



# Baltimore & the Isles

## WEST CORK'S HIDDEN GEM ON THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY

Baltimore and the Islands provide a brilliant and unique setting for family trips, activity weekends, midweek get-aways, weddings, parties & corporate events.

## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

**Fiddle Fair** (May)

**Seafood & Wooden Boat Festival** (May)

**Walking Talking on Cape Clear** (May)

**O'Driscoll Clan Midsummer Festival** (June)

**Sherkin Island Regatta** (August)

**Baltimore Regatta** (August)

**Cape Clear Regatta** (August)

**Heir (Hare) Island Regatta** (August)

**Baltimore Deep Sea Angling Festival** (August)

**Storytelling Festival Cape Clear** (September)

**Sherkin RNLI BBQ Fundraiser** (September)

**Skibbereen & Baltimore Walking Weekend** (October)

**The Wet Weekend** (October)

For dates & information  
log on to:

[www.baltimore.ie](http://www.baltimore.ie)



The Wild Atlantic Way - The longest defined coastal touring route in the world - 2500km of unspoiled coastlines from West Cork to Donegal where land and sea collide. Beautiful scenery, wildlife habitats, heritage and traditional culture...a journey that will stay with you forever.

### Approx distances to Baltimore

<b>Cork</b>	95km - 1.5hrs
<b>Dublin</b>	350km - 4.5hrs
<b>Rosslare</b>	290km - 4hrs
<b>Skibbereen</b>	12km - 15mins

### Sat Nav

LAT:	51.48325
LONG:	-9.37325
EIRCODE:	P81 X968



# Baltimore & the Isles

[www.baltimore.ie](http://www.baltimore.ie)



WELCOME TO

# Baltimore & the Isles

The charming coastal village of Baltimore is situated on one of the most south-westerly points of Ireland, renowned for its attractive landscapes, unspoiled coast lines and Carbery 100 Isles.

The unique location of "our Square" is where locals and visitors meet for a chat and a drink, to unwind and relax, while enjoying most beautiful views over the peaceful harbour.

## Hidden Treasure of West Cork

Baltimore and the Islands are the Wild Atlantic Way's golden spur with Dún an Óir (*castle of gold*), Dún na Séad (*castle of jewels*) the Cailín Óir (*golden girl - a ferry boat*), not to mention golden sunsets, pirate treasures and sunken wrecks.

Come and experience the wild, unspoilt, raw beauty of rugged coastlines, cliffs, seascapes, beaches, food, music, festivals, maritime history and adventure.

Why not start your adventure in Baltimore & The Islands and let us take your breath away!

# 50 THINGS TO DO

### WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES

- Sailing
- Diving
- Deep Sea Angling
- Snorkelling
- Beaches & Swimming
- Boat Hire
- Whale, Dolphin, Seal & Bird Watching
- Kayaking
- High speed boat rides

### LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES

- Playground
- Cycling
- Indoor Pool & Fitness Centre
- Looped Walks & Walking Tours
- Open Gardens
- Baltimore Castle
- Prehistoric Sites
- Lifeboat Station
- Heritage Centres
- Art Centres

### TRIPS & TOURS

- Sherkin Island
- Cape Clear Island
- Heir (Hare) Island
- Fastnet Lighthouse
- Tours of Carbery 100 Isles
- Lough Hyne Trips
- River Trips & Sunset Tours

### LOUGH HYNE & BARLOGUE CREEK

- Walking
- Climbing Knockomagh Hill
- Swimming
- Bird Watching
- Kayaking
- Snorkelling

### SHOPPING & CRAFTS

- Local Art, Craft & Knitwear
- Galleries
- Grocery & Newsagent
- Skibbereen Town
- Farmer's Market

### ENTERTAINMENT & FOOD

- Traditional Music
- Concerts & Festivals
- Old-Time & Set Dancing
- Bar Food & Family Restaurants
- Cafés & Deli
- Traditional Irish Food & Gourmet Restaurants
- Michelin Star Restaurant

### DAY TRIPS

- Mizen Head - Visitor Centre
- Ring of Beara & Sheep's Head
- Bantry House and Gardens
- Castletownshend, Union Hall and Glandore
- Schull Planetarium
- Drombeg Stone Circle





# ON THE WATER

Because of its maritime tradition, Baltimore is well known as the **Water Activities Capital of Ireland**.

Sub-tropical flora and fauna flourish under the influence of the warm Gulf Stream. Activities to be enjoyed by the whole family include sailing, boating, swimming, snorkelling, kayaking and diving, with spectacular scenery, unpolluted waters and wrecks galore.

The southwest is the feeding ground for a number of whale & dolphin species; minke, fins & humpbacks, common & bottlenose dolphins. Seals, basking sharks and harbour porpoises are also seen along with sunfish and the occasional leatherback turtle.

There's sea angling for everything from mackerel to tuna. Baltimore is especially well known for its shark and common skate fishing, both of which can produce a fish of well over 100 lbs (50 kg) in weight.

The varied bird life includes some rare members of the shearwater, petrel, skua and gull families.

## Beaches

There are lovely swimming spots and beaches around Baltimore and the Islands. On Sherkin the beautiful Silver Strand or Cow Strand, on Cape the rocky South Harbour and beauty spots on Heir Island plus several stoney beaches or strands in Baltimore (see village map).

## Pirates of Baltimore

The attack in June 1631 by Barbary corsairs was the worst-ever attack on the mainland of Ireland or Britain, also known as 'the Sack of Baltimore' - 107 slaves were taken and sold on the markets in Algiers. You can visit pirate exhibits in the Castle, The Algiers Inn for a truly North African ambiance, a guided heritage walk through the village or a pirate and fairies trail for children on Inishbeg. Local pubs have plenty of old photographs of the local maritime history too.



# THE ISLANDS

## Cape Clear Island (ferry from Baltimore - 45 mins)

Ireland's most southerly Gaeltacht Island, offering wild romantic scenery with heather, gorse and wild flowers covering steep rugged hills, sparkling harbours and spectacular cliffs, all contributing to the island's unspoilt charm. There are many historic sites and it's a birdwatcher's paradise.

**An Siopa Beag** (groceries & Wi Fi access) ..... 028 39099

**Sean Rua's Restaurant** ..... 028 39099

## Heir (Hare) Island (ferry from Baltimore - 20 mins) (ferry from Cunnamore - 4 mins)

Discover a little piece of heaven, tucked away in a corner of Roaring water Bay, it's an idyllic location for a family picnic on a necklace of wonderful sheltered sandy beaches.

**Heir Island Sailing School & Kayak Hire** ... 087 1488127

**PizzHeiria & Cafe** (outdoor pizzeria) ..... 086 8070715

**Roaringwater Lodge B&B** ..... 087 8070715

## Sherkin Island (ferry from Baltimore - 10 mins)

Enjoy tranquil beauty with breathtaking landscapes and stunning clean golden beaches, leisurely walking trails past Franciscan Abbey, O'Driscoll Castle ruin and the old lighthouse. Today the island's beauty inspires numerous artists, with open house studios and art exhibitions throughout the summer.

**Café Bruno** ..... 087 6185368

**H2O Seakayaking** ..... 089 2799787

**Sherkin North Shore** (accommodation & discovery) ..... 087 6185368

**The Jolly Roger Pub** ..... 085 1412503



# LOUGH HYNE

Nestling within a fold of hills 5 km away from Baltimore, Lough Hyne (Ine) is a place of peaceful serenity, steeped in local folklore and home to a unique ecosystem which sustains a huge variety of marine plants and animals. It's connected to the sea via a narrow tidal channel, known as *the Rapids*.

A climb up Mount Knockomagh Hill rewards with stunning panoramic views. It's a great place to go for a swim, bird & seal watching or a leisurely wander along the western shore towards Barlogue Creek.

## WALKS & GARDENS

There are many lovely scenic walks, ranging from a simple 30 minute stroll to a 3-4 hour hill-walk. These include the Baltimore heritage trail, looped walks in and around the village, the iconic Beacon, Coney Island, the Hill, Trafraska Beach, Reengaroga or Lough Hyne nature reserve & woodland hill top walk as well as marked trails on the islands. For garden enthusiasts there are formal flower gardens, rockeries, meadows, stone-walled herb gardens, birdsong-filled woodlands, fruit cages, bird hides, sunken gardens with ponds and fountains, orchards and carriage drives.

## FASTNET ROCK



The Fastnet Lighthouse sticks up out of the Atlantic like a finger pointing at the heavens, and marks Ireland's most southerly point. It is considered one of the most beautiful lighthouses in the world and remains the tallest and widest in Ireland or Great Britain. Take a boat trip or guided tour to visit this famous "Carrig Aonar" (lonely rock).



## Water-Based Activities

Aquaventures (Whale/Dolphin Tours & Snorkel Rental)	<b>23</b>	087 7961456
Atlantic Boating Services (boat hire/ pontoon)	<b>8</b>	087 2351485
Atlantic Sea Kayaking		028 21058
Baltimore Angling & Wildlife Tours (whale watching)		086 3014971
Baltimore Yacht Charters		086 2412855
Baltimore Sailing Club	<b>10</b>	028 20426
Baltimore Sea Safari (coastal & whale-watch tours)		087 2409761
Cape Clear Ferries (Fastnet Tours)		087 3899711
Fastnet Sunset Tours Aquaventures	<b>23</b>	087 7961456
Ten Island Tours & Ilan River Cruise		087 2638470
Whale Watch West Cork (whale & dolphin watching)		086 1200027
Wild Atlantic Pool (indoor heated)	<b>22</b>	028 20622

## Ferries

Baltimore - Cape Clear Island Ferry		086 3464110
Baltimore - Sherkin Island Ferry		087 9117377
Heir (Hare) Island Ferry M.V. Thresher		086 8092447

## Shops/Galleries/Other

Ballymacrown Cottage Gallery	<b>32</b>	086 4064974
Baltimore Castle & Wedding Venue	<b>14</b>	087 7374592
Baltimore Castle - Heritage Walking Tours	<b>14</b>	087 7374592
Camiers Gala (Deli, Coffee & Groceries)	<b>5</b>	089 9595360
Fr. Cashman Community Centre	<b>25</b>	
GAA Sports Hall & Pitch	<b>37</b>	
Harbour Master's Office	<b>8</b>	087 2351485
Inish Beg Estate - Weddings	<b>39</b>	028 21745
Island Crafts & Information Centre	<b>11</b>	087 6822613
Leisure Centre (gym)	<b>22</b>	028 20622
The Yellow Door Gallery & Gifts	<b>6</b>	086 2531805

## Places to Visit

Beacon		
Blue Flag Waterways		
De Lacey Rose Garden (Art, Silk & Perfumes)	<b>33</b>	028 48164
Baltimore Castle	<b>14</b>	028 20735
Inish Beg Estate - Gardens and		
Pirate, Fairy & Animal Trails	<b>39</b>	028 21745
Lough Hyne Nature Reserve		
Ring Fort Heritage Site		
RNLI Lifeboat Station	<b>24</b>	
Sundial (in the Square)		



## Bed & Breakfast

Channel View	<b>31</b>	028 20440
Rathmore House	<b>35</b>	028 20362
The Stone House	<b>23</b>	028 20511

## Hotel/Other Accommodation

Casey's of Baltimore	<b>29</b>	028 20197
Rolfs Country House	<b>19</b>	028 20289
The Waterfront	<b>4</b>	028 20600

## Self Catering

Beacon Road Bungalow	<b>17</b>	087 9260285
Castle End House	<b>12</b>	086 2738368
Cedar Boathouse	<b>34</b>	086 2531805
Channel View Cottage	<b>31</b>	028 20440
Clear Island (Baltimore Holiday Homes)	<b>28</b>	086 8139970
Harbour Court No. 1	<b>26</b>	086 8333393
Harbour View Apartments	<b>7</b>	028 20142
Honey Farm Cottage	<b>40</b>	086 0723893
Inish Beg Estate	<b>39</b>	028 21745
Killeena House & Holiday Cottages	<b>38</b>	028 21029
Rolf's Self Catering Cottages	<b>19</b>	028 20289
Sandy Island (Baltimore Holiday Homes)	<b>28</b>	087 2687044
Sea Cottage (Baltimore Holiday Homes)	<b>28</b>	+32477808058

## Pubs / Bars

Algiers Inn	<b>15</b>	028 20145
Bushe's Bar	<b>2</b>	028 20125
Casey's of Baltimore	<b>29</b>	028 20197
Jacob's Bar	<b>4</b>	028 20900
The Sibin	<b>36</b>	028 20383

## Restaurants / Cafes

Algiers Inn Gastro Pub	<b>15</b>	028 20145
Casey's of Baltimore	<b>29</b>	028 20197
Customs House & Dédé Restaurant	<b>16</b>	028 48248
La Jolie Brise Pizza & Grill	<b>3</b>	028 20441
Rolfs Restaurant & Wine Bar	<b>19</b>	028 20289
The Lookout	<b>4</b>	028 20600
The Sibin	<b>36</b>	028 20383