In this guide we have suggested sections to explore for a day or afternoon on the Mullingar Tourist Office Shared Paths please give way to walkers, slow down and warn of your approach. Boats pass by as you explore the Greenway on foot. Food & Drink Parking Shop Royal Canal Greenway

Welcome to the Royal Canal Greenway, a long-distance, off-road walking and cycling trail connecting Maynooth with Longford Town. The 185km trail passes through the lush green landscapes of Ireland's Ancient East towards the mighty River Shannon.

Along the Greenway you’ll also discover the National Famine Way, a digitally and physically waymarked 167km walking trail that connects Strokestown Park, Co. Roscommom with Custom House Quay in Dublin. For more information visit www.nationalfamineway.ie

Whether you are planning a car-free weekend or want to get away from the hustle and bustle of city life for a day, the Royal Canal Greenway has something for everyone. The choice is yours whether to explore the Greenway on foot or cover more ground on two wheels. We suggest that to make the most of your visit to the Greenway you explore this long-distance trail in shorter sections from the towns of Maynooth, Enfield, Mullingar, Longford & Cloondara. These sections offers a wide range of accommodation options as well as restaurants and cafes to refuel after a day on the Greenway.

In this guide we have suggested sections to explore for a day or afternoon on the Greenway. Pedal your way along tranquil paths running with wildlife and birdsong, or watch barge boats pass by as you explore the Greenway on foot.

EASY ACCESS TO THE GREENWAY

The Royal Canal Greenway is generally level and surfaced. Gradients are kept to a minimum and you’ll find plenty of places to rest along the way.

ENJOY A SAFE GREENWAY JOURNEY

Shared Paths – Be aware of and considerate to other path users, you meet. Cyclists, please give way to walkers, slow down and warn of your approach. Please ensure dogs are kept on a lead at all times.

Be Safe – You should wear appropriate clothing for your activity and the weather.

Road Crossings and Road Safety - On the Royal Canal Greenway, you will be away from traffic as the trail is mostly off road. However at some locations, the greenway crosses a main road. Please use crossing points provided and where there isn’t an official crossing point, please cross with care.

For more information visit www.royalcanalgrenway.org
One of the biggest towns along the Royal Canal Greenway, Longford is full of great accommodation options and places to eat and drink after a busy day walking or cycling along the Greenway. Located 52km from Dublin and 9km from Sligo, Longford lies on the Dublin to Sligo line of the Irish railway network so is easily accessed by train or by car.

Alternatively, begin your journey from the tranquil harbour village of Cloondara. This picturesque village is home to plenty of barge boats and the final lock of the canal. From this location you can also explore the Shannon River.

Follow the Greenway South from Longford Town
From Longford Town access the Greenway from Canal Walk and follow the 8km section of trail is the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre located close to the Greenway.

Follow the Greenway North to Cloondara
Once you reach the Royal Canal, follow it north for a further 8km to Cloondara village. This section provides a tranquil and safe environment along the quiet banks of the Royal Canal.

Follow the Greenway South from Cloondara
From Cloondara follow the Greenway south along quiet off-road trails past a series of lock gates towards Keenagh and Ballymahon. A great place to stop along this section of trail is the Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre located close to the Greenway at Keenagh.

Follow the Greenway North to Cloondara
Follow the Greenway South to Mullingar
Located at the heart of Ireland’s Ancient East just 79km from Dublin, the busy market town of Mullingar in County Westmeath is the ideal location to base yourself for a day or weekend exploring the Royal Canal Greenway. Boating excellent facilities, award-winning hotels, guest-house and activities to suit every age, you will be spoilt for choice during your visit. The Royal Canal Greenway can be explored in either direction from Mullingar. Pick up a bike at the Activity Zone at Mullingar Harbour.

Follow the Greenway East
There’s a lot to explore on your journey east from Mullingar towards Killucan. This section of Greenway will take you through open countryside. Bike hire is available at weekends and can be pre-booked for your return journey from Mullingar Blueway’s Mobile Unit located at Richard’s Bridge.

Follow the Greenway West
From Mullingar cycle or walk along the Royal Canal Greenway towards Coolnahay Harbour and Ballymacarty. The ideal place to stop and enjoy a picnic, spend some time in Coolnahay exploring the quaint historic Lock-keepers cottage and watching boats pass through the lock.

The Yellow Road
Situated on the main Dublin to Sligo rail line, and with hotels, self-catering and B&B’s available, Enfield is a lovely location to overnight on your Royal Canal Adventure. In the town is known as An Bóthar Bheal (the yellow road) which came about due to the cattle markets that were traditionally held in the town. This often left the main street of the village covered in yellow hay. The historic River Boyne enters County Meath near Longwood, where you can also connect with the Boyne Blueway Trim.

Follow the Greenway East
Follow the Greenway east along the canal towards the historic university town of Maynooth. Look out for the aqueducts along this rural section of Greenway.

Follow the Greenway West
From Enfield follow the Greenway west through open countryside towards Longwood (Blueway Paddle Clubhouse) Hill of Down and Killucan. This quiet section of Greenway is ideal for those looking to immerse themselves in nature.

New in
The Blueway online: www.blueswaysireland.org

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME...
Maynooth is a picturesque and bustling university town in north County Kildare, just 24km west of Central Dublin. Packed with great places to eat, shop and stay, Maynooth is the ideal location to begin your Royal Canal Greenway adventure. The town is also serviced by the Dublin to Sligo rail line which makes it a great starting point for those staying in Dublin looking to escape the city for an afternoon.

Maynooth to Dublin section of Greenway coming soon.

Follow the Greenway West
Pick up the Greenway and follow the canal west through open countryside towards Killcock and Enfield. Stop for a rest and some refreshments at Killcock or Enfield before returning to Maynooth or continuing to Longwood or Mullingar.