

Code of respect

This is a shared use Blueway

Keep left, pass others on right

Ring your bell, cycle at a safe speed



On The Water

Paddle sports bring Suir Blueway Tipperary to life. From casual kayaking or stand-up paddle boarding on a meandering river, to an exhilarating ride down rapids, there are options to suit all levels along 53km of paddling experiences and trails. See the map overleaf for details.

Proficient paddlers: If you are experienced and used to independent travel on the water, Suir Blueway Tipperary provides a range of trails from Cahir to Carrick-on-Suir. Start at beautiful Cahir Castle, paddle past the romantic Swiss Cottage and on to Ardfinnan and Newcastle. Further downstream, more accomplished paddlers can take on the challenge of the 300-metre whitewater Canoe Slalom Course in Clonmel, a training base for the Irish team. Paddle on towards Kilsheelan, enjoying mostly flat waters and terrific scenery all the way to Carrick-on-Suir.

Novices: Canoeing skills programmes are organised regularly by Tipperary Sports Partnership, and inexperienced canoeists and kayakers are advised to use a local qualified guide to arrange an unforgettable day that is both thrilling and safe.

Be aware: There are many places to launch canoes, kayaks and paddle boards along Suir Blueway Tipperary, however, the river can be fast-flowing and paddlers should be conscious of the conditions when launching. Inexperienced paddlers should only take to the water under the supervision of qualified guides.

More information
www.tipperarysports.ie
www.tipperary.com



Walking Trails

Savour the simple serenity of Suir Blueway Tipperary on foot. Experience the sights and sounds of nature during a riverbank ramble, explore some of Ireland's most fascinating medieval castles and heritage sites, or take on some of the waymarked trails of the East Munster Way. There are walks to suit everyone in the family.

Butler Trail along the Blueway

Discover the incredible 800-year history of one of Ireland's most influential families. Learn about their rise to power and how they help shape Irish history. Explore a house built for a queen at Ormond Castle, the romantic riverside Swiss Cottage, spot the cannonball in the walls of Cahir Castle, or simply delight in the restored former courthouse at the Main Guard. The Butler Trail runs the length of Suir Blueway Tipperary – from Cahir to Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir – and includes heritage trails in each town.

Stop 1: Cahir 1 2

Start at imposing Cahir Castle and explore Inch field before joining the tree lined Coronation Walk for two kilometres alongside the gently flowing river to romantic Swiss Cottage. Return to Cahir and enjoy exploring the pleasant stained glass and Kilkenny marble streetscapes of this picturesque town.



Stop 2: Clonmel 6

The bustling town of Clonmel offers visitors an opportunity to step back from the banks of the river and explore centuries of Tipperary history. The Butler Trail takes in historical buildings including the Main Guard, the West Gate in the town walls, and the Franciscan Friary. Allow 1-2 hours.

Stop 3: Carrick-on-Suir 11

The medieval market town where the Butler Family grew to power in the 13th century. Visit exquisite Ormond Castle, the Tudor manor house Thomas 'Black Tom' Butler built for the anticipated visit of his cousin Elizabeth I of England. It is one of 10 Butler Trail stops in the town which also includes the beautiful stained glass and Kilkenny marble columns of St Nicholas's Church.



Walking

Clonmel to Kilsheelan 9.5km 7 8 9

A more testing hike. Starting at the Gashouse Bridge in Clonmel, walk along the river until you reach Sir Thomas's Bridge, cross the bridge and leave the Blueway to follow the waymarked route of the East Munster Way into the foothills of the Comeragh Mountains until it rejoins the Blueway at Kilsheelan Bridge.



Kilsheelan to Carrick-on-Suir 11.5km 9 10 11

Follow in the footsteps of merchants and tradesmen who made their living along this 17th-Century towpath. Take in beautiful bridges, castles and churches set in picturesque countryside – but keep your eyes peeled for wildlife such as otters and herons.

More information
www.tipperary.com



Cycling

Cycling is the perfect way to explore the river trails, towns and spectacular countryside along Suir Blueway Tipperary. Bring the family for a gentle pedal by the river, stop to refuel at one of the charming cafés, restaurants or picnic areas.

There is a 21km marked cycle route along the river towpath from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir which is ideal for leisure cyclists of all abilities. The route is divided into four stages so you can decide on the distance yourself. Pick your route on the map overleaf.

For information on bike hire, visit www.tipperary.com



Castles and Conquests

Immerse yourself in stories from before you can remember – of people, places and experiences through time which shaped a landscape that served as the main gateway to the centre of Ireland through the ages.

Cahir Castle 1

Once the stronghold of the Butler family, this imposing castle (below) dates from the 12th Century. There's an excellent audio-visual show and guided tours for visitors to learn about the pivotal role Cahir Castle (below) played in important periods in Irish history. *Castle St, Cahir, Co Tipperary*



Swiss Cottage 2

This wonderfully romantic 200-year-old gentry's folly was where lords and ladies spent long summer days at leisure. Discover more from your guide about the various architectural and design curiosities of the cottage including specially-made furnishings, hand-painted murals and what was once some of the most expensive wallpaper in the world. *Cahir, Co Tipperary*

St Patrick's Well 5

This beautiful natural well is a great location to relax and enjoy a picnic. The waters from the well flow into a big shallow pond, with an ancient stone cross on a little island in the middle. The site also has a stone statue of St. Patrick, who is said to have baptised some locals in the natural spring water. *Gortmore, Co Tipperary*



The Main Guard 6

Built as a courthouse in 1675, this beautiful building (above) hosted King James II as he toured Ireland. A five-minute walk from the Blueway at Suir Island, The Main Guard building was redeveloped in 1810 when shops were incorporated into the ground floor before it was expertly restored at the turn of the last century and won a Heritage Award for Best Practice in Conservation. *Sarsfield Street, Clonmel, Co Tipperary*

Ormond Castle 11

When the 3rd Earl of Ormond, 'Black Tom' Butler, spent time at the court of his cousin Queen Elizabeth I in the 16th Century, he was so inspired by the architecture he encountered that he decided to add a Tudor manor house to the original Ormond Castle. It remains the finest example of an Elizabethan manor house in Ireland, with features that include some of the most marvellously decorative plasterwork in the country. A 10-minute walk from the end of the Blueway. *Castle Park, Carrick-on-Suir, Co Tipperary*

More information
www.tipperary.com

Culture & Crafts

Tipperary Museum of Hidden History 6

Discover the fascinating story of the people and places of Tipperary through the ages. There's a rare copy of Oliver Cromwell's death mask alongside hundreds of other religious, social history, political, archaeological, sports and industrial artefacts. A 10-minute walk from the Blueway at Suir Island. Admission is free. Closed for refurbishment until late summer 2019, please check www.tipperary.com for updates. *Mick Delahunty Square, Clonmel, Co Tipperary*

South Tipperary Arts Centre 6

Immerse yourself in a mixture of visual arts, performing arts, music and literature all housed in a beautiful, light-filled modernist building near the River Suir. This centre of excellence for the arts also houses exhibitions & screenings and a variety of classes and workshops. *Nelson St, Clonmel, Co Tipperary*



Carrick-on-Suir Heritage Centre 11

Housed in a former church, the heritage centre contains numerous local artefacts and photographs from a town that is central to the story of one of Ireland's most powerful families, the Butlers. Currently closed for refurbishment, please check www.tipperary.com for updates. *Main Street, Carrick-On-Suir, Co Tipperary*

Tudor Artisan Hub 11

An Aladdin's Cave of creative treasures packed with unique 'one-off' products hand-crafted by an eclectic collective of more than 50 local artists and other creative people. *42 Main St, Carrick-On-Suir, Co Tipperary*

Festivals & Events

The towns and villages along Suir Blueway Tipperary are awash with many cultural experiences. Art exhibitions, contemporary and traditional music, dancing, theatre productions, festivals and much more are staged throughout the year. Find out what's on during your visit at www.tipperary.com

Annual festivals

Clancy Brothers Festival in Carrick-on-Suir (June)
 Clonmel Junction Arts Festival (July)
 Clonmel Busking Festival (August)
 Cahir Trad Fest (September)
 Clonmel Applefest (September)



Eating

Suir Blueway Tipperary is at the heart of the most fertile agricultural region in Ireland, and you'll be spoilt for choice by the cafes, restaurants, pubs, and farmers markets offering quality local produce. The Tipperary Food Experiences initiative allows you to visit the homes and farms of our hard-working Tipperary Food Producers and discover what makes them so special. You might even get a chance to taste a few samples!



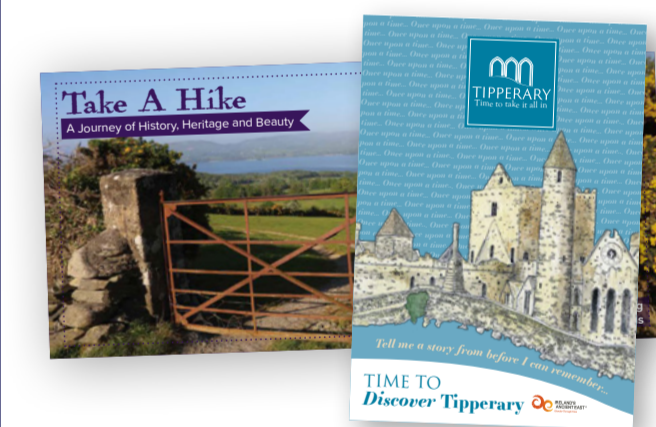
Farmers markets

Carrick On Suir: Friday 10am-2pm
 @ Carrick-on-Suir Heritage Centre Grounds. 11
Clonmel: Saturday 10am-2pm @ St Peter & Paul's Primary School, Kickham Street. 6
Cahir: Saturday 9am-1pm @ Castle Car Park, Castle Street. 1

More information
www.tipperary.com
www.tipperaryfoodproducers.ie

Accommodation

There is a range of great accommodation along Suir Blueway Tipperary to suit all budgets. Visit www.tipperary.com for information on hotels, guesthouses, B&Bs and self-catering accommodation.



Discover More Great Experiences in Tipperary

Just beyond Suir Blueway Tipperary lie many other great visitor experiences just waiting to be discovered in Ireland's Ancient East.

The Rock of Cashel and the Fethard Horse Country Experience are within easy reach, as are many other attractions with fascinating stories to tell and exciting outdoor activities on land and water.

Tipperary is also part of Munster Vales, an exceptional 1,100km stretch of driving routes, time-worn walking trails, heritage sites, attractions and beautiful landscapes across five mountain ranges.

More information
www.tipperary.com
www.irelandsancienteast.com
www.munstervales.com



1 Cahir to Swiss Cottage

Starting point is in Inch Field in Cahir.

Distance 2km

Duration Paddling 40min


Grade Grade 1

Linear walk (short), start from Cahir Castle car park. Stop at Swiss Cottage after 2km or continue downstream a further 2km.

Terrain Tar & Chip

Distance 4km (8km return)

Duration Walking 24min
Cycling 12min




2 Swiss Cottage to Ardfinnan

Starting point is near Swiss Cottage.

Distance 7km

Duration 2hr20min

Grade Grade 1 to Ardfinnan. In Ardfinnan Grade 2+ until after the bridge. Two weirs in Ardfinnan.



3 Ardfinnan to Newcastle

Paddle starts at the green in Ardfinnan. Novices follow signs for portage.

Distance 7km

Duration 2hr20min

Grade Grade 1 to Newcastle, Newcastle is Grade 2



4 Newcastle to Sandybanks

River Access located 125m upstream of Newcastle Bridge.

Distance 13km

Grade Grade 1

Duration 4hr20min



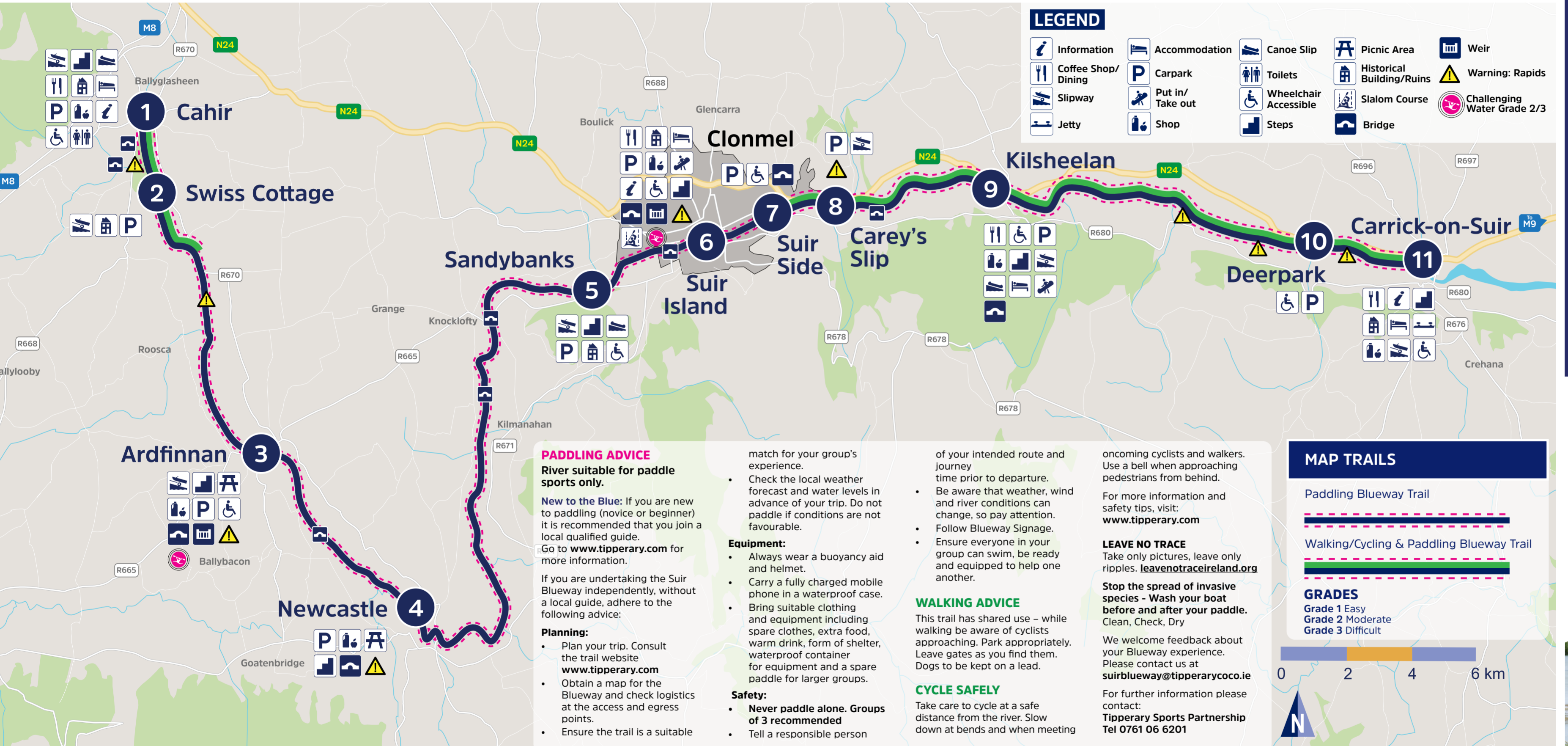
5 Sandybanks to Suir Island

Start at Sandybanks slip or steps at Suir Island weir and white water slalom course (Grade 2/3), novices follow signs, use portage available.

Distance 3km

Duration 1hr

Grade Grade 1

LEGEND

- Information
- Coffee Shop/Dining
- Slipway
- Jetty
- Accommodation
- Carpark
- Put in/ Take out
- Shop
- Canoe Slip
- Toilets
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Steps
- Picnic Area
- Historical Building/Ruins
- Slalom Course
- Bridge
- Weir
- Warning: Rapids
- Challenging Water Grade 2/3

PADDLING ADVICE

River suitable for paddle sports only.

New to the Blue: If you are new to paddling (novice or beginner) it is recommended that you join a local qualified guide. Go to www.tipperary.com for more information.

If you are undertaking the Suir Blueway independently, without a local guide, adhere to the following advice:

Planning:

- Plan your trip. Consult the trail website www.tipperary.com
- Obtain a map for the Blueway and check logistics at the access and egress points.
- Ensure the trail is a suitable match for your group's experience.

Equipment:

- Always wear a buoyancy aid and helmet.
- Carry a fully charged mobile phone in a waterproof case.
- Bring suitable clothing and equipment including spare clothes, extra food, warm drink, form of shelter, waterproof container for equipment and a spare paddle for larger groups.

Safety:

- Never paddle alone. Groups of 3 recommended
- Tell a responsible person

WALKING ADVICE

This trail has shared use – while walking be aware of cyclists approaching. Park appropriately. Leave gates as you find them. Dogs to be kept on a lead.

CYCLE SAFELY

Take care to cycle at a safe distance from the river. Slow down at bends and when meeting

MAP TRAILS

Paddling Blueway Trail

Walking/Cycling & Paddling Blueway Trail

GRADES

- Grade 1 Easy
- Grade 2 Moderate
- Grade 3 Difficult

0 2 4 6 km

6 Suir Island to Carey's Slip

Access 200m from Suir Island car park. Novices/beginners enter after Slalom Course.

Distance 3km

Duration 40min

Grade Grade 2/3 White water slalom course 300m



7 Suir Side to Carey's Slip

Linear walk (medium) Starting from Suir Side Car Park, Clonmel.

Terrain Macadam

Distance 2.5km (5km return)

Duration Walking 30min
Cycling 15min



8 Carey's Slip to Kilsheelan

Access at Carey's Slip, Moangarriff off the N24.

Distance 7km

Duration 2hr20min

Grade Grade 1/2

Walk or cycle from Carey's Slip car park, Clonmel to Kilsheelan.

Terrain Macadam & Concrete

Distance 7km (14km return)

Duration Walking 1hr24min
Cycling 42min

9 Kilsheelan to Carrick-on-Suir

Access steps and slip at Kilsheelan Bridge.

Distance 11.5km

Duration 3hr50min

Grade Grade 1

Access from car park in Kilsheelan village.

Terrain Macadam & Concrete

Distance 11.5km (23km return)

Duration Walking 2hr18min
Cycling 1hr10min

10 Deerpark to Carrick-on-Suir

Starting point is at the Deerpark car park. Finish at Sean Healy Park, a short walk from Ormond Castle.

Terrain Macadam & Concrete

Distance 1km


Duration Walking 12min
Cycling 6min



Experience Suir Blueway Tipperary

Sí Ghor na Síre
Tiobraid Árann
Suir Blueway Tipperary

Suir Blueway Tipperary is the perfect escape for all the family to savour some of Ireland's most beautiful countryside and fascinating history. Enjoy a paddle on flowing waters, go for a cycle along river banks, take a hike up nearby mountains, or a more sedate stroll in the bustling medieval towns and villages from Cahir to Clonmel and on to Carrick-on-Suir. Marvel at centuries-old castles, tower houses and churches and discover their history of drama, romance, intrigue and deadly rivalries in Ireland's Ancient East. Stay a while and sample the sensational local food produce, arts and crafts – it's matched only by the local hospitality. Just two hours from Dublin, and one hour from Cork, Suir Blueway Tipperary has something for all ages and interests.



Suir Blueway Tipperary

Blueway

Walking and cycling

21km of trails from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir



Paddling

53km trail from Cahir to Carrick-on-Suir



www.tipperary.com