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TRAVEL

FEEL  
refreshed



When it's safe to do so, schedule in something new for yourself to do, to shake off the cobwebs of the past year

## BY THE SEA

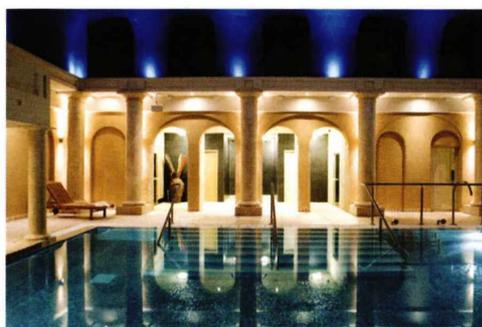
### DUNMORE HOUSE, CO CORK

Dunmore House is a 30-bedroom property that also offers idyllic self-catering cottages, in a dreamy part of the country overlooking Inchydoney beach. With 10 beaches within 10 minutes of the house, this is a place to whisk your loved ones away for quality time, windswept walks and bracing dips. A dog-friendly hotel means no member of the family is left behind too.

Stock up on local produce in nearby **Clonakilty** before you check in, or arrange for a delicious breakfast box with free range eggs, homemade bread and jam and yogurts to entice you out of bed.

The house has been in the family since 1934, and they have a passion for the region and can provide endless tips to help you discover local hidden gems. There is something captivating about this corner of the country, which draws visitors back year after year.

Dog-friendly rooms from €265 per night | [dunmorehousehotel.ie](http://dunmorehousehotel.ie)



## IN THE FOOTHILLS

### KNOCKRANNY HOUSE HOTEL, CO MAYO

Located in the ever popular town of Westport, there is so much to see and do during a stay at Knockranny. Cycle the **Greenway**, try stand-up paddleboarding at **Old Head Beach**, or even set sail with a boat trip around the **Clew Bay Islands**. Whatever you get up to, you'll be captivated by the impressive sight of **Croagh Patrick** just outside the town, and the **Nephin Mountains** to the north.

After a vigorous day of adventure, retire to the sumptuous surrounds of this cosy hotel. After a decadent meal by award-winning Head Chef Seamus Commons in **La Fougère Restaurant** or **Brehon Bar**, be sure to check out the cocktail menu.

You don't need to leave the grounds of the hotel to find relaxation. **Spa Salveo** offers a vitality pool with hydrotherapy stations and 12 spacious treatment rooms. To try a novel way to switch off, book in for a dry flotation or serail mud chamber experience.

Stay from €77pp per night with additional activity add-ons available | [knockrannyhousehotel.ie](http://knockrannyhousehotel.ie)



## HUNTING TIME FAMILY

### CARRIGALINE COURT HOTEL, CORK

When you have kids and young-at-heart to entertain, it can be tricky to decide on somewhere to stay. The Carrigaline Court Hotel is a brilliant base for exploring Cork and its surrounds, while also enjoying the best of comforts when it's time to dine and relax.

The four-star hotel is located in Carrigaline, a short drive from the city, and a multimillion euro renovation has given all areas of the hotel a contemporary, elegant feel. You receive a warm welcome on arrival, but what was extra comforting to note was that safety precautions were strictly adhered to.

Every detail is thought of, so it is no wonder that the hotel has earned

several awards in the past year for its staff and also a **Great Place to Stay Award** at the 2020 Irish Hotel Awards.

The luxurious bedrooms are beautifully styled with decadent velvet couches and are extremely spacious. Luxurious heavy curtains and an inviting king size bed promise a quality night's sleep, but first there is exploring to do.

Those with fond memories of visits to **Fota Island Wildlife Park** as a child will find that familiar giddy feeling sets in again as soon as you glimpse a giraffe wandering through the field in front of the entrance.

The park is now home to tigers, rhinos and more exotic creatures, and the pens and walkways have become

more elaborate too.

With plenty to see, take a drive through the countryside to **Farran Woods** to try your skills at the **Zipit Forest Adventure Park**. With trails that are fun for kids and adults alike, and more challenging zipline routes and climbs that require a steel nerve.

After burning so many calories, dinner will be on the mind. **The Bistro** at the hotel is a warm space with attentive staff, but the standard of food surpasses expectations. The tiger prawn starter in a panko crumb is beautifully presented and full of flavour, and the pan fried sea bass main course is perfectly cooked.

An overnight stay gives you a taste for what Cork has to offer beyond the streets of the city, and showed that you can enjoy the best of both when you have an action-packed schedule and a restful place to stay.

The Family Fun package (from €185 total stay) includes one night bed and breakfast with evening meal for a family of four. [carrigcourt.com](http://carrigcourt.com)



## WATERSIDE RELAXATION

### FERRYCARRIG HOTEL, CO WEXFORD

When you want to feel worlds away, book into the four-star Ferrycarrig Hotel and look out over the **River Slaney** to feel instantly more peaceful. Great food is at the heart of the hotel, with a fabulous menu day and night in the **Dry Dock Bar**, and **Reeds Restaurant** is perfect for a special celebration.

Each of the hotel's bedrooms are designed to soak up the amazing views of the estuary, or avail of a room with a balcony to spend a quiet afternoon in solitude. For added luxury, book some time at **Riverwood Wellness**, the hotel's new treatment rooms offering Swedish and hot stone massages, body wraps, facials and more.

Enjoy a two-night B&B stay with one dinner midweek from €280 | [ferrycarrighotel.ie](http://ferrycarrighotel.ie)



## DINE IN STYLE THE TWELVE HOTEL, CO GALWAY

Always ahead of the curve when it comes to their food and drink offering, The Twelve is a haven for the finer things located in the picturesque village of **Bearna**. Fuel a day of exploring and indulge in sweet treats and stocking up on gourmet produce from **The Twelve Bakery** shop and pizzas with a local flair at **Pizza Dozzina**.

While away an evening chatting as the sun sets with a drink or two and some al fresco dining at Noin, the new heated, covered terrace. At night, raise a glass in the warm atmosphere of **Pins Gastro Bar**, and enjoy intimate fine dining at **West Restaurant**. This is the place to go if your ideal break is to eat, drink and be merry.

The Gourmet Getaway (€480 for two nights) includes a cooked to order breakfast delivered to your room, dinner in the West Restaurant, plus €60 food credit for your second night, and a movie night set up in your room with Twelve Hotel Brown Bag Cocktails and a popcorn machine | [thetwelvehotel.ie](http://thetwelvehotel.ie)

## THE WILDER TOWNHOUSE, DUBLIN 2

Adelaide Road in Dublin is home to beautiful properties and The Wilder is a gem that you can call home for a night. The area's only boutique townhouse marries its Victorian charm with a contemporary interior.

All 42 guest rooms and suites are individually decorated, with en-suites and walk-in rainforest showers. The compact Shoebox rooms look out over Adelaide Road, and are perfect for solo travellers or those who plan on exploring the city as much as possible. All rooms have lovely high ceilings and original sash windows, and premium Replica by Maison Margiela Paris products to enjoy.

The hotel is a short stroll from **St Stephen's Green** and all the city has to offer. Guests should embrace the new mood of the city, and pick up a coffee

and pastries to fuel a day of browsing. There are so many innovative businesses who have changed up their offering because of Covid-19, and the enthusiasm for Irish makers and designers is infectious so you'll undoubtedly end the day laden down with unique finds.

When it's time to decompress in the evening, settle yourself into a comfortable chair in The Wilder's **Gin and Tea Rooms**. Offering a selection of bespoke craft gin from across Ireland. Alternatively, sip a tea or coffee as you chat over a delicious plate from the light bites menu such as a cheese and charcuterie plate or gourmet toastie.

The Together Again package (from €279 per night) includes breakfast, a bouquet of flowers and a bottle of Champagne | [thewilder.ie](http://thewilder.ie)





## DELPHI LODGE, CO GALWAY

This 1830s country house hotel is set on a 1,000-acre estate in an unspoilt valley in Connemara. New to *Ireland's Blue Book* for 2021, the lodge has 13 large bedrooms and three reception rooms with log fires, so it is a cosy and intimate place to retire to after a day exploring the surrounding mountains. For a more independent, self-catering break, avail of one of six holiday cottages, with charming names such as the Boat-house, the Wren and the Waterfall.

The house overlooks the lakes and rivers of the **Delphi valley**, famous for their salmon and seatrout fishing. You can even learn fly fishing at the lodge, keep an eye out for courses. The valley is abundant in wildlife, and you'll spot otters, pine martins, peregrine falcons and myriad wildflowers during your stay.

Unsurprisingly then, local seafood and game are the star of the food and dining experience at Delphi

Lodge. Guests gather in the drawing room from 7pm for pre-dinner drinks and canapés before sitting down to a six-course meal of local produce in the dining room.

Conversation flows easily as guests share enchanting stories of their day in Connemara. There are also great options to suit vegan and vegetarian diners, and there's a large wine list of over 200 wines at good price points.

Nearby, be sure to make time to visit the beautiful villages and towns in the area such as **Leenane** and **Louisburgh**. You will find spectacular sandy beaches for a stroll, but definitely do not leave the area without taking a moment to appreciate the majestic **Killary Fjord**.

Book the special offer for March with an overnight stay, full Irish breakfast cooked to order, canapés and a five-course seasonal dinner for two for €320 | [delphilodge.ie](http://delphilodge.ie)

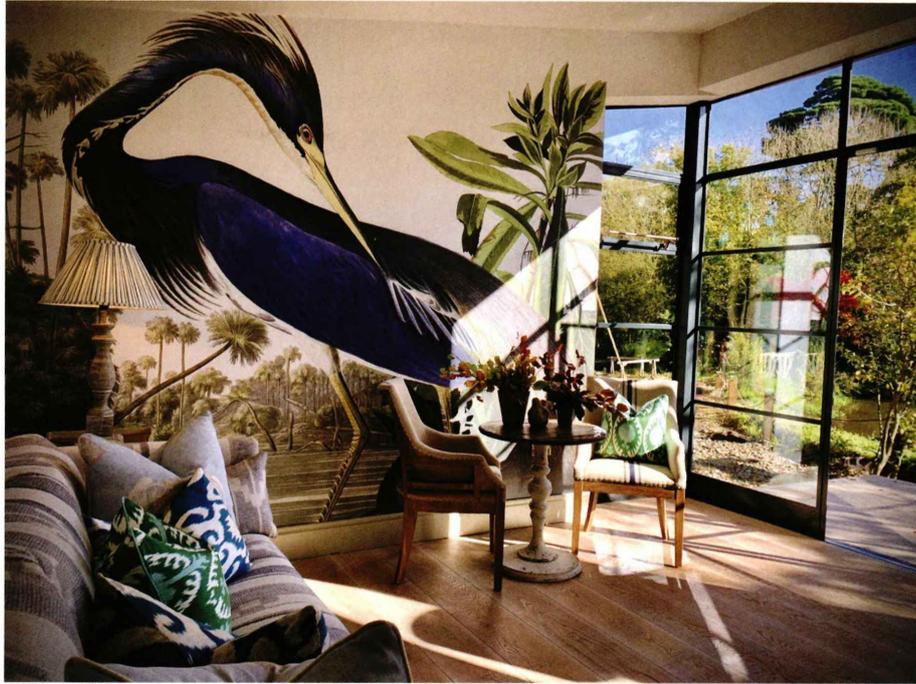
## NEW LOOK EUROPA HOTEL, BELFAST

The Europa Hotel is nestled in the heart of the city centre, with the **Ulster Museum**, **Grand Opera House**, **Waterfront Hall** and **Titanic Belfast** all nearby. The hotel is known for welcoming a host of VIPs over the years, and after a major refurbishment, it feels extra special.

All bedrooms have been redesigned in a contemporary style that still pays homage to the hotel's history, as it is located in Belfast's **Linen Quarter**. Classic marble top dark timber furniture ensures the rooms still have that classic feel, while remote control blinds unveil spectacular city views.

Enjoy a two-course meal and a luxurious overnight stay with breakfast from £73pps | [hastingshotels.com](http://hastingshotels.com)





## SUITE LIFE

### MARLFIELD HOUSE, CO WEXFORD

Marlfield House was voted Hotel of the Year 2020 in Georgina Campbell's Ireland and it's easy to see why. A beautiful setting inside and out, the hotel also has a keen focus on environmentally sustainable practises, conscious of preserving the surrounding nature that is intrinsic to its charm.

This tranquil setting offers so much, with elegant and comfortable interiors in the main hotel, filled with antiques and intriguing paintings, and 36 acres of woodland to explore. This little piece of heaven is home to peacocks, hens, dogs and ponies, and vegetable and herb gardens.

For a staycation somewhere that feels very different, Laura and Margaret Bowe at Marlfield House have created stunning suites around the pond in the gardens of the hotel. Laura is a former film set designer, so the spaces, launched last December, have an exciting, daring feel, which will appeal to lovers of design.

Stay in the Pond Suites and enjoy a bottle of wine and nibbles in your suite upon arrival, a full continental breakfast of breads, eggs, meats and more delivered to your suite (from €440 per night) | [marlfieldhouse.com](http://marlfieldhouse.com)

