

## Angling in Belmullet

Visiting sports fishermen to Ireland can expect something in the region of 80 different species. Belmullet, surrounded by magnificent coast line offers some of the finest assets to entice you to take to the water! "Think of a fish and it can probably be caught off Belmullet" With over thirty nine varieties of fish known to inhabit the waters off the shores, the sea angler is rewarded with the best all round sea angling waters in Ireland. The Belmullet Sea Angling Club also run a number of popular open competitions during the year. There is also a selection of lakes in the area for Fresh Water Angling. Carrowmore lake made headlines with the quality of its catches in 2010 and featured in many angling publications, so be sure not to miss this fantastic opportunity for the holiday of a lifetime.

The Talbot Hotels offers a "you catch it .... We'll cook it" option for all its guests.

## Walking in Erris

Take a walk along one of the stunning Blue Flag beaches (Elly Bay and Mullaghroe) or one of the many walking routes such as The Erris Head Loop, The Children of Lir Loop or The Bangor Trail. The children of Lir Loop- The north coast of Mayo is one of the Irelands best kept secrets with many majestic cliffs, rugged headlands, rocky coves and jagged stacks. The Dun Chaochain cliffs have featured in various walking guidebooks including Lonely Planet. The key feature to this walk is the Children of Lir sculpture, one of a series from the Spirit of Place Sculpture Trail (which centres on culturally distinct, historic and unspoilt regions around the world. A moderate 10k track taking in the local coastline.

The Black Ditch Loop is a 13K loop also taking in the local coastline, laneways, grassy tracks and bog roads. The key feature of the loop is the black ditch - a dry ditch which runs parallel to the coastline and cliff tops and probably marked the boundaries of lands in previous times. This sod fence was built and rebuilt down through the ages to prevent animals from falling over the cliff. Up until recent times men descended the cliff face to retrieve sheep which had fallen onto the ledges below - an unenviable task!

## Golfing in Belmullet

For the golfer; Carne Golf course, which is a links course, offers a challenging experience and visitors are welcome. Keith Ging of Golf International has described Carne Golf Links course as "The most astonishing, inspiring, natural course you are ever likely to see".

This 18 hole course was the final links course designed and planned by the great Eddie Hackett and is believed to be his greatest challenge by many who have played here. There are some breath-taking views over the Atlantic and the legendary islands of Inis Glóire and Inis Géidhe.

Let's just hope the views will not distract you too much from your swing!

## The Islands

Situated on the West coast of the Mullet peninsula the islands are rich in amazing scenery, rare wildlife and are also archaeologically and ecologically sensitive areas. The island is very important to birds, while the low lying coasts of the islands are home to a large number of grey seals while sharp eyed visitors can occasionally see dolphins and whales out to sea.

Regular boat trips are available (weather permitting!) to a variety of islands off the coast.

Columcille, the great Irish saint founded a monastery on Inishkea Island in the 6th century. The island is rich in legend and remained inhabited until 1935.

Inishglora can also boast of its noble past. The remains of a monastic settlement founded by St. Brendan the navigator who allegedly first discovered America! According to the great Irish legend The Children of Lir are buried here.

## Water Sports in Belmullet

The water sports enthusiast has a choice of both gentle sheltered waters and all's the more exposed western shoreline noted for windsurfing.

There is an adventure centre in Elly Bay offering instruction in various water sports including sailing, windsurfing and canoeing.

Kite surfing lessons and equipment hire is available locally.

Chartered boats available for diving, sea angling and island tours.

## Pony Treking

There is a local riding centre providing basic and advanced lessons aswell as pony treking, cross country training and show jumping. Own horses are welcome too.