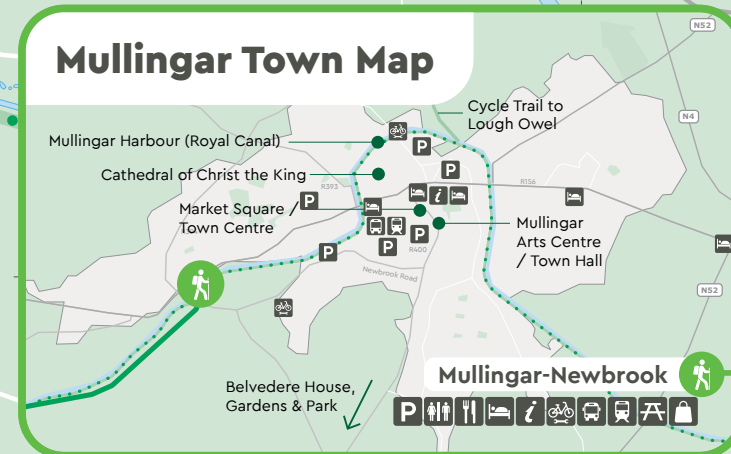
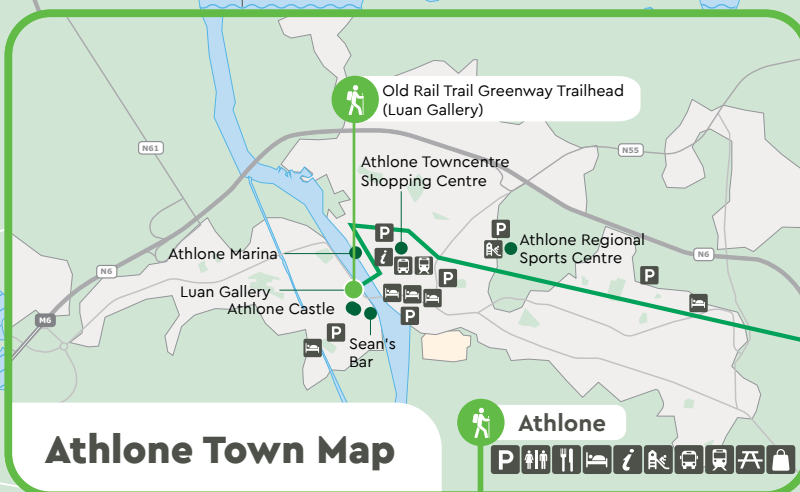


Old Rail Trail Greenway: Athlone to Mullingar

43km



Key for Old Rail Trail Map

- Old Rail Trail
- Royal Canal
- Royal Canal Greenway
- Trailhead
- Visitor Attraction
- Accommodation
- Cafés and Restaurants
- Tourist Information
- Toilets
- Playground
- Parking with Access
- Bike Hire
- Train Station
- Bus Stop
- Picnic Area
- Shopping
- Station House

Key Visitor Attractions

- 01 Athlone Castle Visitor Centre**
A Norman-era fortress overlooking the Shannon; visitors climb battlements for panoramic views, explore interactive exhibits on Athlone's history and the 1691 siege. A great starting point before beginning the Greenway.
- 02 Jack's Stop Café**
A restored railway-station building turned café with freshly brewed coffee, outdoor seating and a nearby playground.
- 03 Hill of Uisneach**
A mythical hill once regarded as ritual centre and seat of High Kings—ancient mythic sacred heritage meets panoramic views over multiple counties. Meaningful detour for history and landscape lovers.
- 04 Kilbeggan Distillery Experience**
Ireland's oldest licensed distillery offering guided tours through traditional whiskey-making methods with tastings and a bar.
- 05 Dún na Sí Amenity & Heritage Park**
Accessible directly from the trail at Moate – this park offers heritage displays, wetland nature reserve, walking paths, a children's playground and café. A top rest-and-refresh stop on the Greenway.
- 06 Belvedere House, Gardens & Park**
Historic estate with formal gardens, lakeside paths, woodland and "Jealous Wall" folly—peaceful nature, heritage

In the Wider Area

- 07 Luan Gallery**
Athlone's contemporary art gallery. There's always an eclectic and balanced mix of media on display from painting to sculpture to textiles of established and emerging artists along the River Shannon; ideal for boating, riverside ambience, and starting / ending your journey.
- 08 Castletown Geoghegan**
Historic village close to the Greenway after Castletown Station; offers local atmosphere, rural scenery and access to nearby countryside walks.
- 09 Crosswood Bog / Boglands Section**
On the initial stretch from Athlone to Moate: tranquil bogland scenery, rich biodiversity and peaceful rural atmosphere—ideal for nature-lovers and bird watchers. Keep an eye out for native birdlife and seasonal wildflowers.
- 10 Historic stone-arch bridges & preserved station houses**
As you cycle, observe restored station houses and picturesque stone-arched bridges—iconic heritage features of the former railway corridor adding charm and historical context.
- 11 Shannon Marina / River Shannon**
On the western terminus of the Greenway—scenic marina and riverside walks along the River Shannon; ideal for boating, riverside ambience, and starting / ending your journey.

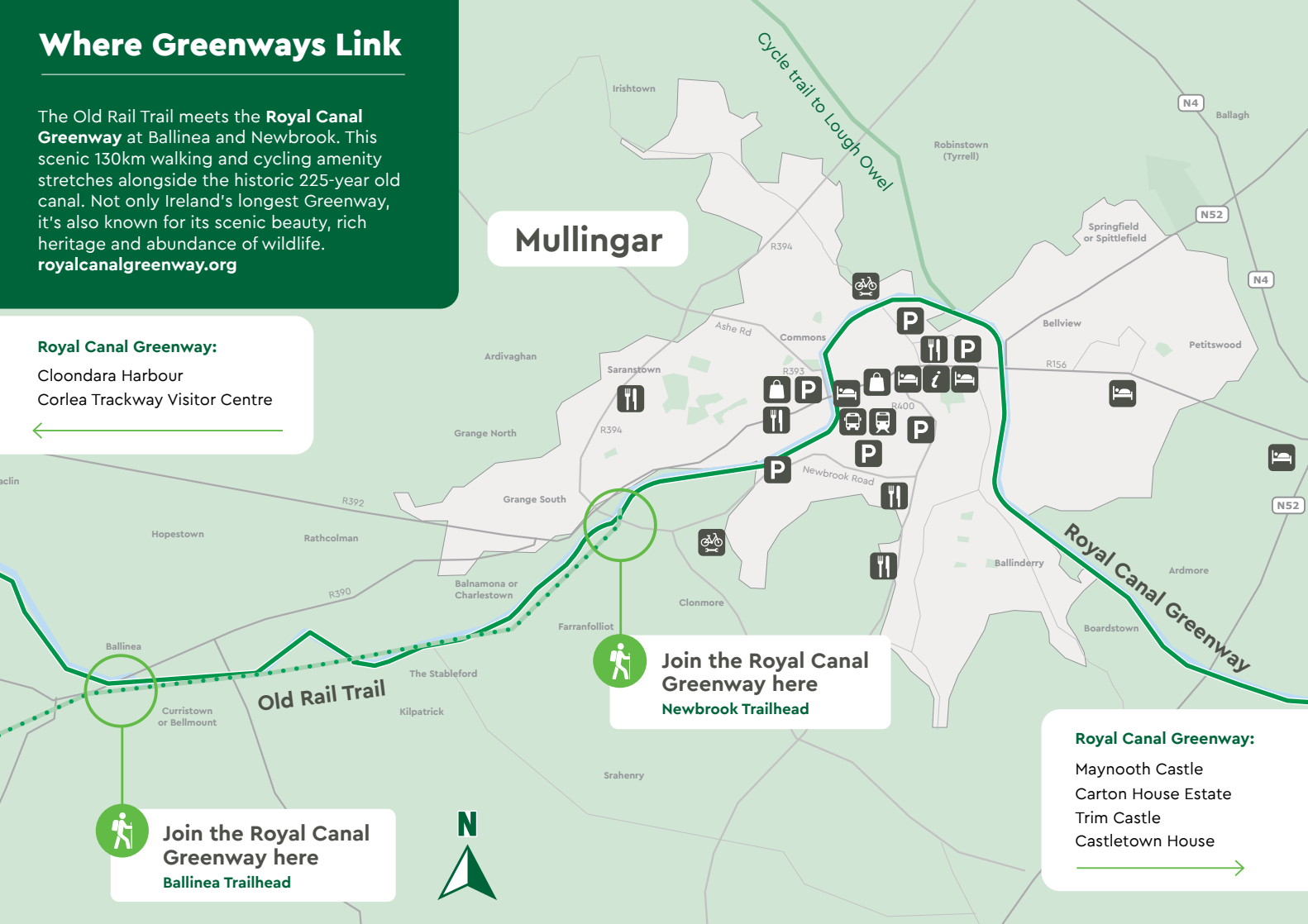
Local Points of Interest along the Route

- 12 Ballinea Access**
Ballinea offers a quiet entry point onto the Greenway. The surrounding countryside, canal connection and remaining railway features make it a gentle, scenic section ideal for families and casual cyclists.
- 13 Hot Tub Boat**
Step aboard the Afterglow for a luxury 90-minute cruise on Lough Ree and the River Shannon, soaking in a hot tub as you glide past scenic islands and take in spectacular views.
- 14 Viking Tour**
Step aboard a replica Viking longship in Athlone and cruise the River Shannon, exploring scenic waterways and historic sites like Clonmacnoise.
- 15 Hidden Heartlands Tours**
Hidden Heartlands Tours offers intimate boat experiences on the River Shannon and Lough Ree from Athlone. Small-group cruises provide a relaxed way to discover local history, wildlife and the surrounding waterways.
- 16 Moate Station**
Moate's station building anchors the Greenway's mid-point and links directly to Dún na Sí Amenity & Heritage Park. Its restored structures, open forecourt create a clear rest point, offering facilities, local hospitality and multiple onward cycling options.
- 17 Kilpatrick Bridge**
A charming stone bridge crossing the original railway alignment, the bridge provides a picturesque moment on the trail. A favourite spot short rest breaks en route.
- 18 Garrycastle Access Point**
Close to the Athlone end of the Greenway, Garrycastle provides a wide, accessible entry point with easy parking and smooth gradient.
- 19 Mount Temple Link**
This village link leads cyclists slightly off the trail to the charming rural settlement of Mount Temple, known for its golf course, traditional pub and tranquil rural roads. An appealing short detour for those seeking coffee, rest or local atmosphere.
- 20 Streamstown Village Link**
A minor but well sign-posted link route that connects the Greenway to Streamstown village's amenities. Ideal for refreshments, a quick rest or exploring the village.
- 21 Athlone Regional Sports Centre**
With state-of-the-art gym facilities, indoor courts, swimming pools, walking trails, a café and playground, it's the perfect place to stay active or try a new sport.

Where Greenways Link

The Old Rail Trail meets the **Royal Canal Greenway** at Ballinea and Newbrook. This scenic 130km walking and cycling amenity stretches alongside the historic 225-year old canal. Not only Ireland's longest Greenway, it's also known for its scenic beauty, rich heritage and abundance of wildlife. royalcanalgreenway.org

Royal Canal Greenway:
Cloondara Harbour
Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre



Join the Royal Canal Greenway



Royal Canal Greenway, Maynooth, Co Kildare © Fáilte Ireland



St Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co Kildare © Fáilte Ireland



Castletown House
castletown.ie

Castletown House is Ireland's earliest and largest Palladian country house, built in the 1720s for William Conolly, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons. Visitors can explore its grand Georgian interiors and stroll through extensive parklands, woodland walks and riverside paths along the River Liffey, making it one of Ireland's most impressive and treasured historic estates.



National Famine Museum,
Strokestown Park
strokestownpark.ie

Set within a beautiful historic estate in County Roscommon, Strokestown Park House and Gardens combines heritage, nature and powerful storytelling. Explore the elegant Palladian mansion, stroll through the Victorian walled gardens and visit the National Famine Museum, which tells the moving story of Ireland's Great Famine through personal letters and artefacts.



Corlea Trackway
Visitor Centre
heritageireland.ie

Hidden in the Longford boglands near Kenagh, this Iron Age together—built in 148 BC and known as the Danes' Road—is the largest ancient road of its kind found in Europe. Thought to have been part of an important ceremonial route linking Uisneach and Rathcroghan, an 18-metre section is preserved and displayed in a specially designed interpretive centre. It's an extraordinary relic of Ireland's ancient past.



Maynooth Castle
heritageireland.ie

Maynooth Castle, a 12th-century stronghold of the powerful FitzGerald, dominates the town's centre. Once a major seat of political power, it was partly destroyed in the 16th century, but its great tower and grounds still impress. The restored keep now offers visitors a glimpse into the castle's medieval past.

Discover the Old Rail Trail Greenway



Old Rail Trail Greenway, Athlone to Mullingar © Westmeath County Council

This journey begins in the bustling town of Athlone and ends in the elegant old market town of Mullingar, County Westmeath.

Between these two cultural hotspots, lose yourself along the spectacular 43km cycle path. A converted stretch of the Midlands Great Western Railway carved through rich fertile farmland, the Old Rail Trail Greenway leads visitors through the very heart of Ireland.

Athlone: At the Heart of it
athlone.ie

Athlone is a picturesque town on the River Shannon and a vibrant hub of culture, art and heritage. It's a renowned shopping destination with an excellent range of accommodation options and outstanding restaurants. Enjoy breath-taking panoramic views from atop Athlone Castle and indulge your inner artist at the Luan Gallery. Explore the scenic waters of Lough Ree with a captivating tour on the Viking Boat. Take a short detour to Glasson and explore woodland walking trails at Portlick Millennium Forest or tee off on Glasson Golf Course, designed

by Ryder Cup hero Christy O'Connor Jnr. Divert southwards to Celtic Roots Studio in Ballinahown to experience the beauty of Ireland's raised bogs and learn to sculpt an ancient piece of bog oak.

Mullingar: Ancient Legends
and Musical Heritage
mullingar.ie

Mullingar is famous for its musical heritage and vibrant culture. It's also an ideal destination for outdoor adventure; where the Old Rail Trail meets the Royal Canal Greenway and scenic lakes nearby. The town bustles with a fantastic range of coffee shops, restaurants, boutiques and high-quality accommodation options. The Renaissance-style Cathedral of Christ the King is a must-see with its exquisite mosaics. Enjoy heritage and family fun at Belvedere House, Gardens & Park. Take a short diversion to Kilbeggan for a tour of the world's oldest whiskey distillery or a thrilling day out at the Kilbeggan Races. Or take a spin to North Westmeath to breathe in the beauty of the gardens at Tullynally Castle or discover the 7 Wonders at Fore Abbey.

Suggested Routes to Cycle or Walk



Athlone to Moate

15.5 km
Mostly flat surface. Suitable for family groups of all ages and all types of bikes.

Beginning at Athlone Castle, the Greenway crosses the River Shannon and passes through the heart of this buzzing town. Eastwards, pedal over Crosswood Bog, protected for its valuable habitats and natural heritage, before reaching the restored railway station buildings in Moate. Unwind in Moate; this hidden gem of a town provides refreshments, accommodation and culture.



Moate to Castletown

16.3 km
Mostly flat surface with gentle slopes. Suitable for family groups of all ages and all types of bikes.

Journey through stunning countryside on the way to the preserved historic Castletown Station building. Opened in 1851, it was in use for more than 100 years. Take a rest at Jack's Stop Café at Streamstown's restored railway station, with outdoor seating and a playground. A short diversion from Castletown will allow you to savour the majesty of Uisneach.



Castletown to Mullingar

11.4 km
Mostly flat surface with gentle slopes. Suitable for family groups of all ages and all types of bikes.

From Castletown, the Greenway follows the old railway through sheltered countryside, surrounded by trees and birdsong. After passing under a tunnel, it meets the Royal Canal and follows its path before linking with the Royal Canal Greenway at Newbrook. From here, it's just a stroll into Mullingar, or you can continue on this Greenway all the way to the River Shannon in Longford or eastwards to Maynooth.



Old Rail Trail Greenway, Athlone to Mullingar © Westmeath County Council

Emergency
Contacts

In case of emergency
dial 999 or Mullingar
Garda Station
044 938 4000

Local Tourism

Visit Westmeath,
visitwestmeath.ie



See more info on
DiscoverIreland.ie



Bike Hire
& Tours

Mullingar Bike Hire
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+353 87 992 3409

Ethical Tours
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Ballymahon
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Visitor Attractions Map

Old Rail Trail
Greenway



DiscoverIreland