

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Historical

Stradbally Steam Museum

Stradbally Steam Museum is based in the well known picturesque village of Stradbally in Co. Laois which is also the home of the Steam Rally. The museum contains some beautiful steam engines dating from the early 1900s and also has some fine farm machinery from the same era.

See the [Stradbally Steam Museum website](#) for more information

Aghaboe Abbey

Aghaboe Abbey was founded in the sixth century by St. Canice. The abbey grew into a major centre of learning, commerce and agriculture. The astronomer St. Virgilius, also known as St. Feargal, was its abbot in the 700s before he left Ireland, going on to become Bishop of Salzburg.

Walking in Laois

Durrow Leafy Loop Walk

Durrow is located at the intersection of the main Dublin-Cork N7 road and the N77 road from the southeast. The town is surrounded by some fine woods, hilly forests and a maze of rivers. These walks offer the serious walker a loop of 20 kilometres (12½ miles) or a variety of shorter walks for the more casual stroller. You can join the circuit wherever you wish and use one of several shortcuts to devise a loop to suit your own time and energy levels. Note that the main circuit has each kilometre marked and it takes c.15 minutes to walk 1 kilometre.

For more information www.laoistourism.ie

Granstown Walks

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 Fitzpatrick's of Upper Ossory, the lake and surrounding countryside is steeped in history and folklore. Currently under the guardianship of Dúchas, the lake and woodlands are a national nature reserve and contain a wealth of species of native Irish flora and fauna.

Cullohill Walks

Cullohill is located on the main N8 road between Durrow and Urlingford. Make a quick escape into the surrounding countryside using these short walks. The village derives its name from an ancient forest that clothed nearby Cullahill Mountain extending down to the castle and village.

Equestrian in Laois

Castlewood Equestrian Centre, Durrow, offer its visitors a beautiful and rural ambiance.

The centre has an outdoor sand arena nestling amid the attractive Castlewood hills. Since the centre was established about 18 months ago, riders, young and old, have taken to the saddle and have always been impressed with the facilities. His stables include Connemara ponies, an especially popular starter horse.

For more information contact John Cleary (0)87 2945961 / (0)57 8636551

For the small or BIG Children

Roll n Bowl- Ten Pin Bowling, Soft Play Centre for all ages up to 12 years, New Video Games, Pool, Air Hockey All €1, Party Area and Outdoor Crazy Golf.

Visit [Roll n Bowl's Website](#) for More Information

Fishing in Laois

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.