



Newgrange and Boyne Valley

1 Day Coach Tour

The Boyne Valley is steeped in history and with the river Boyne flowing through, gives it has a mystical quality.

The **Hills of Tara** and **Slane** are associated with the seat of many Kings of Ireland as well as St. Patrick. Ireland was converted to Christianity following his lighting of the Paschal Flame on Slane, interrupting a pagan festival.

Nearby are Newgrange and Knowth, which have some of the earliest and most significant structures in Western Europe.

The historic Battle of the Boyne was fought just downriver at Oldbridge. This is a fine area to confirm what many have often suspected, that we are still only catching up with the knowledge, the ancients once had.

The Neolithic monuments on the Bend of the Boyne, of which **Newgrange** forms the centre piece, contain Europe's largest concentration of prehistoric megalithic art on the site collectively known as Bru na Boinne. Knowth alone has more than 25% of all the known megalithic art in Europe.

The Newgrange passage is accepted as the oldest solar aligned construction in the world. In its entirety, it has been designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The site covers nearly 2000 acres with Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth being the major passage tombs, surrounded by another 40 satellite tombs, all dating back over 5000 years.

The Valley's other attractions include;

- The Battle of the Boyne Site at Oldbridge House
- The ancient monastic ruins of Mellifont and Monasterboice
- Trim Castle, where many of the castle scenes in the Mel Gibson classic Braveheart were filmed

- Hills of Tara and Slane, associated with ancient Celtic Rites and the coming of Christianity to Ireland
- Slane Castle, home of outdoor Rock Festivals and Lord Henry Mountcharles, the 8th Marquess Conyngham
- Loughcrew Cairns, the Mountain of the Witch.

Sample Tour Schedule;

9.30. am :

- A modern coach with friendly driver will collect you at a location of your choice
- Our qualified and experienced guide will welcome you on board and will outline the day's itinerary as you embark on your tour
- The excursion begins with a brief tour of the town of Drogheda, from its origins in Bronze Age Ireland, through the ages, to its current role as the gateway to the Boyne Valley
- From there, the journey brings us to Bru na Boinne for a visit to Newgrange or Knowth at the centre of this World Heritage site
- Tea/Coffee or Soup and Sandwich will be available in the restaurant before continuing with our trip
- Trim is a beautiful little town, built at 'the ford of the elderflowers', developed around the largest Anglo-Norman castle in Ireland
- A guided tour includes highlights such as its variety of owners, e.g. The Duke of Wellington (Arthur Wellesley) sold it to his in-laws the Leslie family of Castle Leslie

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- Glaslough fame, indicating some of the many connections with the area
- Nearby is the ancient seat of the Irish High Kings on the Hill of Tara
- On the Hill of Slane, St Patrick lit a Paschal Fire to ignite the Irish Celtic/Gaelic world with the Christian message
- In the shadow of the Hill, is Slane Village, with the '4 sisters', houses and Slane Castle, the home of Outdoor Rock concerts in Ireland since 1981
- There is a great selection of restaurants in this part of the country and a great way to finish a tour, is by enjoying some Boyne Valley food with the local hospitality included.
- Tour ends at 6.30pm



So fill to me the parting glass

And drink a health whate'er befalls

And gently rise and softly call

Good night and joy be to you all.

A great day out!