

## COME FISHING! AN ANGLING GUIDE THROUGH THE WATERS OF LAOIS AND BEYOND...



Waterways [Ireland]



# LAKE FISHING

Laois boasts hushed pockets of excellent fishing brimming with tench, bream, roach and rudd that have never seen a fisherman's hook. These quiet unspoilt waters are especially appealing to those who don't mind getting up a bit earlier, or fishing into the evening, to enjoy the best sport.

#### **GRANSTOWN LAKE**

The lake is located between Rathdowney and Ballacolla and well off the beaten track. Granstown Lake has long been a haven for fishermen and nature enthusiasts. Once part of the Castletown Estate, ancestral home of the Fitzpatricks of Upper Ossory, the lake and surrounding countryside is steeped in history and folklore.

Granstown Lake consists of 24 acres of spring fed water, in places reaching up to 12 metres in depth. The lake has a stock of tench, large rudd and perch. Tackle it with your own favourite method but be sure to have the right equipment for the tench – baits such as breadflake, corn, casters, worms or bunches of maggots. The local committee has erected ten fishing stands and one which caters for people with special needs. Three waymarked walks from 45 minutes to 2 hours duration have been developed in Granstown Woods.

#### **TEMPLEMORE LAKE**

Within the heart of an eighty acre "Green Jewel", that is Templemore Park, is a 17 acre lake, renowned for its tench, rudd, pike, eel and bream fishing. Fifty nine fishing stands, along with disabled angling bays, ensures enjoyable fishing conditions and a weighted bag at the end of the day. Templemore nestles at the foot of the Devil's Bit Mountain where two of Ireland's most treasured waterways rise, namely the rivers Nore and Suir. Trout stocks in these rivers are carefully managed and monitored to ensure the visiting angler a sense of belonging in this fisherman's paradise.

#### RATHDAIRE LAKE

Rathdaire Lake is a prime location for carp, hybrids, bream, perch and rudd fishing. This is a nine-acre lake set within the Derries Wood 5km east of the N7 between Monasterevin and Portlaoise.

#### **BALLAGHMORE LAKE**

Ballaghmore Lake is a privately owned 3.5 acre lake situated within a pastoral setting with trees, shrubs and soft vegetation on its shoreline. It is located on the N7 at Ballaghmore, 6km east of Roscrea and 7km west of Borris-in-Ossory. It presently holds excellent stocks of carp, rudd, perch, pike and tench. There are also stocks of eels and trout present.

#### BALLINAKILL'S GILL'S POND AND MASS LOUGH

**Ballinakill – Gill's Pond** We are being modest when we say 'Gill's Pond' because it is in fact a nice sized lake containing nice sized fish and no, it wasn't named after one of their gills, it was named after an old woman who lived in a gate lodge type house at the entrance to the lake. The lake contains good sized roach and perch and some fine tench up to 3lb in weight. The angling club is by no means restricted to local residents and annual membership can be obtained. The lake has undergone a major overhaul. It has been cleaned and had all its banks landscaped with proper facilities provided to assure you of an excellent day's fishing.

**Ballinakill** – **Mass Lough** The Mass Lough is one of the most beautiful and scenic lakes in the country.



#### LITTLE BOG LAKE

Little Bog Lake at The Heath, Portlaoise is over 6 acres in size. The Lake contains stocks of carp, perch and roach. It is situated in the heart of one of the most historic sites in Ireland.

#### STRADBALLY LAKE

Stradbally Lake brown trout fishery has been subject to extensive restoration and is located on the Cosby Estate in Stradbally. The lake consists of 6 acres with fully matured wildlife and islands that provide a valuable insect and fly food source for the brown trout. Visitors are welcome on 2 hour, 4 hour or 6 hour permits available at the lake. Open for fly and worm fishing until 10pm each week day and trout range from 1lb to 7lb. The lake is stocked weekly. Rod hire and bait available. Strictly no spinning, barbless hooks only. There are disabled angling bays available.



#### **PORTARLINGTON DERRYOUNCE LAKE**

Derryounce Lake, just 2km outside Portarlington on the Edenderry road, is a lake of approximately 40 acres with excellent food supplies for brown and rainbow trout. The lake is owned by the community with input from Portarlington Angling Club. All visiting anglers are most welcome and the lake is stocked periodically to ensure good sport all season.

#### **BRITTAS LAKE**

Brittas Lake, Clonaslee is located in a Coillte forest setting in the grounds of the Old Dunne Estate at the foot of the Slieve Bloom Mountains. This beautiful 5 acre lake is now fully restored and access to the lake is gained from the Brittas Road via the Coillte forest road. The lake is fed from the northern side and flows out to the Clodiagh River nearly a kilometre away. The lake is suitable for coarse fishing such as tench, carp, rudd and bream.

#### **CASTLECOMER LAKES**

The Castlecomer Lakes were the centrepiece of the private gardens within an old Victorian Demesne. An extensive restoration has returned them to their former glory. A truly unique setting where the lakes are surrounded by woodlands and joined by a cascade system before they meet the River Deen. The Upper (2.8 acres) of the two lakes will be stocked with coarse fish and Lower (4 acres) with Rainbow Trout. There is no closed season and there is the facility to hire equipment.

#### **EMO LAKE**

Emo Lake is located within the grounds of Emo House and Gardens. The lake has a surface area of 24 acres. The banks are suitable for anglers to fish from and provision has been made to accommodate anglers with special needs. The lake contains stocks of bream, hybrids, rudd and perch.<sup>\*\*</sup>

#### **KELLYVILLE LAKE**

Kellyville Lake is a man-made lake of approximately 12 acres, which existed on the Webber Estate at Ballintubbert near Stradbally in County Laois and was the location of the most successful Duck Decoy in Ireland operating in the period 1870 – 1910. Thomas Webber wrote in 1891 of between six and seven thousand ducks on the lake. It had silted up and it had become overgrown with vegetation over the years. The lake has now been fully restored and will be stocked with coarse fish.<sup>\*\*</sup>

\*\* Will not be ready for fishing until the 2006 season, please check for updates with Laois LEADER 0502 61900 or the Tourist Office.

#### THE SEASONAL INSECT EMERGENCE PATTERN

#### Seasonal Fly Hatches of Note - River/Stream

March to Late April:	Large Dark Olive around mid-day.				
Late April – Mid May:	Medium Olives, Iron Blue Dun. Stoneflies (Early Brown) in shallower fast flowing waters.				
Mid May – Mid June:	Reed Smuts and other midges. Mayfly, Pale Watery Duns, Blue Winged Olive Medium Olives, Caenis, Alder, Murrough, Hawthorn, Yellow Stoneflies (confined to fast shallow sections), Black Gnat and Grey Flags.				
Mid June to end of July:	9: Blue Winged Olive, Pale Watery and Pale Evening Duns, Small Dark Olive, Murrough, Cinnamon Sedges. A variety of small sedges (Silverhorns, Red Sedge etc.). Ants (occasional).				
August:	as previous period, B.W.O very important in evening. Trout may take small black or green midges in daytime. Sedges (as above) important in the evening.				
September:	B.W.O through the day and on mild evenings. Midges, Olives. Small sedges and occasional Cinnemon Sedges.				
	BWO - Blue Winged Olive				

B.W.O = Blue Winged Olive

#### A Short List of Patterns for the Visiting Angler

Nymphs:	Hares Ear, Olive, Iron Blue and B.W.O			
Dry Flies:	Ginger Quill, Iron Blue, Red Bodied Spinner, Alder, Dry Mayfly, Spent Gnat, Caenis, Sedge Patterns, Orange Quill, Red Quill, Greenwell's Glory, Black Midge and Green Midge, Tubs Indispensable and Pheasant Tail.			
Wet Fly Patterns:	Black and Sliver Spider, Partridge Spider (yellow bodied), March Brown, Olive Quill, Orange Grouse, Grey Brown and Black Sedges and Red Spinner.			

Please note that the above mentioned flies are main fly types fished on river/streams. Other newer patterns or variations of the above may be used if you the angler wish to do so.



# RIVER FISHING

Specimen coarse fishing is a feature of the wonderful River Barrow and every year this waterway produces more official award winning fish than any other single fishery in Ireland.

Challenging conditions exist during summer on the higher reaches around Monasterevin and Athy as the shallow water becomes weeded with islands of reeds throughout. However, the weed becomes an attractive feature and a satisfying method is to tackle the faster water with a stick float, edging the tackle along the fringes of any natural cover.

Local experts use small groundbait swimfeeder rigs, inter-changing with straight bomb tactics so not to overfeed the resident shoals of fish. As the river flows downstream the pace lessens and tackling the stocks of rudd and bream become a little easier above the town of Athy, though the flow never becomes slow.

Below Athy the Barrow's character changes with extra depth and width to the river, lending itself to pre-baiting for serious bream fishing. It isn't essential but a degree of patience is necessary, particularly if you choose a stretch of river that is rarely fished, because the bream and rudd will need time to locate and settle on your groundbait.

Pole fishing can be fun with rudd but two-gramme floats are needed or you can use running line and a large stick or balsa float. Red maggot is good for getting the rudd moving quickly with caster, corn and worms, important for good sport with the bream. Salmon fishing can be had on the River Barrow between the Forth Bridge (below Monasterevin) and Athy.

In recent years anglers tackling the Barrow have appeared in the official Irish Specimen Fish awards list with bream over 9lb, perch 3lb 8oz, pike weighing more than 25lb, roach/bream hybrids 3lb 11oz and rudd/bream hybrids of 4lb 4oz. In 2003, we can confirm the River Barrow produced numerous specimens near the Laois/Carlow border. The River Barrow is just waiting to be explored... so why not try a change of location.



# CANAL FISHING

Fishing on the Grand Canal is exceptional and offers superb sport from quiet reed-fringed banks with a chance to catch tench, rudd, roach, bream, hybrids, perch and an increasing number of small carp.

In Laois we claim to have the most abundant stocks along the Barrow Line of the canal running through Rathangan, Monasterevin, Vicarstown and the market town of Athy before it joins the River Barrow. The canal is renowned for its perch stocks.

A quiet road runs along the canal for mile-upon-mile and there are plenty of spots with reeded banks and beds of lily pads that simply "scream" fish and all you have to do is pull over and start fishing! You can expect bream, rudd, hybrids, tench, perch, eels and an increasing number of roach and dace.



GREAT NEWS... Your normal canal tackle is going to cope nicely with the Grand Canal, bearing in mind that your chosen swim could be crammed with bream and tench to 4lb.

Don't be tempted to tackle up with anything less than a 1.5lb hook length or a main line of 3lb and if there are a lot of large fish about, particularly when fishing close to weed, consider using 3lb direct.

As for hooks, stay away from fine wire patterns and match the size to your chosen bait. A good idea is to start with a medium wire 16's carrying breadflake or a large punch, but have change baits like corn, worm and caster. Float fishing with pole and waggler rigs will be the most useful and cope well with canals that are similar in width and depth.

Pre-baiting is a good idea if you want an early start and it's not a bad idea to take a small rake along to clear any problem weed and to rough-up the bottom before putting the ground bait in.

If you don't fancy making the effort to prepare a swim the evening before, you can turn up and unload a dozen balls of groundbait, sit down and begin fishing.

Improved results will usually come from a careful approach; perhaps starting with a couple of small light balls of groundbait (or pots when pole fishing) followed by loose feeding.

Waterways Ireland has responsibility for the management and development of the Grand Canal. This includes protecting and encouraging fish populations and undertaking extensive fish stocking projects. A handbook, **"The Coarse Angling Guide to the Royal and Grand Canals of Ireland"** is available to buy from Waterways Ireland by calling the Marketing and Communication Division at +44 (0)28 663 23004.





# GAME FISHING

Brown trout fishing is the dominant feature of the River Barrow which rise in the Slieve Bloom Mountains before cutting through the Laois countryside heading south and the River Nore rises in the Devil's Bit, Tipperary.

Salmon fishing is available throughout the length of the rivers depending on flood levels, though the most rewarding is on the lower river reaches with a fair run of spring fish. Grilse appear in June with the main run in July and then salmon join them for a run until the end of September.

The River Nore and its tributaries are a delight to fish as they flow east through Castletown and on to Durrow before taking a southerly course for the Waterford coastline. It is a noted dry-fly fishery with good stocks of brown trout thriving in fast flowing shallows, over weirs and speeding through long deep glides. Occasionally you will find salmon as far as Castletown depending on flood levels. The banks are lined with trees on many sections so wading will be necessary to fully exploit the rivers' potential. The tributaries worth exploring include the Lower Owenass, the Erkina, Goul and Whitehorse rivers along the Nore Valley.

The River Barrow's headwaters have been the birthplace of millions of salmon and trout since time immemorial. The tributaries are worth investigation while the best of the local Barrow trout fishing starts close to the town of Mountmellick and on to Portarlington where a series of ripple runs and pools are a permanent home to plenty of wily large brown trout. The Boherbawn River between Monasterevin and Athy is an excellent fly fishery. Evening dry fly fishing in these areas can be most exciting and very rewarding with cagey wild brown trout the main quarry. Best months are May through to August. As the river veers past Monasterevin the water flow slows dramatically but can still provide reasonable sport.

Best flies: B.W.O, Sherry Spinner, Houghton's Ruby, G.R.H.E, Mayfly, Black Gnat, Kite's Imperial.



## FLY FISHING

The Erkina and Goul rivers are both limestone river tributaries with abundance of insect life. These are prime dry fly rivers and trout up to 3Ib and over can be headed on a dry fly of an evening. The best locations in County Laois for these rivers are Rathdowney, Durrow and Cullahill.

#### **IRISH FLY-FISHING AND SHOOTING MUSEUM**

The Attanagh Shooting and Fly Fishing Museum is the only museum of its kind in Ireland and even in the EU. It is home to a unique record of a part of Irish heritage, which is often forgotten. The ever-expanding collection is carefully preserved and displayed and the function of each piece explained to the visitor. The proprietor, Walter Phelan has assembled a truly remarkable collection of records and artefacts, many of which are no longer used or allowed and long forgotten. The collection will be of enormous interest to anyone who shoots, hunts or fishes. Located in the former post office in the village of Attanagh, just outside Durrow, Co. Laois, it is within minutes of the Dublin/Cork road.

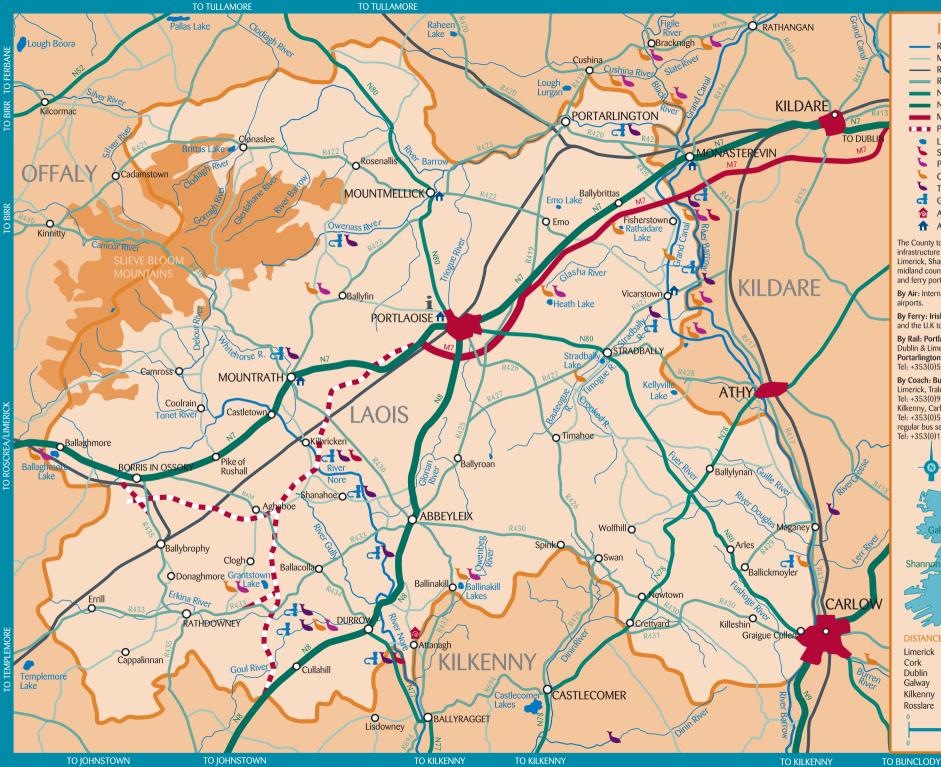
Contact: Walter Phelan, Irish Fly Fishing and Shooting Museum, Attanagh, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 36112.

#### **IRISH FLY CRAFT**

Jimmy is a professional fly dresser who ties flies from his workshop based in the museum. His workshop is a fascinating place. Tiny hooks and threads are neatly laid out in little boxes and his human hand makes these perfect flies. The colours are stunning, some of the features contained in the natural state and some are dyed with special dyes. Jimmy teaches fly tying classes in the museum during the winter months and also gives fly casting tuition. He also runs a Gillie Service for all the local rivers and lakes both fly and coarse fishing. This service offers visitors a more enjoyable experience due to his skills and local knowledge.

Contact: Jimmy Tyrrell, Irish Fly Craft, Irish Fly Fishing and Shooting Museum, Attanagh, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)86 8451257

For other things to do in County Laois, visit Laois Tourism website at www.laoistourism.ie or contact The Tourist Office. Tel: +353 (0)502 21178



#### **INFORMATION**

- River Minor Road
- Railway
- Regional Routes
- National Secondary Routes
- National Primary Routes
- Motorway
- Proposed N7/N8 Motorway
- Lake
- Salmon Fishing
- Pike Fishing
- Coarse Fishing
- Trout Fishing
- Game Fishing
- Attanagh Fly Fishing Museum
- Angling Permits and Supplies

The County town of Laois, Portlaoise has a superb infrastructure extending to Dublin, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Shannon, Waterford, Kilkenny and other midland counties and is easily accessible to airports and ferry ports.

By Air: International flights to Dublin and Shannon airports.

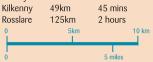
By Ferry: Irish Ferries & Stena Line from France and the U.K to Dublin / Rosslare ports.

By Rail: Portlaoise - daily services to Cork, Tralee, Dublin & Limerick. Tel: +353(0)502 21303. Portarlington - daily services to Galway. Tel: +353(0)502 23128

By Coach: Bus Eireann daily to Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Tralee, Waterford & Athlone routes. Tel: +353(0)90 6478792. Rapid Express daily to Kilkenny, Carlow routes & also Dublin Airport Tel: +353(0)156 8831106. Aircoach operates a regular bus service to Dublin Airport Tel: +353(0)1 844 7118 or www.aircoach.ie



# DISTANCES FROM PORTLAOISE Limerick 105km 1 hour 30 mins Cork 170km 2 hour 15 mins Dublin 80km 1 hours Galway 148km 2 hours



## ANGLING PERMITS

RIVER OR LAKE	CLUB	TYPE OF FISHING	PERMITS AVAILABLE FROM	OTHER INFORMATION
Granstown Lake		Coarse	Noreen Byrne Tel: +353 (0)86 838 9590	No permit is needed to fish on Granstown Lake. The facilities are open for fishing from 1st April to the end of October.
Templemore Lake	Templemore & District Anglers	Coarse	Jim Hassey Tel: +353 (0)504 31098 Email: jimhassey@eircom.net	
Rathdaire Lake	Belin Angling Club	Coarse	Fisherman's Inn, Fisherstown, Ballybrittas, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 26488 or +353 (0)87 232 4698	
			Christy Noons, Jamestown, Ballybrittas, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 26360	
Ballaghmore Lake	Private	Coarse	Gerald England, Ballaghmore House, Ballaghmore, Borris-in-Ossory, Co. Laois. Tel: + 353 (0)505 21366	
Ballinakill's Gills Pond and Mass Lough	Ballinakill Angling Club	Coarse	Norman Rothwell Tel: + 353 (0)87 287 9070	People can come to the lakes in Ballinakill and fish and at some time during the day, will be approache by a warden who will issue day-tickets or membership
Little Bog Lake The Heath		Coarse	Tom Treacy Tel: + 353 (0)87 253 0474	
Stradbally Lake		Game	Gerry Kelly Tel: +353 (0)86 065 8841	2hr, 4hr or 6hr permits available at the lake. Disabled angling bays available.
Brittas Lake		Coarse	Chris Horan, Wranglestown, Clonaslee, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)87 812 8516	
Castlecomer Lakes	Castlecomer Lakes Company Ltd	Coarse & Game	Harry Everard, General Manager, Castlecomer Lakes Company Ltd., Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 (0)56 444 0426	
Emo Lake		Coarse	Office of Public Works Tel: +353 (0)502 26573	Not available until 2006
Kellyville Lake		Coarse	Southern Regional Fisheries Board Anglesea Street, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary Tel: + 353 (0)52 80055 Fax: +353 (0)52 23971 Email: enquiries@srfb.ie	Not available until 2006
River Barrow	Mountmellick Angling Club	Game	Victor Cox, The Square, Mountmellick, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 24107	
River Barrow	Portarlington	Game	Finlays Bar, Bracklone Street, Portarlington, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 23173 P.J Hyland, Portarlington Auto Parts,	

## ANGLING PERMITS

RIVER OR LAKE	CLUB	TYPE OF FISHING	PERMITS AVAILABLE FROM	OTHER INFORMATION
River Barrow	Monasterevin & District Anglers Association	Game	Finlays Tackle Shop (Beside Shell Petrol Station), St. Evins Pk., Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. Tel: +353 (0)45 525331	
River Barrow	Belin Angling Club	Game & Coarse	Fisherman's Inn, Fisherstown, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 26488	
River Barrow	Vicarstown Anglers	Game & Coarse	Jim Crean, Vicarstown Inn, Vicarstown, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 25189	
Owenass and Triogue	Mountmellick Angling Club	Game	Victor Cox, The Square, Mountmellick, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 24107	
Stradbally	Stradbally Angling Club	Game	Gerry Kelly Tel: +353 (0)87 948 8483	
River Nore	Mountrath and District Anglers	Game & Coarse	Kelly's Tackle Shop, Main Street, Mountrath, Co. Laois. Tom Watkins, 6 Fintan Tce., Mountrath, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 32540	
River Nore	Abbeyleix Anglers	Game	Liam Dunne, Hardware Shop, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 31440 Martin O'Brien, Ballyroan, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: + 353 (0)502 36437	
River Nore	Durrow / Cullahill Anglers	Game & Coarse	Michael Walsh, 18 Erkindale Drive, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: + 353 (0)502 36437 Lawlors Gala Stores, The Square, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: + 353 (0)502 36234	
			Jimmy Tyrrell, Irish Fly Craft, Irish Fly Fishing & Shooting Museum, Attanagh, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)86 845 1257	
Grand Canal		Coarse		No permits required

#### FISHING PERMITS, TACKLE & BAIT STOCKISTS

Maura Kelly, The Tackle Shop, Mountrath, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 32162

Jim Crean, Vicarstown Inn, Vicarstown, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 25189

Finlay's Tackle Shop (Beside Shell Petrol Station), St. Evins Park, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. Tel: +353 (0)45 525331

The Sport Shop, U7 Lyster House, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 22623

(sells permits for the National or District Trout & Salmon and Mountrath District Anglers, spinners, no bait)

Victor Cox, The Square, Mountmellick, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 24107 (sells fishing permits & tackle, no bait)

Jimmy Tyrrell, Irish Fly Craft, Irish Fly Fishing & Shooting Museum, Attanagh, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)86 845 1257 (ground bait, River Nore, Erkina and Goul River permits & fishing tackle)

Hasseys Post Office, Templemore, Co. Tipperary. Tel: +353 (0)504 31098 (sells fishing permits & tackle, no bait)



# ACCOMMODATION IN COUNTY LAOIS

#### **BED & BREAKFAST**

#### **O'SULLIVAN'S B&B** 8 Kellyville Park, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 22774 Fax: +353 (0)502 80863

A two-storey red brick semi detached house situated in the heart of Portlaoise town. All bedrooms en-suite with multi-channel TV, private car park and all amenities within two minutes walk.

## FOXROCK INN Clough, Ballacolla, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

### Tel: +353 (0)502 38637 Email: marian@foxrockinn.com www.foxrockinn.com

This inn has beautifully furnished, individually named rooms, each with a different view over the village or surrounding countryside. All rooms are en-suite and are equipped with double or twin beds, so they can cater for families, couples, golfing and fishing parties as well as the individual who just wants to get away from it all.

#### BALLAGHMORE COUNTRY HOUSE Ballaghmore, Borris-in-Ossory, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)505 21366 Email: ballaghmorehse@eircom.net www.ballaghmorecountryhse.com

This country house has been planned with meticulous care. It combines old style with comfortable modern facilities. Located on the N7 route between Dublin and Limerick, halfway between Borrisin-Ossory and Roscrea, it boasts its own natural fresh water lake and offers friendly, warm, luxurious accommodation. A fishing cabin type accommodation will be available shortly.

#### **SELF-CATERING**

#### HILLVIEW FARM Coolbanagher, Emo, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 46530 Email: hillview22@hotmail.com www.hillviewselfcatering.com

'The Stables' four star holiday apartments each with own entrance in a traditional rural setting. Also a 19th century three star holiday cottage fully refurbished with all modern facilities and front garden. The famous Emo Court Gardens and Parklands are within walking distance. These rentals are situated 3km from N7, Dublin side of Portlaoise.

#### ACORN LODGE Dereen, Durrow, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 36262 Email: acornlodgedereen@eircom.net www.barrowvale.ie

A detached old style holiday cottage in its own beautiful gardens, which includes a magnificent fishpond and waterfall. Situated on the Laois / Kilkenny border close to the N8 (Dublin to Cork Road). The lodge is also ideal for golfing, fishing and walking parties as it can be rented as one unit, which sleeps 7 or as 3 separate independent self-contained cottage suites.



# ACCOMMODATION IN COUNTY LAOIS

#### THE SPIRES Stradbally, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 25833 Email: fingletons@eircom.net www.thespires.com

The Spires estate is situated on a private cul-de-sac 1km from the picturesque village of Stradbally, Co. Laois. The Spires is set in the old Brockley Park estate, with an 18th century walled orchard. The ten-foot brick and stonewalls give an amazing sense of privacy and warmth. The entire estate is well endowed with a superb range of mature trees including the original apple, pear and fig trees. The main house comprises of seven en-suite rooms.

#### AUGHAMUCKEY SELF-CATERING COTTAGES Aughamuckey, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny. Tel: +353 086 1051007 Email: bwj\_lsj@hotmail.com

A restored 18th century farmhouse and cottage in a picturesque setting. Each dwelling sleeps four and all bedrooms are en-suite. The cottage is wheelchair friendly. Situated 2km from Castlecomer demense and lakes, 18km from Kilkenny and 20km from Portlaoise. Storage and refrigeration facilities are available. Opening late summer 2005.

#### **B&B AND SELF-CATERING**

#### VICARSTOWN LODGE Vicarstown, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: +353 (0)502 25189 /25762 Email: barrowline@eircom.net

Vicarstown Lodge is a house set on the banks of the Grand Canal. Also available is a three-bedroom self-catering house beside Vicarstown Inn. This family-owned and operated business provide a barge hire company based on the Grand Canal at Vicarstown, Co. Laois. Their well-equipped base is ideally located to allow you explore the full extent of both the Grand Canal and River Barrow. These waterways provide two totally different barging experiences.

For further details on accommodation available from The Tourist Office, +353 (0)502 21178 or visit www.laoistourism.ie

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The publishers cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions but where such are brought to our attention future publications will be amended accordingly.