





## WHY CORK, IRELAND?

The largest county in Ireland, Cork sits on the southern coast, bounded by the Atlantic Ocean and nestled between the signature visitor experiences of Ireland's Ancient East and the Wild Atlantic Way. The capital, Cork city, which is Ireland's second city, was rated by Conde Nast Traveller as one of the top three "Friendliest Cities In The World" in 2018, and is only half-jokingly referred to by locals as the 'real capital of Ireland'!

Renowned for its rich culinary and maritime heritage, and beloved by tourists visiting the famous Blarney Stone, Cork is also home to global technology and life sciences companies, such as Apple, Dell, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, Stryker and many others who appreciate the research and education infrastructure of the region.[CCB2037](#)

Cork is "different" – from the musical lilt of the Cork accent, the droll humour of the Cork wit, to the warmth of the legendary Cork welcome.

So, whether your conference or event requires 5-star hotels or more casual accommodation, Michelin-starred dining or relaxed food experiences, or perhaps meetings in unique, historic locations, Cork can tailor an experience your delegates will never forget!

# MAP OF CORK



## 1 BEARA PENINSULA

The Beara Peninsula in southwest Ireland is one of Ireland's most compelling and beautiful locations. The Miskish and the Caha mountains form the rugged spine of the Beara peninsula which pokes out into the wild Atlantic Ocean



## 2 BANTRY

Bantry is a beautiful and modern harbour town in West Cork, one of the most picturesque parts of Ireland. It is located along the renowned Wild Atlantic Way touring route and is the perfect base to explore these stunning lands



## 3 CORK CITY

Built on a series of islands this ancient merchant city is steeped in maritime history and a rich artistic culture. Ireland's second city, Cork is the best place in the world to relax, unwind and soak up the atmosphere.

Cork is a small and compact City where you can get from the airport to the city centre in less than 10 minutes, but don't let that deter you because within that small space you will find historical buildings and a vibrant arts and cultural scene



## 4 NORTH CORK

Marvel at stunning houses, castles and gardens or experience the thrill of mountain biking, rock climbing, archery, fishing and kayaking in this often overlooked, but certainly worthwhile region of Cork County



## 5 MIDLETON

Nestled at the centre of East Cork, Midleton boasts an ever-enhanced culinary reputation with wonderful restaurants, farmers market, specialist food shops and the internationally famous Jameson Midleton Distillery



FOR A TASTE OF WHAT'S AVAILABLE IN CORK VISIT [WWW.PURECORK.IE](http://WWW.PURECORK.IE)



## 6 WEST CORK ISLANDS

Seven inhabited islands and one garden paradise – strung like jewels along Ireland's southwest coastline. They're the perfect places to explore the landscapes, seascapes, and heritage of beautiful West Cork



## 7 SKIBBEREEN

Skibbereen is the 'hub' of West Cork and an ideal base from which to discover the delights that the area has to offer. This bustling market town has so much to offer including world class food, unique shops, live music and nearby beaches



## 8 CLONAKILTY

Clonakilty is a multi-award winning, cosmopolitan, and friendly seaside town at the heart of West Cork, in the South of Ireland. A vibrant town, Clonakilty also boasts beautiful beaches, green surrounds and a mix of activities to suit everyone



## 9 KINSALE

Located at the start of the Wild Atlantic Way, Kinsale is famous for its colourful streetscapes and rich history and foodie culture. Kinsale is a vibrant coastal town with an energetic personality to keep you entertained all year round!



## 10 COBH

Overlooked by the renowned Cobh Cathedral and famous for its colourful exteriors. Cobh's history is entwined with the sea being the last port of call for the doomed 'Titanic' and the departure point for many millions of Irish emigrants



## 11 YOUGHAL

Youghal, the gem of Ireland's Ancient East, a truly unique place with miles of sandy beaches and a rich ancient history. Youghal, an impressive medieval town and one of the last walled towns of Ireland



# THINGS TO DO:

1

## Blarney Castle



**15 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Blarney Castle is one of the great historical sites of Ireland, renowned throughout the world. For over 200 years, world statesmen, literary giants, and legends of the silver screen have joined the millions of pilgrims climbing the steps to kiss the Blarney Stone and gain the gift of eloquence. Its powers are unquestioned but its story still creates debate. The view from the entrance gate sets the scene immediately, with fine vistas of parkland crowned by Blarney Castle rising up in its entire ancient splendour, framed by clumps of trees.

2

## The Jameson Experience



**20 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

An experience more than 220 years in the making nestled in the beautiful surrounds of Midleton, Co. Cork, is a true slice of history and one of the regions leading visitor attractions.

A tour of the Midleton Distillery is a journey through the history of Irish whiskey. Mapping out the journey are historic illustrations and photographs, audiovisual shows, exhibitions, demonstrations, graphic panels, intriguing display cabinets, timeless artifacts and working models. The visitor also encounters superbly restored machinery and dramatic recreations of many of the stages in whiskey production.

3

### Spike Island



**25 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Discover 1300 years of Irish history at spike island cork, the island where Ireland remembers. Formerly the world's largest prison, today you can explore several museums, exhibitions and scenic island walks

4

### Kinsale



**25 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Originally a medieval fishing port, historic Kinsale is one of the most picturesque, popular and historic towns on the south west coast of Ireland. It has been hailed as the Gourmet Capital of Ireland, with no shortage of cafes, pubs and restaurants to suit every taste and budget.

5

### English Market



**Located in Cork City Centre**

Trading since 1788 the current mix of traders in the English Market represents a diversity as broad as at any time over the centuries of it's existence and is an essential item on any visitor's agenda - even the Queen of England stopped off here in May 2011!



UNIQUE VENUES

# UNIQUE VENUES:

1

## University College Cork



**5 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Discover Ireland's first 5 star university with a history of independent thinking spanning 170 years. As one of Ireland's oldest institutions, the university campus benefits all the facilities of a modern, thriving city, blended seamlessly with a 19th century historic campus.

UCC offers organisers the flexibility and versatility with historic venues for any occasion including exhibitions, bespoke events, gala dinners, conferences.

2

## Cork City Gaol



**5 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Cork City Gaol is located 2 km from Cork City Centre and while the magnificent castle-like building is now a major visitor attraction and unique event space, this Gaol (Jail) once housed 19th century prisoners!

Visitors will get a fascinating insight into day-to-day prison life in one of the finest examples of Irish architecture, perfect for a welcome reception or dinner with 200 dining capacity.



3

### Páirc Uí Chaoimh



**5 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

The newly renovated home of Cork GAA, Páirc Uí Chaoimh is a state of the art facility with a capacity of 45,000 people. This modern stadium hosts top level GAA matches, concerts and is equipped with 1500 square metres of flexible conference space.

4

### Cork City Hall



**Located in Cork City Centre**

The iconic and prestigious Concert Hall at Cork City Hall was opened in 1963 and since that time has held a variety of Concerts, Conferences, Exhibitions and Banquets. The Hall can hold up to 1040 standing or 960 seated which can be using it in conjunction with nearby Millennium Hall.

5

### Ballymaloe Grainstore



**30 minute drive from Cork City Centre**

Ballymaloe Grainstore is a restored 17th-century farm building on the grounds of the renowned Ballymaloe House and Farm. This unique and versatile venue, along with several additional spaces, offers capacities from 10 to 1000.

For more information on Cork venues visit: [www.corkconventionbureau.com](http://www.corkconventionbureau.com)





## INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL ACCESSIBILITY:

### AIR:

Regarded as the international gateway to the South of Ireland, Cork Airport is uniquely positioned at the start of Ireland's Ancient East and the Wild Atlantic Way. It is the country's second busiest and best-connected international airport with connectivity to over 60 routes prior to Covid-19 restrictions. Thankfully we are already beginning to see many of these routes return, as well as newer routes being announced.

Cork Airport is extremely well connected with the United Kingdom with flights landing in 12 airports across the country. Cork Airport also offers direct flights to and from most major European cities including Lisbon, Madrid, Paris, Amsterdam, Zurich, Munich, Budapest, Dubrovnik, and many more. Not forgetting the option of stopover flights which further expands Cork's connectivity with the rest of Europe and the world.

The Airport is easily accessible with a good road network and regular bus and taxi services available outside the airport terminal building and you also have the option of flying into Dublin, Shannon or even Kerry Airport.

You can get from Dublin Airport to Cork City in just under 3 and a half hours via the M6 motorway. Equally the N8 will get you to Cork City from Shannon Airport in approximately 1 hour 45 mins.

### RAIL:

If you want to put your feet up and do some window gazing at Cork's lush green countryside traveling by rail is the way to go. Cork City's Train Station (Kent Station) is a mere 5-minute walk from Parnell Place Bus Station. Operating since 1893, Kent Station in Cork City operates as a hub for intercity services to Dublin, Limerick, Waterford and Tralee. A typical train journey from Cork to Dublin's Heuston Station can take as little as 2hrs 15mins – depending on the time of travel.

### ROAD:

Cork City Bus Station known as Parnell Place Bus Station is located, as the name suggests, at Parnell Place on the banks of the River Lee between St Patricks Bridge and Brian Boru Bridge. Bus services operate from Parnell Place Bus

Station, right across Cork City and County and to all of Ireland's major towns and cities.

You will also find that Coca Cola Zero Rental Bikes operate in and around Cork City centre and are a very efficient means of getting around.

