

StorySavers Ireland Visit

19th – 21st September

2013



Craibhín
Ionad Pobail & Fiontar
Currin
Teamainn
Leitir Ceanainn
Co Dhun na nGall
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Lifelong
Learning
Programme

StorySavers Trip to Ireland Information Booklet

19th to 21st September

Day One Thursday 19th

The first official day of the StorySavers trip to Ireland will be centred around touching base among partners and giving the learners the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the project and its aims. To this end the first event will be the European Exhibition. The learners will set this event up at the Craoibhin centre in the morning and in the afternoon will be joined by the organisers for this exciting and educational event. At the European Exhibition each member country will have the opportunity to share its culture, stories and food with their European partners. This will allow the organisers to reacquaint themselves in a relaxed atmosphere and the learners to get to know each other.



Craoibhin Centre, Termon

Following the European Exhibition the entire group will dine in the Lagoon Restaurant in Termon for a delicious three course meal of Irish and international cuisine. The reason we have all come together is to celebrate the stories of our nations and it is only fitting that the first night's entertainment will be a private story telling session in a traditional Irish Thatched Cottage. This will give both learners and organisers the chance to tell their stories in a cosy and calm setting. This will put all of you at ease with one another in preparation for a busy schedule of events!

Day Two Friday 20th

Following a very busy programme on Thursday the morning of Friday will be given over to a relaxing stroll around town and a visit to Letterkenny's excellent museum for the learners. Here you will have the chance to learn

all about Donegal's interesting past and see how our history has influenced our stories.

In the afternoon the entire group will visit the world famous Glenveagh National Park and Castle. Glenveagh is truly one of the most beautiful places in Ireland and is visited by thousands of international tourists every year.



View of the Poison Glen at Glenveagh

Glenveagh is the second largest park of its kind in Ireland at 170 square kilometers. Glenveagh is home to some of the finest gardens in Ireland with hundreds of exotic plants from places as far-flung as Chile and Tasmania.

Glenveagh was the location of the eviction of over two hundred tenant farmers when the estate was

established. This is a sad part of Donegal's history.

The estate has been owned by various rich individuals, of whom you will hear more on your visit, but in 1981 was presented as a gift to the Irish people and has ever since been one of Donegal's best loved attractions.

The largest herd of red deer in Ireland resides at the park and if you're lucky enough you might even spot one!

Friday evening will be a real treat as Letterkenny is hosting a special Culture Night with many events taking place around the town. You will have the pleasure of hearing Joe Brennan, a locally renowned storyteller, speak in the town's library.



Day Three Saturday 21st

Day Three will be the busiest of the visit, especially for the lucky learners who will travel into Northern Ireland to visit the 2013 UK City of Culture: Derry. Derry or Londonderry is the second largest city in Northern Ireland.

Its name comes from the Irish for Oakgrove. The name Derry was changed to Londonderry in 1613 by King James I but it is more commonly known as Derry. Both names can be used interchangeably.



A portion of the Walls of Derry

Derry is notable for its historical walls. It was once entirely encapsulated by large walls to defend the city from attacks in the 1600's. The walls are intact and Derry is the only such city in Ireland and one of the best European examples of a walled city. These walls will be in large part the focus of

the walking tour which the learners will take on their trip to Derry. They will also have

the opportunity to visit the Derry Museum to learn even more about this unique and buzzing city.

Following this busy day you will be glad to hear that Saturday evening is reserved for some much needed rest and relaxation! You may spend the evening as you would like and are free to have a quiet night's sleep or a 'night on the tiles' in one of Letterkenny's excellent bars or nightclubs!

We very much hope you enjoy your trip to Ireland and find the programme interesting and stimulating. If you require any advice or assistance during your stay please do not hesitate to approach one of the organisers.

Céad míle fáilte!