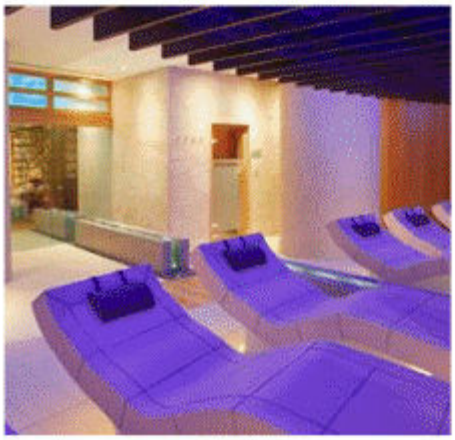


Aghadoe Heights

HOTEL AND SPA

★★★★★

AGHADOE HEIGHTS HOTEL AND SPA

Top Things To Do in Killarney, Ireland

www.aghadoeheights.com

Things to Do while staying at Aghadoe Heights Hotel and Spa

Killarney National Park

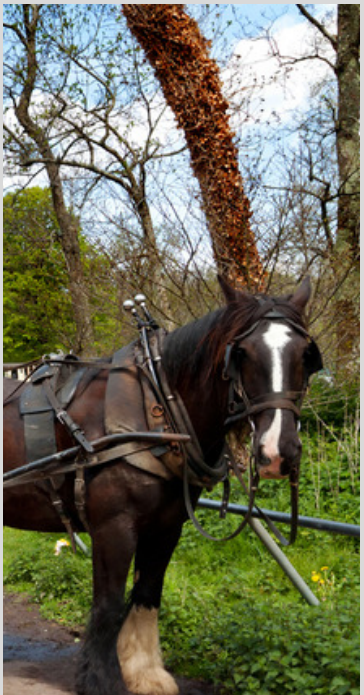
Visible from the hotel is 25,000 acres of Lakes, Mountains and Parkland. This protected park really is the heart of Killarney. At the centre lies the famous Lakes of Killarney with their banks rising up to Ireland's highest mountain range, The McGillycuddy Reeks.

There are an abundance of walks, trails and cycle paths intertwined throughout the park and every corner turned is a new photo opportunity. There are a number of quaint thatched cottages where explorers can stop for tea and cake (seasonal). Optional extras in the Killarney National Park are Jaunting Car Rides (horse and cart), Boat Trips on the Lakes and Horse Riding.

Torc Falls

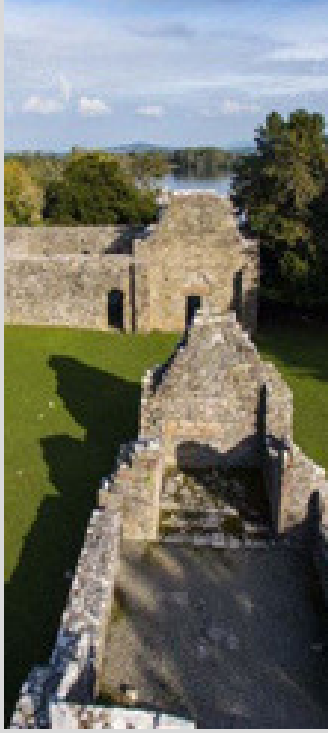
The waterfall can be enjoyed close-up from the base of the falls or you can enjoy a short climb to the top. There are a number of well-designed forest steps on a clearly marked pathway and a viewing point halfway overlooks Killarney’s Middle Lake and surrounding landscape.

There is a jaunting car station just across the road from the Torc Waterfall car park. Jaunting cars (horse and cart) can be hired from this point and you can enjoy a trip to Muckross House, which is within the Killarney National Park.



Innisfallen Island

Visible from the hotel. The largest of a cluster of small islands on the Lakes of Killarney. Boat trips go out daily during the summer months.
It is home to the ruins of Innisfallen Abbey, one of the most impressive archaeological remains dating from the early Christian period. The monastery was founded in 640 by St Finan the Leper, and was occupied for approximately 850 years.

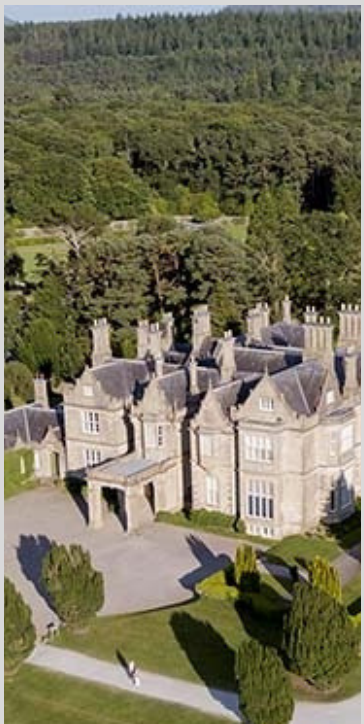


Ross Castle

This is a typical example of a stronghold of an Irish Chieftain during the Middle ages. Ross Castle is situated on the lake edge and is estimated to have been built in the 15th Century.
Visitors can take a guided tour of this historic site and also enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Killarney National Park

The Gap Trip (Gap of Dunloe)

This famous all-in-one day trip allows you to see a little bit of everything. Begin at Kate Kearney's Cottage (c 1840's) and travel through a narrow winding valley, known as The Gap of Dunloe. Choose to go by foot, bicycle, horse-back or horse-cart. Arrive at Lord Brandon's Cottage on the lake edge where most choose to take a short break for a bite to eat. Then let one of the local boatmen take you across the lakes, sharing Irish legends along the way, and you will get off at Ross Castle where you will be collected.



Muckross House & Gardens

Take a guided tour of this Victorian Manor House, completed in 1843. Muckross House has been carefully preserved and visitors can step back in time as they wander through the ornately decorated rooms and corridors.
Relax outside with a picnic and enjoy the beautifully manicured gardens that surround Muckross House.

Muckross Traditional Farms

The traditional farms are located next to Muckross House. The farms will transport you back to the 1930's.
You'll become part of this full working farm experience and witness first hand how the daily tasks of thatching, baking and milling were performed before the introduction of electricity. The traditional farms are fully open May to September with limited opening times in March, April and October.

Corran Tuathail - Ireland's Highest Peak

A visit to Killarney offers an ideal time to challenge yourself with Ireland's highest mountain. Corran Tuathail stands 1038m (3406ft) high.
The hotel will gladly take care of the arrangements if you'd like to include this climb in your stay. We recommend and book the best guides and ensure that you have all the necessary equipment to enjoy your climb. A basic level of fitness is required however we will ensure that the guide paces the climb to your comfort.

Horse Riding

The Killarney Riding Stables are situated directly below the hotel. Guests can be collected and returned to the hotel.
1hour, 2hour and 3hour treks through the National Park are available and all riding levels are catered for.

Fishing

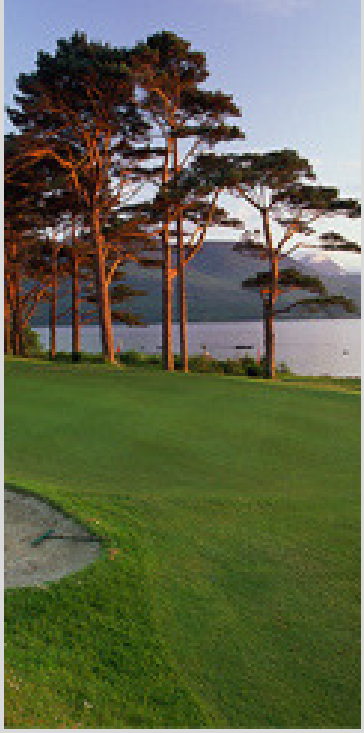
Killarney and the near surrounds offers a choice of lake fishing, river fishing, sea fishing or shore fishing. Our concierge will be happy to assist you with information regarding fishing seasons and permit requirements. They will also gladly make the necessary arrangements to hire a ghillie.

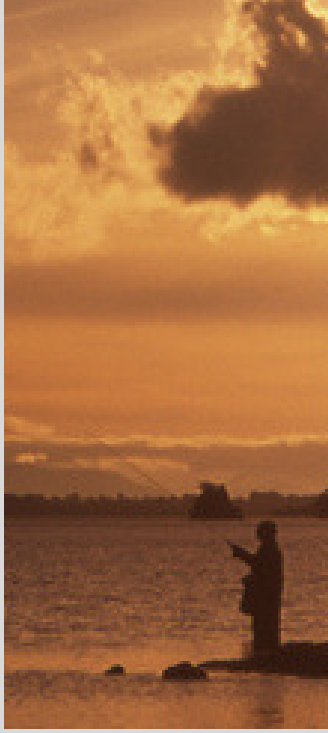
Kayaking

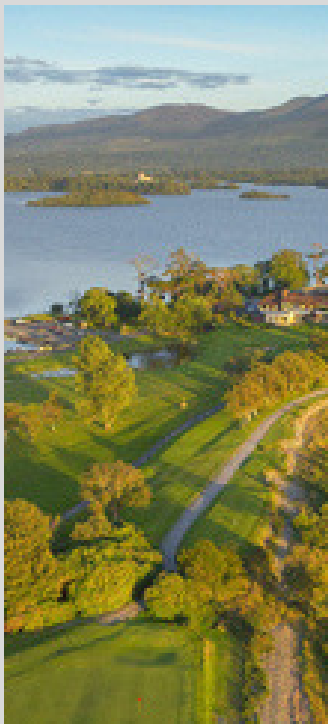
Exploring Killarney's National Park by kayak is both peaceful and exceptionally scenic. Guided tours depart from Ross Castle. Our Concierge team would be happy to make the necessary arrangements for you.

Golfing

The hotel provides an ideal base to access the impressive Links and Parkland courses of the South West of Ireland. The hotel is located directly above Killarney Golf & Fishing Club and its all-weather driving range. The club offers two beautiful parkland courses, Killeen and Mahony’s Point, the former playing host to the 2010 & 2011 Irish Open. Within easy access of the hotel are the old favourites – Ballybunion, Waterville, Tralee, Dooks and Dingle. All exceptional links courses.







Killarney House

Killarney House and Gardens have been carefully restored to their former glory and today you can enjoy a tour of the historic rooms taking in the beauty of the gardens. The interpretive exhibition forms a gateway to Killarney National Park leading you to discover more about this beautiful landscape and the work done to protect it.

Boat Trips on The Lakes

There are two types of boat trips that can be enjoyed on the Lakes of Killarney. Small open boats with a guide can be hired and guests can alight on some of the many little islands that are dotted across the lakes. Alternatively guests can embark on one of the scheduled closed boat tours that also depart from Ross Castle.

Jaunting Car Rides

Enjoy the sights of Killarney National Park from a traditional Jaunting Car, which is a horse-drawn carriage, quite unique to the area.
Learn about the history, folklore and the beauty of Killarney National Park from the comfort of this traditional mode of transport from years gone by.

Skellig Michael

A UNESCO World Heritage Site. The magnificent Skellig Islands lie off the South West coast of Kerry. On the summit of this awe-inspiring rock you will find a remarkably well preserved sixth century monastic settlement. On the adjacent Small Skelligs 23,000 pairs of gannet nest making it the second largest gannet colony in the world.

Beaches in the Area

Kerry is proud to have 12 Blue Flag Beaches with a Lifeguard in place in the months of June, July and August. Derrynane, Ballinskelligs, White Strand, Kells, Inch, Ventry, Magherabeg, Fenit, Banna, Ballyheigue, Ballybunion South and Ballybunion North

Ladies View and Avoca

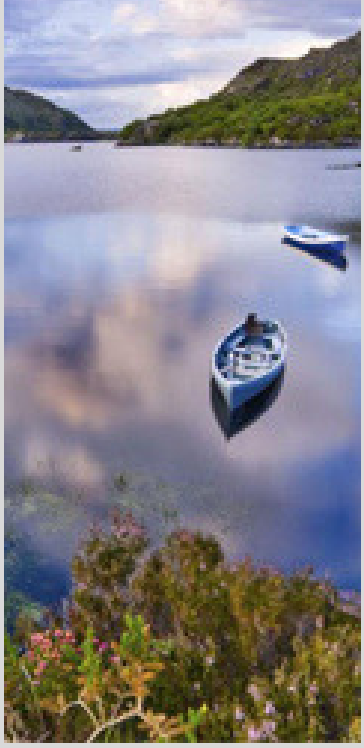
Ladies View is about 12 miles from Killarney on the N71 road as you go towards Kenmare. The view here is probably the best known of Killarney and is a major attraction for visitors. Queen Victoria's ladies-in-waiting visited here during the royal visit in 1861. They were so taken with the view that it was named after them. A little further up the road is Avoca, which makes for a lovely coffee or food stop as well as some beautiful Irish clothing, textiles and crafts.

Killarney Brewing Company

Killarney Brewing Company is located within walking distance of Killarney town centre. They produce additive and preservative free craft beers on-site and in small batches. Tours are run regularly throughout the day and light meals are also available.

Live Traditional Music

A must for all visitors to the area is a night that includes some live traditional music. Our Concierge team will be delighted to recommend the best venues depending on the time of your stay.



Rock Climbing

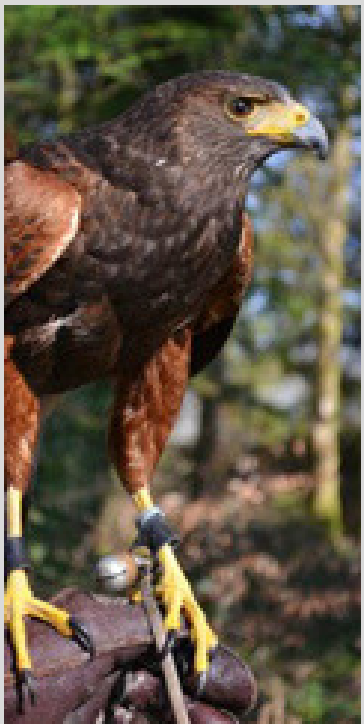
Killarney, home to Ireland's highest mountain range, is an ideal base to do a little rock climbing. We can arrange a guided experience to suit your ability. If you're a beginner we suggest you take part in a basic two day course or we can arrange a one day excursion to get your started. For those with experience...the mountains await you.

Falconry

Killarney Falconry provides group and private hawk walks. Each walk is with a falconer and hawk, or team of hawks, while spectators may accompany you at your invitation. All ages and abilities can be catered for. This is a perfect activity for anyone looking for an unforgettable experience seeing these magnificent birds up close and personal performing amazing aerial acrobatics

Cycling

The hotel has a selection of bikes which are available complimentary to guests who wish to explore the surroundings.
Our Concierge will be happy to discuss cycle routes in the area and recommend places to visit. O'Sullivan's bike hire also operates a number of outlets in Killarney and guests can choose to hire a bike for a few hours or for a week. There are a number of cycle trails in the Killarney National Park and a day of cycling is a great way to explore the local area.



The Ring of Kerry

A wonderful day trip. Rugged islands, white-sand beaches and dramatic mountain passes, the Ring of Kerry works its magic as you travel from rugged coastline to charming villages and buzzing towns. Guests can choose to self-drive this route or our Concierge team would be happy to arrange a driver/guide for the day. Allow a full day for this excursion.

Dingle Peninsula

An excursion to the Dingle Peninsula is a must if time permits. This area is steeped in Irish tradition and character. Dingle town is a bustling cultural hub shops offering local arts and crafts. The Blasket Islands lie off the Dingle Peninsula and can be visited by boat. Dolphins, whales and birds can be found off its shores. Be sure to take the scenic Slea Head route around the tip of the peninsula for some jaw-dropping scenery. Driver/guides can be arranged by our Concierge team for those wishing to sit back and enjoy the outing. Allow a full day for this excursion.

The Ring of Beara

The Ring of Beara is a route along the Beara Peninsula along the Atlantic Ocean in the Southwest of Ireland. Wild, and relatively unexplored, the Ring of Beara is less known to tourists than the Ring of Kerry. Those visiting this hidden gem will encounter lush natural beauty, wild landscapes, unspoilt seascapes and the warm welcome of the Irish people. Allow a full day for this excursion.