

BALLINA/KILLALOE TOP 10



1. KILLALOE CRUISES

Hop on board the Spirit of Killaloe, where there is a choice of two decks; the upper deck is ideally suited for taking the sun and enjoying the spectacular scenery, while the lower deck has spacious seating for up to 50 people, full bar facilities, tea, coffee and snacks. A detailed commentary will be provided on all the interesting sites as you cruise along the river and onto Lough Derg. For more information or to make a cruise booking, visit www.killaloerivercruises.com.



2. EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN:

Did you know that for a short period of time in the 11th century, Killaloe was the capital of Ireland? When Brian Boru was crowned High King of Ireland in 1002, he moved the capital from its historic location in Tara, Co. Meath, to his hometown on the River Shannon. The most interesting historic sites around town can be visited on an easy walking trail, including:

- 1000-year-old St. Lua's Oratory
- 13th century St. Flannan's Cathedral
- Killaloe Bridge
- Holy well Tobermurrrough
- Beal Boru / Brian Boru's Fort



3. KILLALOE FARMER'S MARKET

Held every Sunday from 11am until 3pm, this small-but-mighty market can be found in the area known affectionately by locals as 'Between the Waters', due to its lovely location between the river and the canal at the western end of the Killaloe Bridge.

Head down for organic local produce, tasty handmade treats, crafts and occasionally even some live music!

Visit their Facebook page for the latest information.



4. MY NEXT ADVENTURE KAYAKING

My Next Adventure was launched by friends, Keith Drayton and Cillian O'Mara, in March 2019. Cillian has spent 30+ years kayaking and sailing in Ireland. Now, they want to share the experience of kayaking and exploring some of the magical sights on Lough Derg. Each 2-hour tour is guided and instructed by trained team members, who have your safety and well-being in mind, while providing an exciting and memorable experience. www.mynextadventure.ie



5. PRIVATE BOAT HIRE

Lough Derg is the largest lake in the Republic of Ireland, so getting out on the water is a must-do when in the area. Rent a boat for a few hours and take a spin up the lake to soak up the sun and surf, surrounded by the beautiful green hills of Clare and Tipperary. Anchor offshore and go for a swim in the peaceful, refreshing waters. www.activelife.ie/boat-rental Patrick at Shannon Boat Hire is conveniently located right next to the Killaloe Bridge and provides family-friendly boat rental and fishing trips. Patrick can be reached on +353 (0)86 7856633.



6. FISHING

Lough Derg is one of the best places in the country for angling, whether it's by boat or from land. Fishermen are often seen throwing a line in along the canal or out at Two Mile Gate, but there's nothing quite like getting out on the water for the day.

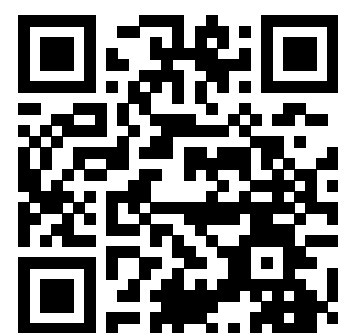
TJ's Angling Centre is located on Main Street, Ballina, and offers guided full-day and half-day fishing trips and gear hire.

Visit www.tjsangling.com/ for more information.



7. TWO MILE GATE & WEST LAKE AQUA PARK

Located approximately 2 miles outside Killaloe (hence the name!), Two Mile Gate is the perfect spot for swimming, sunbathing, or a quiet walk in the nearby forest. If you're up for something a bit more adrenaline-pumping (or want to keep the kids occupied for a while!), why not jump on the Aqua Park inflatable obstacle course? Jump, slide, climb and bounce your way around, race your friends and family, and have an unforgettable fun experience on the lake. Visit www.westaquaparks.ie/killaloe/ for more information.



8. UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK ADVENTURE CENTRE

Next door to Two Mile Gate, the UL Adventure Centre offers group activities on both land and water.

From sailing, kayaking and windsurfing to archery, high ropes, rock climbing and orienteering, the centre will challenge any group, in the best way!

Find out more at www.ulsport.ie/ulac/



9. BALLYCUGGARAN & MOYLUSSA

The entrance to Ballycuggaran Forest Park is just across the road from Two Mile Gate and has a lovely walking trail through the forested slopes of the Slieve Bernagh Mountains. The views of the lake only get better the higher you go.

For a more challenging hike, continue on to the peak of Moylussa, the highest point in Co. Clare, where, on a clear day, you'll find uninterrupted views across Lough Derg.



10. TOUNTINNA

If you're looking for a shorter, less strenuous walk with just as good views as Moylussa (if not better), then head to Tountinna.

Here, the Graves of the Leinstermen mark the location of fallen warriors, and there are two walking trails that can be followed.

One meanders up the hill to the top of Tountinna, the second heads towards the lake to a viewpoint beneath the Millennium Cross.

