



CONNACHT PHWOAR



BLISS: Enjoy champagne on the terrace at the Ice House Hotel or cocktails in Noin (above); (below) tuck into a Ballynahinch picnic

We're heading West for picnics and cocktails around the country

IN THIS week's trip around the Emerald Isle to find the best outdoor areas in Irish hotels, we're in Connacht — from Barna in Galway to Ballina in Mayo...

Nóin at The Twelve, Galway
 Always ahead of the curve, Fergus O'Halloran repurposed an outdoor space at The Twelve last summer and it was impossible to get a seat.
 It's sheltered and heated and has all the quirkiness and charm you would expect from The Twelve.
 Food is served all day from The Pins and you can enjoy some of Simon Kings excellent

cocktails as well.
 Dogs are welcome, too!
 ● See thetwelvehotel.ie for more.

Ice House Hotel, Mayo
 Overlooking the River Moy and the woodlands beyond, the handsome terrace at the Ice House Hotel is the perfect place to while away lazy days and summer nights with local Mayo menus and an exciting cocktail list.
 ● See icehousehotel.ie for more.



Ballynahinch Castle, Galway
 Celebrate one of the greatest ways to enjoy the summer season in one of the most beautiful parts of the country and take your pick of four beautifully-curated picnics at Ballynahinch Castle Hotel, with a two-night stay in the heart of Connemara.
 Choose from a Ballynahinch rucksack or bicycle basket filled with traditional sandwiches, goodies and refreshments, ideal for those going on a hike, a

spectacular 700 acres of the hotel's lush estate or a cycle of the nearby greenway.
 Tuck into a cheese and wine hamper to enjoy on the grounds or further afield, a lavish picnic to bring to the gorgeous walled garden at Ballynahinch, complete with blanket, basket, speaker and a deck of playing cards, or the ultimate picture-perfect picnic, laid out for you under a gazebo in the walled garden overlooking Ben Lettery.
 'Pick your picnic at Ballynahinch' is available from €330 per person for two nights bed and breakfast, and your choice of four luxurious picnics is available starting from just €25 per person.
 ● See www.ballynahinchcastle.com for more information.