



IRELAND'S
DINGLE
PENINSULA
CORCA DHUIBHNE

Always Magical *I gCónaí Draíochtúil*

On Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way

#DinglePeninsula

www.dingle-peninsula.ie



Always Magical *I gCónaí Draíochtúil*

‘The most beautiful place on earth’ - National Geographic

‘Voted among the top 100 destinations in the world’
- Trip Advisor

‘A very favourable winter destination’ – CNN

The Dingle Peninsula or Corca Dhuibhne, stretches 30 miles (48 kilometres) into the Atlantic Ocean on the south-west coast on Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. The peninsula is dominated by the range of mountains that form its spine, running from the **Slieve Mish** range to the **Conor Pass** and **Mount Brandon**, Ireland's second highest peak. The magnificent coastline consists of steep sea-cliffs such as **Slea Head**, dramatic headlands broken by sandy beaches, with the award-winning beach at **Inch** in the south and the tombolo of **Maharees** to the north. The **Blasket Islands** lie to the west and the peninsula is dotted with lovely villages that each offer their own unique Sense of Place ...

Spend time in a place rich in tradition, literature and culture, where native **Gaelic (Irish language)** prospers alongside modern languages, where the perfect harmony created by nature restores the spirit, where you can relax and savour the **scenery, flora and fauna, art & photography, craft trails, culture, archaeology, local food, craft distillery and breweries**, or just meet the **people** – the choice is yours!

More Than Just a Day Visit...

Ireland's Dingle Peninsula is much more than an attraction ... It's a destination!



Something For Everyone

Outdoor Activities include The Dingle Way and ancient walking trails, cycling delights, links golf, horse riding trails; **Water Activities** include surfing, kayaking, eco boat tours, windsurfing, diving, rowing, sailing, angling, swimming at Blue Flag beaches; **Family Fun** with aquariums, pet farms, climbing wall, summer camps. Whether it's wellbeing and relaxation; educational holidays; immersive sports events; heritage and geology or shopping you're looking for ... there is something for everyone!

Stay In Our Villages

Immerse Yourself in Our Local Experiences

Come and meet "The locals" in a place full of character and characters! Try a "**cúpla focail**" – our local Irish words, watch some **Gaelic Football**, join a traditional **Irish Music Session** or experience our local **Festivals** all year round! With a choice of **Villages** - from fishing villages to market towns to seaside resorts, there is so much to explore, see and do!

The Gaeltacht Experience



Culture and Language

The Dingle Peninsula / Corca Dhuibhne is a unique storehouse of our Irish cultural heritage. Until recently, the peninsula was remote from the influences of the modern world, and this meant that the language and traditions of the area have survived intact to a greater degree than in most of Ireland. Much of the peninsula of Corca Dhuibhne is a Gaeltacht or an area where the Irish language (Gaeilge, Gaelainn or Gaelic) is widely spoken in the home, workplace or school.

In summer, many school students from other parts of Ireland stay for three week-long Colaistí Samhraidh or Summer Language Colleges, staying in the homes of local people. Adult programmes are available all year round, popular with both home and overseas visitors, all participating in a rich programme of local events and activities.



The Blasket Islands

On the most western point of the Dingle Peninsula, Ireland and Europe, are The Blasket Islands (Na Blascaodaí). This stunning archipelago of islands are renowned for their magnificent beauty and rugged wildness; literary heritage of the Great Blasket, An Blascaod Mór; magical marine life – seals, whales and dolphins; puffins and array of sea birds; the “Cathedral Rocks” of Inis na Bró; the most westerly lighthouse of Ireland - An Tiaracht; and our famous “Sleeping Giant”, An Fear Marbh (Inis Tuaisceart).

The Great Blasket was inhabited by the islanders until 1953, by which time necessity required them to leave due to the decline in their once vibrant population. Their way of life has been documented by the islanders who dictated or wrote their stories down.

Many of the islanders emigrated to Springfield, Western Massachusetts and generations on, the connections of the communities of Western Mass to the Dingle Peninsula are still very strong celebrated by the Sister City relationship between West Springfield and the Dingle Peninsula and Springfield and Chicopee with Tralee, Co Kerry.

Ferries operate to the Great Blasket Island from April to October and leave from Cé Dún Chaoín (Dunquin Pier) or from the Marina in Dingle. Eco tours operate from Ceann Tra, Ventry and Dingle which will bring you on stunning boat trips around the islands too.

An Blascaod Mór is a Signature Discovery Point of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way in County Kerry.



Arts & Culture



Photography by Allen Kiely



It is impossible to visit the Dingle Peninsula and not be impressed by its artistic and cultural heritage. Recognised as a bastion of the Irish Language and culture the place has an immense spirit set in an ancient maritime landscape.

A lively contemporary arts and cultural scene breathes life into the small villages across the Dingle Peninsula. Harboured by a large Irish speaking Gaeltacht community, this corner of Ireland is alive with music and language, born from its deep-rooted traditions. Inspired by this magical place, artists, craftspeople, musicians and writers have come from across the world to live, work and settle here, blending tradition with new ideas and creating an eclectic, cosmopolitan arts scene at the edge of Europe. A living culture.

Both instrumental music and song have a long tradition on the Dingle Peninsula. In recent times, with the increasing international interest in Irish traditional music, the area has become a mecca for traditional music lovers to the extent that many roving musicians have come to settle in the area and have blended their talents with those of the local native musicians.



Food & Drink

The Dingle Peninsula has grown an international reputation for food in recent years with Dingle town winning the inaugural Foodie Town of Ireland in 2014. With a host of award-winning restaurants, frequently on TripAdvisor's Top 10, superb pub grub and buzzing cafés across the peninsula, there is an abundance of fresh local produce in every village and town.

Local artisan providers provide great ingredients and produce, Farmers provide excellent organic meats particularly Blasket lamb and dairy produce, and you can find local fishermen landing their catches at the local piers daily.

Food is topped off with an award-winning distillery, two local breweries and cookery school.

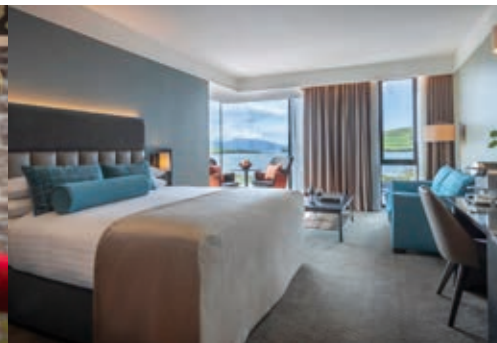
“Centred on charming Dingle town, the peninsula has long been a beacon for those of an alternative bent, attracting artists, craftspeople, musicians and idiosyncratic characters who can be found in workshops, museums, festivals and unforgettable ‘trad’ sessions throughout Dingle’s tiny settlements.”
- Lonely Planet

Staying Here



There is a long tradition of hospitality in this part of the world and you will find yourself spoiled for choice with a wide range of accommodation available throughout the Dingle Peninsula. These include Town Homes, Country Homes and Farmhouses offering Bed and Breakfast; Guesthouses; Hotels; Hostels; Camping and Caravan Sites; and Self-Catering.

Whether you are on a tight budget or feeling indulgent, want to escape the world and hide out in a remote cottage, enjoy buzzy restaurants and nightlife or gather friends and family in a large comfortable home from home we have accommodation suitable for you.



Some Great Reasons to Visit

1. Experience world renowned scenery
2. Eat great locally produced food and freshly caught fish
3. Follow the ancient walking trails of the Dingle Way
4. Throw a pot with one of our many potters
5. Learn a craft
6. Try a “cúpla focail” – some of our local Irish words
7. Treat yourself to a local handmade gift
8. Find a traditional Irish Music Session
9. Experience the passion for Gaelic Football
10. Enjoy the fun and “craic” of our local Festivals all year round
11. Meet “The Locals” – in a place full of character and characters
12. Learn of the literary heritage of the Blasket Islands
13. Discover the story of Tom Crean, West Kerry’s heroic Antarctic Explorer
14. Visit one of our local pubs, breweries or distillery
15. Explore the thundering magnificence of Ireland’s Wild Atlantic Way – One Peninsula Showcases it all !
16. Chase a rainbow or a Sunset!





Slea Head Drive



Dingle Harbour Lighthouse



Minard Castle



Conor Pass



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WALKS

THE DINGLE WAY

The Dingle Way is a way-marked long distance walking trail. It makes a circuit of the entire peninsula: total length of 179 kilometres. Walkers can however choose to complete short sections which link the villages and countryside of the area.

SELECTED WALKS

There are more than twenty walks on the peninsula from the challenging to the easy. This map only shows a few selected routes. For more details see www.dingle-peninsula.ie or the free "Walking on the Dingle Peninsula" booklet available locally.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Keel Uplift Downhill Loop Walk | Great Blasket Island Looped Walk (Seasonal) |
| Caherconree Trail | Slúid Lúbe an Bhlascaoid Mhóir (Séasúrach) |
| Tom Crea Walk | Cúas na nEighe Wálk |
| Cosán na Naomh / The Saints' Path | Slúid a' tSaís |
| Lúib na Cille | Maharees Heritage Trail |
| | Glanteenassig Wood |

ROADS

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| National Roads | Slea Head Drive |
| Regional Roads | Other Main Roads |
| Minor Roads | |

SERVICES

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Tourist Information | Watersports |
| Post Office | Bird Watching |
| Garda (Police) | Angling |
| Beach | Whale Watching |
| Museum or Heritage Centre | Horseriding |
| | Boat Trips |
| | Swimming Beach |
| | Golf Links |
| | Diving |



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Comhaontas
TurasGíreacht Chorca
Dhúibhne / Dingle
Peninsula Tourism
Alliance

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KEY FILM LOCATIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Inch Beach - Ryan's Daughter & Playboy of the Western World | 4 Coumeenole Beach - Commemoration Stone for Ryan's Daughter was erected in 1999 on its 30th anniversary |
| 2 Minard Castle - Ryan's Daughter | 7 Drive through the parish of Dún Chaoin as featured as the locations for Ryan's Daughter - the schoolhouse and the barracks |
| 3 The Oscar nominated animated children's film Song of the Sea was inspired by Ventry Beach | 8 Clogher Head - bus stop in Ryan's Daughter, village in Far and Away and viewing point for Ceannt Síobal. Location of the filming of Star Wars - The Last Jedi |
| 4 Beehive Huts at Fahan, Ventry - Experience the character of the Beehive Huts as built by the Monks on Skellig Michael. Skellig Michael can be seen from these locations weather permitting | 9 Baile an Fheirtéaraigh (Ballyferrier) Village - "The Home of Star Wars" |
| 5 Sea Head - vistas of the Blasket Islands and Dunmore Head - Ryan's Daughter and Star Wars film locations | 10 Baile an Fheirtéaraigh (Ballyferrier): Múseam Chorca Dhúibhne - the bus stop used for Ryan's Daughter stands outside the museum while there is a panel on the film inside |

ANTIQUITIES

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1 Old Keel Cemetery & Church | 15 Ruins of St Senach's Church and cross slab |
| 2 Cathair Con Rái Promontory Fort | 16 Killeton Oratory |
| 3 Caisleán na Mine Airde / Minard Castle | |
| 4 Droichead na Gairfeanaighe / Garfinny Bridge | |
| 5 Caisleán Ráthasáin / Rathinnane Castle | |
| 6 Dún Beag / Dunbeg Fort | |
| 7 Cloghán / Beehive Forts, Fán | |
| 8 Dún an Oir, Ard na Caithe | |
| 9 An Riasc / Reask Monastic Settlement | |
| 10 Sápéilín Ghalairis / Gallarus Oratory | |
| 11 Cathair Deargáin Ring Forts | |
| 12 Cill Mhaoldheadáir / Kilmalkedar Church | |
| 13 Baile an bhFionnúrach Fort | |
| 14 Loch a Dúin Fortified Island | |

Some Great Reasons to Get Active



1. Kayak at Sunset
2. Swim with Fungie the Dolphin at Dawn
3. Shore angling by moonlight
4. Surf in Brandon Bay
5. Explore sea caves by paddleboard
6. Ride a Horse on Ventry Beach, on the mountain ranges or into a hidden valley
7. Golf on Ceann Sibeal, Dingle & Castlegregory Golf Links
8. See a penguin at Oceanworld Aquarium
9. Visit Beehive Huts & Gallarus Oratory
10. Cycle around Slea Head or one of our 'white knuckle' mountain passes
11. Walk barefoot along our glorious beaches
12. Scramble at the Climbing Wall
13. Take a boat trip and discover local wild life – seals, dolphins and whales
14. Visit the Great Blasket Island and walk in the spiritual footsteps of their unique way of life
15. Climb a mountain, walk along a hill top or follow the pilgrim's route – 'Cosáin na Naomh'
16. Dive for shipwrecks or explore underwater sheer sea cliffs
17. Build a sandcastle!

Brian de Staic Jewelry

Brian de Staic is designing and creating distinctive Jewelry for over 40 years. The stories and stones of the Dingle Peninsula's Celtic heritage are at the heart of Brian de Staic jewelry. From the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's leading goldsmith, a modern master, embraces age-old traditions. In 1981 Brian and Máiread began their now iconic family business in Dingle. Quality and elegance in one-of-a-kind, miniature works of art, brings thousands of customers and numerous accolades and awards worldwide. Today, many celebrities own his creations among them Tom Cruise, Julia Roberts, Saoirse Ronan, Johnny Depp, Nicole Kidman, Laura Dern & Maureen O'Hara.



www.briandestaic.com



Tripster

Tripster is a new design company based in Dingle, Co. Kerry. We produce original illustrated travel prints that are original and affordable. Paula, owner and creative director has been collecting travel posters since touring Europe in the early eighties. She is influenced by the retro style travel posters of years gone past. Most of the posters for sale in her shop are of Dingle and Sleah Head as these are iconic areas which inspire her most. The Wild Atlantic Way series of travel posters with the vintage VW Campervan has been hugely popular.



www.tripster.ie





Sacred Heart University Campus in Dingle

SHU in Dingle has offered study abroad programs since 2003 in partnership with the Díseart Centre for Irish Spirituality and Culture. It offers 2-week sessions in January, May, and June and Fall and Spring semesters with courses in history, literature, music, language, religion, as well as sciences & ecology, health & nursing, social sciences, communications & media, marketing, economics, and tourism. All courses have access to a network of Dingle practitioners, field work, and a multitude of activities. SHU in Dingle actively collaborates with the Institute for Technology in Tralee, Tralee hospitals, and the Dingle Oceanworld Aquarium/Mara Beo Teo. In 2017 SHU purchased the former Christian Brothers School in Dingle and renovations are under way. Recent enrolments are now approximately 300 students in short and semester programs. SHU in Dingle has also begun to offer adult study tours as well.



www.shuindingle.com
www.sacredheart.edu



Dingle Crystal

Dingle Crystal is a family-run Irish crystal company founded by master craftsman Sean Daly. From his workshop in the picturesque town of Dingle, Co. Kerry, Sean crafts his exquisite collection of hand-cut Irish crystal. Sean started as a young apprentice in Waterford Crystal and studied for 15 years to become a master cutter. When Waterford Crystal decided to move their production overseas, Sean wanted to keep the tradition of crystal cutting alive in Ireland. Together with his wife Liz, Sean moved to Dingle, County Kerry, in 1999 and set up Dingle Crystal. Today, Dingle Crystal can be found in the homes of many families, celebrities and dignitaries all over the world. All five of Sean's children are actively involved in keeping the tradition of hand-cut crystal alive in Ireland.



www.dinglecrystal.ie

MyIrelandBox

MyIrelandBox is a premium subscription service for those that wish to discover Ireland and Irish Design from talented makers based all over Ireland. Founder Katharine curates a MyIrelandBox full of Irish made surprises for our community of subscribers every month, filled with a selection of Irish made Celtic jewellery, homeware, wonderful books, clean beauty, stationary, fashion accessories, artisan foods and lots more. We would love to share our inherent love for the culture & traditions of Ireland with you and we love sending happiness from Ireland to those that miss it.



www.myirelandbox.com



The Western Edge: the Blasket Center and Great Blasket Island

The Blasket Center is an acclaimed heritage site operated by the Office Public Works (OPW) in Dunquin on the western tip of the Dingle Peninsula. This striking building celebrates the history and heritage of the Great Blasket Island, which was until 1953 home to a vibrant and creative community which produced a library of literary works documenting their traditional way of life, resulting in one of the most significant insights into the culture and heritage of that part of the world. The Center is a place of pilgrimage for generations of the Dingle Peninsula's emigrant diaspora, including many from the Great Blaskets who made their homes in Western Massachusetts, and is considered a highlight in many people's visit to Ireland.



www.blasket.ie





Louis Mulcahy Pottery

Louis Mulcahy has been making pots in the heart of the Kerry Gaeltacht since he founded his workshop in 1975 with his wife Lisbeth. Over forty years on and every single Louis Mulcahy pot is still handcrafted in the pottery's workshop on the tip of the remote Dingle Peninsula, where over thirty people now work with Louis and his son Lasse crafting everything from dainty posy jars to dinner sets, elegant lamp bases, ovenware, and towering urns. The pots striking glazes and shapes reflect the rich culture and stark beauty of the Kerry coast, where Irish is still the first language.



www.louismulcahy.com



LISBETH MULCAHY the weavers' shop

Lisbeth Mulcahy opened Siopa na bhFhíodóirí in Dingle in 1986 to showcase her woven tapestries, wallhangings, scarves, stoles and throws which are all designed by herself. She weaves the tapestries in her studio and the wall hangings are woven by her in the shop or in Wicklow by her daughter Sally. The scarves, stoles and throws are woven by a friend of hers near Killarney, also in Co. Kerry. Lisbeth Mulcahy's designs are sold exclusively from Siopa na bhFhíodóirí and from the Louis Mulcahy Shop at Potadóireacht na Caolóige.

LISBETH MULCAHY weaver

www.lisbethmulcahy.com

www.lisbethmulcahy.com

The Dingle Distillery

The Dingle Distillery opened in 2012 and is an award-winning spirits distillery, built in a former sawmill located on the fringes of the coastal town of Dingle, County Kerry. The distillery was the country's first independent, family owned, purpose-built artisan spirits distillery to open in over 100 years. The distillery distils and releases 100% its own spirits - small batch Dingle Distillery Whiskey Single Malt and Pot Still Whiskey, Dingle Original Gin (World's Best Gin and World's Best London Dry Gin 2019) and Dingle Distillery Vodka. The Dingle Distillery was conceived by three independent spirits: Liam LaHart, (the late) Oliver Hughes and Peter Mosley who had a vision to bring an artisan craft spirits distillery to the picturesque town of Dingle and pioneer the Irish whiskey renaissance. Dingle Distillery spirits are available in the US through our importer Hotaling & Co.



www.dingledistillery.ie



Dingle Skellig Hotel

The Dingle Skellig Hotel is a four-star hotel which sits on the shores of Dingle Bay. The hotel has recently added 32 new deluxe guest rooms, 5 of which are rooftop balcony suites. Hotel facilities include a leisure centre & fitness centre, crèche, kids club & spa. The Dingle Skellig Hotel is an ideal base for those wishing to enjoy a coastal setting as well as a property with excellent facilities.

www.dingleskellig.com

www.dinglebenners.com

Dingle Benner's Hotel

Dingle Benner's Hotel is located in the heart of Dingle town. The hotel is steeped in history, with a heritage dating back to the early 1800's, and has welcomed many of Dingle's legendary visitors. Favored for its old world charm the hotel offers a genuine Irish welcome and is the perfect base to explore the town itself.



Irish Heritage Runs Deep in Western Mass

*Whatever could County Kerry, and
the Dingle Peninsula, ever have in
common with Western Mass?
... Quite a lot!*



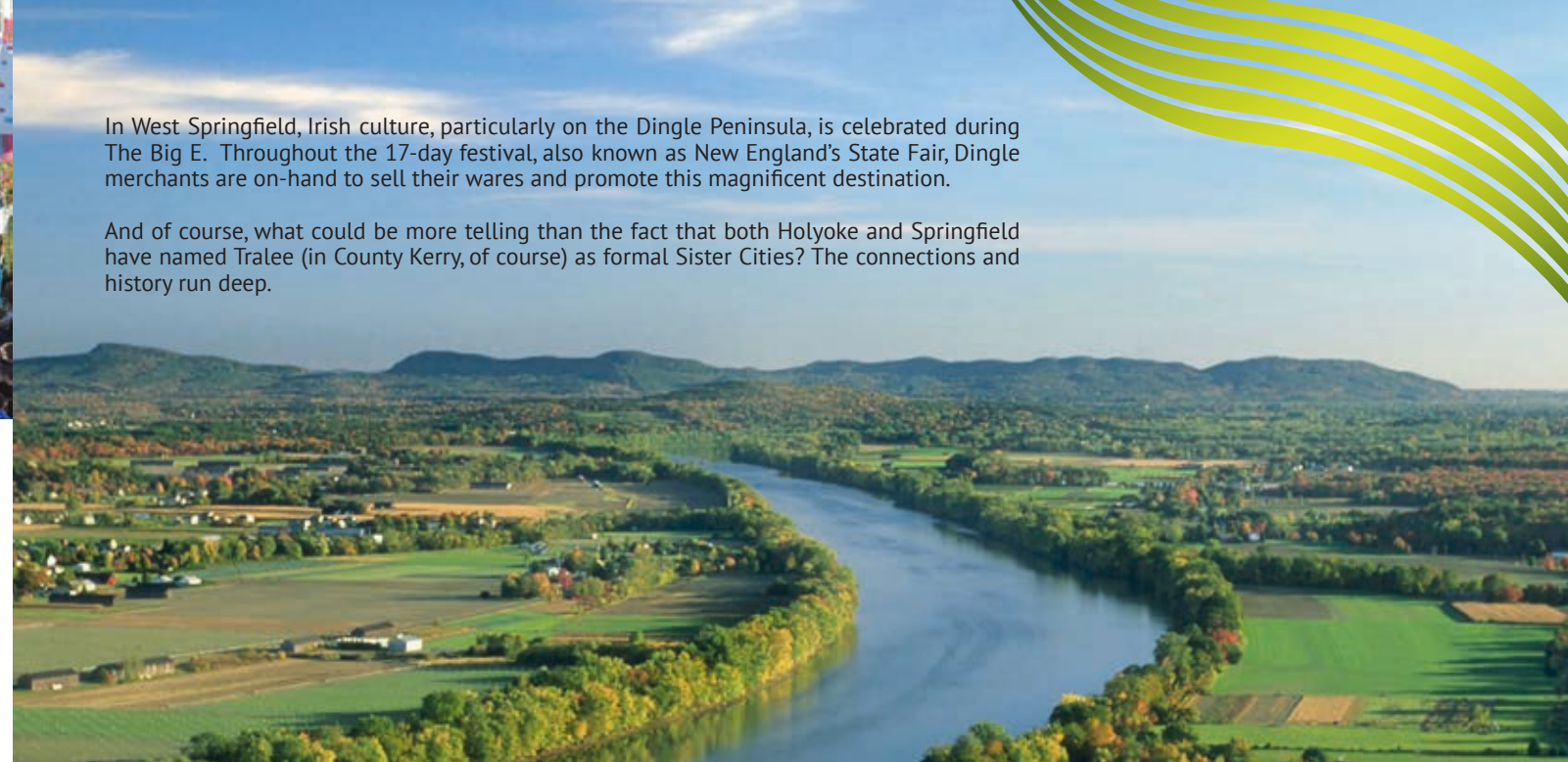
Irish immigration to New England reached a peak in the mid-19th century, when the Irish potato famine of the 1840's created widespread loss of life and terrible hardship for countless families. Seeking new opportunity, they left Ireland – and County Kerry and its rocky Dingle Peninsula in particular - in huge waves, landing in ports up and down the American eastern seaboard. Thousands found what they were looking for in Western Mass.

Today, Western Mass still honors and celebrate all things Irish. One of the largest and most-cherished St. Patrick's Day parades in the United States is held each March in Holyoke, drawing more than 400,000 spectators into this important bastion of Irish-American life.



In West Springfield, Irish culture, particularly on the Dingle Peninsula, is celebrated during The Big E. Throughout the 17-day festival, also known as New England's State Fair, Dingle merchants are on-hand to sell their wares and promote this magnificent destination.




And of course, what could be more telling than the fact that both Holyoke and Springfield have named Tralee (in County Kerry, of course) as formal Sister Cities? The connections and history run deep.



In West Springfield, the Irish Cultural Center of Western New England is the year-round epicenter for those who love Ireland! The "ICC" is first and foremost a social organization, and it also presents Irish music, offers trips to the Auld Sod and so forth. Westfield has its own Sons of Erin. The Sons of Erin is a non-profit organization dedicated to the community and promoting Irish heritage. The John Boyle O'Reilly Club preserves and protects Irish heritage and hosts hurling and Gaelic football games at their popular East Springfield location.

With direct service between Hartford/Springfield's airport (Bradley International Airport) and Dublin/Kerry on Aer Lingus, it's never been easier to travel between these 'sister' regions.

For more information about
Western Mass visit
www.ExploreWesternMass.com

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IRELAND'S
DINGLE
PENINSULA
CORCA DHUIBHNE

design: riddickcreative.com



WILD ATLANTIC WAY
SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN

COMHAONTAS TURASÓIREACHTA CHORCA DHUIBHNE Ag Cur Chorca Dhuibhne Chun Cinn Le Chéile
DINGLE PENINSULA TOURISM ALLIANCE Promoting the Dingle Peninsula Together

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