgian House dating to 1750 surrounded by 1.5 acres of lovely landscaped gardens in the centre of the Boyne Valley. Please contact owners for appointments and groups.

- 3 Barmeath Castle**
 Dunleer, Co. Louth, A92 P973
 Tel: +353 (0)41 685 1205 W: boynevalleygardentrail.com
 Unique, C18th landscape designed by Thomas Wright includes fine specimen azaleas and rhododendrons. A recently restored walled garden is a joy to visit with opulent herbaceous borders and kitchen garden plots. Open May 1-31, June 1-9, 9am-1pm and Heritage Week. Groups by appointment. Fee: €5 Adults. Free for children. No Dogs.
- 4 Battle of the Boyne, Oldbridge House & Gardens**
 Drogheda, Co. Meath, A92 CY68
 Tel: +353 (0)41 980 9950 E: battleoftheboyne@opw.ie W: battleoftheboyne.ie
 Fine, restored walled garden with sunken Octagon Garden, peach house, apple orchard and paths lined with vibrant herbaceous borders leading to a historic garden exhibition located in the Bothy. Tea Pavilion overlooking the gardens. Free battle site walks and nearby Boyne Greenway canal and river walks. Events programme year round.
 Open: All year except Christmas and New Year. Fee: Gardens are free of charge. Admission charges apply to Visitor Centre.



BOYNE VALLEY

Garden Trail

2024/25



Gardens waiting to be explored!

www.boynevalleygardentrail.com



Barmeath Castle & Garden, Dunleer



Collon House, Collon



The Octagon Garden, Battle of the Boyne, Drogheda



The Poppy Garden, Oldeastle



Elmgrove Farm, Gormanston



Killineer House & Gardens, Drogheda

Garden Centres

- K Boyne Garden Centre & Nursery**, Ardcaif, Slane, Co. Meath, C15 P92W Tel: +353 (0) 41 982 4350 E: aileen@boynegardencentre.ie W: boynegardencentre.ie Facebook / Instagram: Boyne Garden Centre & Nursery. Multi-Award-winning Nursery, with several 'Best in Show', winning numerous Gold Medals at Bloom and Garden Show Ireland. Renowned for their unique selection of hardy, healthy plants, grown sustainably without the use of harmful chemicals in their own nursery. Special emphasis placed on varieties that encourage pollinators and biodiversity. Open to the public and web shop for delivery throughout Ireland all year round. Members of ISNA [Irish Specialist Nursery Association] attending shows all over the country. Gardening groups and bus tours welcome. March-September: Wednesday-Saturday 10am-5pm. October- February: Saturday 10-5pm
- L Elmgrove Farm, Drogheda Road, Gormanston, Co. Meath, K32 C925** Tel: 353 (0)41 988 4389 W: elmgroveflowerfarm.ie E: info@elmgroveflowerfarm.ie Elmgrove Farm is Ireland's largest flower farm with close to 100 acres of cut flowers including 20 varieties of Spring daffodils. The farm also grows over 100,000 peony roses (June), sunflowers, gladioli and lily (July-Sept), along with a range of other cut flowers and foliage. Owned by the McCullough family, Darragh is well-known for his broadcasting and writing about farming and rural issues on RTE and the Irish Independent. Flowers are sold through the farm shop, farmers markets, and online from www.elmgrovefarm.ie. **Office Hours:** Mon - Fri 9:00 -16:00. Guided tours by appointment only. €15pp, with min 4, and max 30 people. No dogs allowed.
- M Ratoath Garden Centre, Raystown, Ashbourne, Co. Meath, A84 C938** Tel: +353 (0) 1 825 6678 E: ratoathgardencentre@hotmail.com W: ratoathgardencentre.ie Owned by John and Bernie Lord who have created one of the largest show gardens in Ireland. Garden walks and talks on request. Look out for John Lord's gardening advice on You Tube and book a group visit to learn more. Visit the Wildflower Café for tasty treats and enjoy the eclectic gift shop. **Open:** Summer, Mon-Sun, 10am-6pm. Winter, Mon-Sun, 10am-5pm. Coffee shop/gift shop. Bus parking. Child friendly, Wheelchair access.
- N Riverlane Nurseries, Roristown Lodge, Trim, Co. Meath, C15 E02X** Tel: +353 (0)87 636 3506 E: info@riverlane.ie W: www.riverlane.ie Owned by John and Eileen Eivers - winners of Gold, Gilt and Silver medals at Bloom, Riverlane nursery specialises in herbaceous perennials and cottage garden plants. Please see website for opening days and times. Child friendly. Bus parking. Dogs on leads.

General Information

The Boyne Valley Garden Trail in the historic counties of Meath and Louth promotes Historic Gardens, Garden Centres and Open by Appointment Gardens/Accommodation Providers for groups and individual visitors.

The rich heritage of the Boyne Valley is reflected in gardens that date as far back as the C17th. Each garden member hosts events in their gardens, including walks, charity fetes, plant sales, outdoor theatre, music and much more.

Check our website for more details.

Enquire at a garden on the trail or online:

W: boynevalleygardentrail.com
E: boynevalleygardentrail@gmail.com
Facebook: Boyne Valley Garden Trail

Location:

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



The Cottages Ireland Bettystown



BOYNE VALLEY

Garden Trail

2024/25

By Appointment Only Gardens

- A Beaulieu House and Garden**, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 PD3R Tel: +353 (0) 41 983 8557 E: beaulieu.house.garden@gmail.com W: beaulieuhouse.ie Beaulieu's C18th walled garden contains an abundance of herbaceous plants, shrubs and fruit trees. A knot garden, summer house and beautiful view of the River Boyne complete the picture. Pollinators and biodiversity are encouraged with a 'no dig' and organic philosophy. Guided tours of house and garden by appointment (Min. 10). Open in Heritage Week. Please see website for more info.
- B The Poppy Garden** Milltown, Oldcastle, Co. Meath, A82 AP58 Tel: +353 (0)87 965 6076 • E: ealma.purcell@gmail.com Instagram / Facebook: The Poppy Garden The Poppy Garden is a beautiful cottage garden full of quirky features and whimsical touches. A maze of paths will take you through gorgeous planting, a vegetable plot and an orchard, all overlooking stunning views of the Loughcrew Hills. Make time to enjoy a tea, coffee and some cake on the patio and browse the lovely pots and plants for sale! Opening times: Thursday-Saturday, May to October. €6/adult. Please check social media and with the owner for more details.
- C College Hill House**, Braystown, Slane, Co. Meath, C15 PW84 Tel: +353 (0)87 140 0220 / (0)87 150 9230 E: eileen@collegehillhouse.ie W: collegehillhouse.ie College Hill House offers luxurious guest accommodation and is set in 4 acres of superb landscaped gardens. Eileen offers garden design services and gardening skills classes. There are wonderful mature trees, an extensive organic vegetable garden, shrub and herbaceous flower borders, a crocus lawn, a walled garden and a wonderful feature Georgian stone parterre. This late Georgian house was built as the parochial house for Rathkenny and has been lovingly restored. Open all year round.
- D Collon House**, Collon, Co. Louth, A92 YT29 Tel: +353 (0)87 235 5645 E: collonhouse.reception@gmail.com W: collonhouse.com Built in 1740 with 1790 extensions, period planting surrounds the house and features a restored, sunken box parterre. Delightful box-edged flower borders are home to perennials including phlox, delphiniums, asters and heleniums. The inner courtyard's central fountain is surrounded by a display of hostas. A member of Hidden Ireland, Collon House won the An Taisce grand first prize for conservation and restoration in 2014. Historic tours of the house and garden, min. group - 6 people, €20pp including tea, coffee, cake. Lunch/dinner by arrangement. Dogs on leads.
- E Herberts' Garden**, Churchtown, Navan, Co. Meath, C15 XF84. Tel: +353 (0)85 782 9966 E: jfmccconnell@gmail.com W: herberts.ie Designer James McConnell's garden features a formal beech garden, a box wood parterre and rose garden, a folly and a summer house with fountains. Enjoy the lime walk, hornbeam arbour and vistas of parkland, beautifully laid out around an early C19th farm house. A new walled garden is now open. Occasional art displays. Conveniently accessible from M3 and close to Navan, Trim, Kells and Athboy. Open: June 1-Sept 30. By appointment only. Pre-booked groups minimum of 10 people. Lunch by prior arrangement. No dogs. Unsuitable for children. Entry: €7.50 per person.
- F Julianstown Village Garden**, Co. Meath. Tel: +353 (0)86 347 7283 E: julianstowndca@gmail.com W: julianstowncommunity.com The residents of Julianstown have expertly transformed a derelict 3 acre site into a beautiful Award-winning garden. The extensive landscaping has created many interesting features including an orchard, native woodland, pollinating flower beds, soft fruit bushes, herbs and a wildlife pond with seating scattered throughout. The village's volunteers have achieved An Taisce's Green Flag status and 'Pollinator Award' for biodiversity, from Biodiversity Ireland. Open year round. Details on website.
- G Rosemount**, Julianstown, Co. Meath, A92 WP70 Tel: +353 (0)41 982 5291 E: dorothy@alioth.eu W: kendumusic.com Rosemount is a ten-acre-parkland sloping down towards the banks of the temperamental River Nanny. It is planted with a mixture of native trees and shrubs, interspersed with parkland specimen trees. On a wet day, a large awning provides shelter and a separate guest house can be used for refreshments and lectures. Snacks and drinks by arrangement. Min group 6 (€15pp includes refreshments).
- H Tankardstown House**, Rathkenny, Slane, Co. Meath, C15 D535 Tel: +353 (0)41 9824621 E: info@tankardstown.ie W: tankardstown.ie Comprising 80 acres of woodland, parkland, courtyards and walled gardens. The kitchen garden supplies the award-winning Brabazon Restaurant with vegetables and salads. The lime tree avenue offers a wonderful lead up to the focal point of the Estate - a late 18th Century Manor House. Please see website for more information.
- I The Cottages Ireland**, Bettystown, Co. Meath, A92 C8VF Tel: +353 (0)41 982 8104 E: info@cottages-ireland.com W: cottages-ireland.com The Cottages are a dreamy hamlet of 300 year old thatched cottages, set in large organic flower gardens by the seaside. Open: By appointment - min.10 people. Autumn and Spring only.
- J The Station House Hotel**, Kilmessan, Co. Meath, C15 N40D Tel: +353 (0)46 902 5239 E: info@stationhousehotel.ie W: stationhousehotel.ie The Station House Hotel is the Boyne Valley's top country house hotel with exquisitely tended gardens creating an oasis of peace and relaxation. Country-style afternoon teas can be booked year round.

