WALKING HOLIDAY IRELAND

5.0/5· 50 walker reviews

8 Day Wicklow Way Walking Tour

The Wicklow Mountains, monasteries and Lough Tay, the Wicklow Way done right

DURATION	WALKING DAYS	TOTAL DISTANCE	GRADE
8 days	6	101.2 km	Moderate

From

€1,095

per person

Book or enquire at

walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours

See website for current rates

About This Tour

The ultimate "Goldilocks" trek: most of the Wicklow Way at a manageable pace. Mountains, monasteries, lakes, and Dublin's green heart.

Tour Highlights

- **Glendalough Monastery & Round Towers**
  Walk through 1,200 years of history in this misty valley. The atmosphere here is genuinely magical, especially in the early morning light when mist clings to the mountains.

- **Glenmalure Valley**
  One of Ireland's most spectacular and wild valleys, where the Wicklow Mountains loom dramatic and untamed. This day (23 km, 795m ascent) is the real test, and boy does it deliver.

- **Lough Tay (The Guinness Lake)**
  You'll understand why they call it the Guinness Lake the moment you see it: deep, dark, impossibly photogenic, ringed by mountains. The views from above are worth every step.

- **Dublin Bay Vistas & Djouce Mountain**
  As you approach the end, the landscape opens to rolling hills with Dublin Bay sparkling in the distance. This serves as a constant reminder that you have journeyed from the wilderness back to civilisation.

Who Is It For?

Adventurous travellers seeking a hiking challenge can enjoy it without feeling overwhelmed. If you are capable of walking steadily for 5 to 7 hours and ascending mountains without complaint, you will undoubtedly have an exceptional experience. This isn't a gentle stroll—some days are genuinely tough—but the rewards are immense.

People who want real Irish immersion
You're staying in proper B&Bs, eating proper Irish breakfasts, and sleeping in your own bed each night. The luggage transfers mean you walk with just a light daypack. It's adventure with a safety net, which is exactly what many people want.

Solo travellers, couples, and groups

The Wicklow Way attracts walkers from around the world, and the shared experience of a proper multi-day trek creates genuine friendships.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

DAY 1

Arrival in Tinahely/Aughrim

Overnight: Tinahely

Welcome to Tinahely, a picturesque village nestled in the rolling hills of South Wicklow and your gateway to Ireland's oldest long-distance trail. With its traditional shops, peaceful setting, and warm rural welcome, "The Garden of Ireland" is the perfect introduction.

We will provide you with all the transport information to get there or can book you a transfer from the airport.

After settling into your accommodation in Tinahely or nearby Aughrim, stretch your legs on one of the gentle Tinahely Loop Walks — short trails through farmland and forest that ease you into the landscape ahead. In the evening, head to Murphy's Hotel & Pub for hearty Irish fare and lively chat, or enjoy a quieter pint at O'Connor's Bar & Lounge in Dwyer Square.

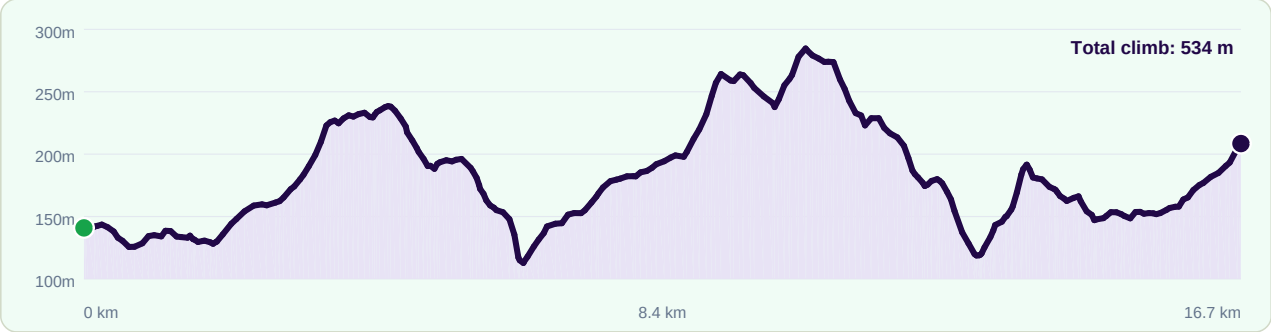
Rest well; your Wicklow Way adventure begins tomorrow!

DAY 2

From Shillelagh to Moyne

Walk: WW Tallons pub to Moyne (Kyle Farm) (16.8 km)

ROUTE 16.8 km · 404 m ascent · Moderate · Tallons Pub to Kyle Farm



Your Wicklow Way journey begins with a short morning transfer to Tallons Pub in Shillelagh. From here, the trail offers a gentle introduction to the Wicklow Way, winding through mature woodlands, across rolling farmland, and over open hillsides scattered with grazing sheep and old stone walls.

Shaded forest tracks alternate with breezy ridges and expansive views over Wicklow's southern foothills, giving you a real taste of the variety to come. The stage finishes near Moyne, a peaceful rural area where your accommodation awaits for the night.

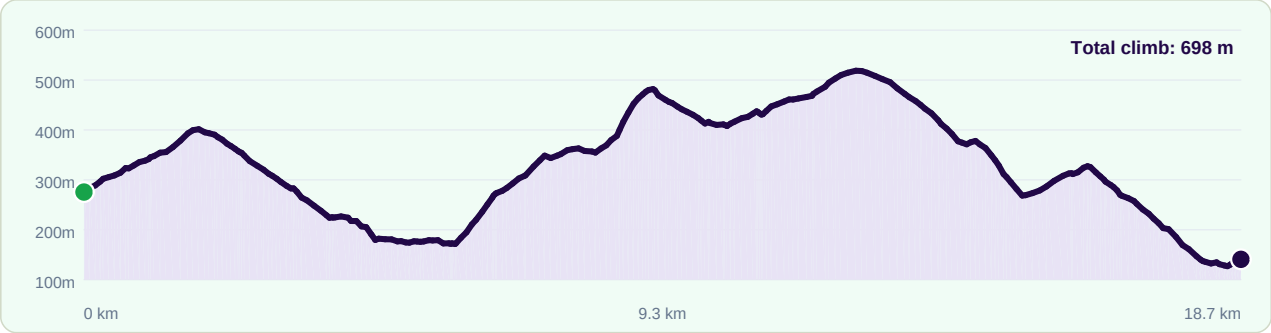
Highlights: the iconic start at Tallons Pub; ancient woodland trails; sweeping foothill views; and the rural charm of Moyne.

DAY
3

Moyne (Ballycurragh Hill) to Glenmalure

Walk: WW Shielstown (Moyne) to Glenmalure (18.7 km)

ROUTE 18.7 km · 607 m ascent · Moderate · Ballycurragh Hill (Moyne) to Glenmalure



Today, you move from the gentle countryside into the dramatic heart of the Wicklow Mountains. Starting in the tranquil Ow River Valley, you climb steadily on forests and open tracks toward Carrickashane Mountain, where sweeping views unfold.

On clear days, Lugnaquilla, Wicklow's highest peak (925 m), reveals itself on the horizon. The route then descends into Glenmalure, Ireland's longest glacial valley, carved over millennia and once a stronghold of Irish rebels.

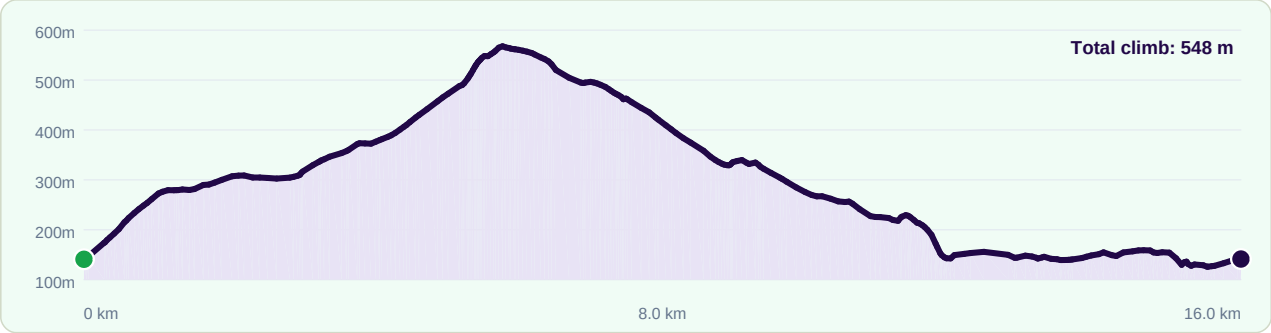
The steep valley walls and meandering Avonbeg River make for a memorable finale. Prefer a shorter day? A transfer to Iron Bridge can be arranged with Margaret at Kyle Farm for a small fee, leaving you a more relaxed walk into Glenmalure, where comfort and quiet await.

DAY
4

Glenmalure to Laragh / Glendalough

Walk: WW Glenmalure to Laragh (16 km) · Overnight: Glendalough / Laragh

ROUTE 16 km · 471 m ascent · Moderate · Glenmalure to Laragh



Today's walk leads from wild Glenmalure into the historic Glendalough Valley. A steady climb on forest tracks takes you past the impressive Glenmalure Waterfall before rising to the uplands of Mullacor Mountain, with sweeping views across Wicklow's rugged peaks and, on clear days, a glimpse of the Irish Sea.

The trail then descends into the peaceful Valley of the Two Lakes, where the sixth-century monastic ruins of St Kevin's Settlement—round towers, churches, and lakeside paths—offer a moving blend of history and landscape. Tonight you stay in Laragh, where warm hospitality awaits.

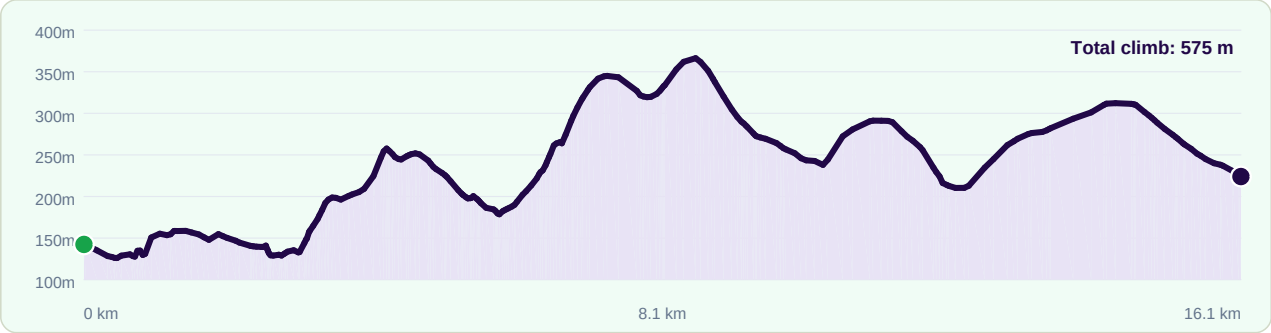
Note: your accommodation may be up to 2.5 km from the trailhead; we can arrange transfers if needed.

DAY
5

Laragh to Roundwood

Walk: WW Laragh Village to Roundwood (16.2 km)

ROUTE 16.2 km · 490 m ascent · Moderate · Laragh Village to Roundwood



Leaving Glendalough behind, you climb into the heart of the Wicklow highlands. The path rises beside the still waters of the Upper Lake, through native forest and onto open mountain slopes, where a wooden boardwalk carries you safely across upland blanket bogs.

A panoramic ridgeline walk follows, threading some of Ireland's most stunning mountain scenery and culminating in the iconic view of Lough Tay — the dark "Guinness Lake" — framed by steep granite cliffs and a pale sandy shore.

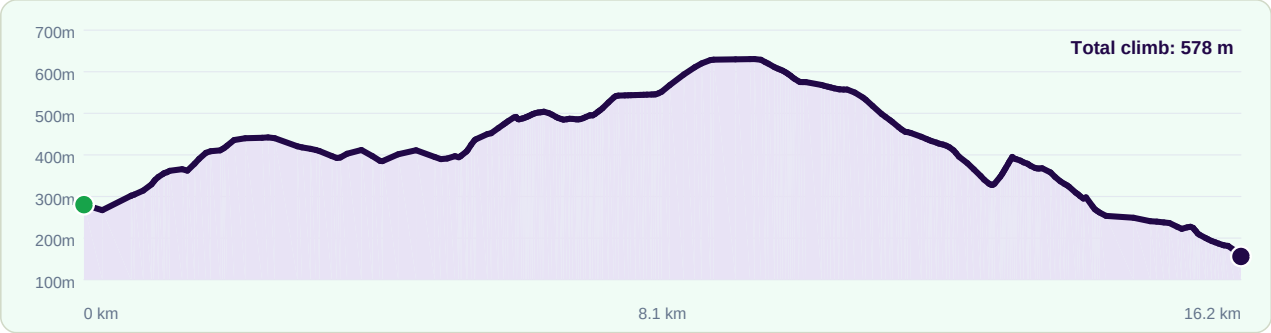
The day finishes in Laragh or near Lough Dan, with a warm meal and a cosy bed waiting after your highland adventure. Highlights: Upper Lake Start, a boardwalk over a blanket bog, wide Wicklow vistas, and the unmistakable Lough Tay viewpoint.

DAY
6

Oldbridge/Lough Dan to Crone Wood (Enniskerry)

Walk: WW Oldbridge / Lough Dan to Crone Wood (M) (16.3 km) · Overnight: Enniskerry

ROUTE 16.3 km · 517 m ascent · Moderate · Lough Dan / Oldbridge to Crone Wood (Enniskerry)



Today's walk crosses cinematic mountain country made famous by films such as Braveheart and King Arthur. Starting high above Lough Tay, with views also reaching Lough Dan, the trail winds along the slopes of Djouce Mountain, one of Wicklow's most recognisable peaks.

Pause at the J.B. Malone memorial, dedicated to the founder of the Wicklow Way, before the path opens to views over the Powerscourt Estate and a distant glimpse of Ireland's highest waterfall, plunging 121 metres down a rugged cliff.

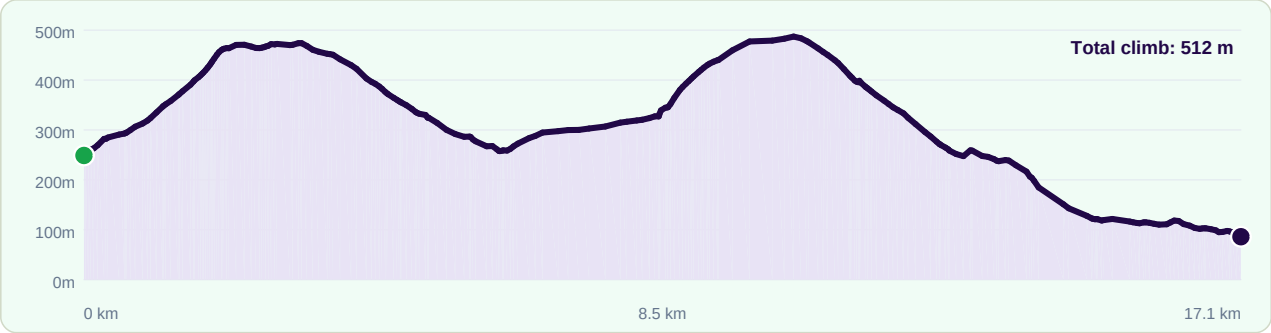
The day comes to a close with a descent through the towering pines of Crone Wood, offering wide outlooks over the Glencree Valley. Alpine Taxi will collect you at Crone Wood car park and transfer you to your accommodation near Enniskerry.

DAY 7

Crone Wood to Marlay Park

Walk: WW Enniskerry to Marlay Park (easy) (17.2 km)

ROUTE 17.2 km · 456 m ascent · Moderate · Glencree Road to Marlay Park



Your final day on the Wicklow Way delivers a triumphant finish. After a short morning transfer back to Crone Wood, you climb to Prince William's Seat for sweeping panoramas spanning Dublin City, Dublin Bay and the Irish Sea.

As you cross the northern Wicklow hills, turn back one last time to admire the valleys and peaks you've conquered over the past week. The trail then descends gradually from wild hillsides into the green calm of Marlay Park — a 300-acre parkland of woodland paths and open lawns that marks the official northern terminus of the Wicklow Way.

A celebratory finish to an unforgettable journey. You'll be collected at Marlay Park and transferred to your final accommodation in Dublin.

DAY 8

Departure from Dublin

Overnight: Dublin

After a hearty Dublin breakfast, it's time to say farewell. Take a moment to reflect on the landscapes you've covered, the villages you've passed through and the friends you've met along the way.

If your schedule allows, take an extra day or two to enjoy Dublin's vibrant mix of Georgian streets, literary landmarks, galleries, cosy pubs, and lively markets, a perfect counterpoint to your week in the hills.

Need help with an extra night? Just let us know — we're always delighted to help.

Safe travels, and we hope to welcome you back to Ireland's trails soon.

What Our Walkers Say

Rated 5.0/5 by 50 walkers

*****

Hike from Glenmalure to Glendalough with the waterfalls.
Great organization. No need to organize anything on our side.

- Enrico H. - 2026

*****

It was brilliant! We had a brilliant time and will definitely be back!

- Jan and Maria - 2025

*****

In August 2024, we - mother (64) and daughter (30) - signed up through TUI with Cliff from Walking Holiday Ireland for The Wicklow Way. It turned out to be a fantastic experience. It started with a mishap - I (mother) was foolish enough to leave my passport at home. Fortunately, we found a later flight that same day and finally arrived at our first B&B hours later, more tired and stressed than planned. We had Cliff on the phone many times during those hours. Throughout this whole time, he…

- Maria and Evi - 2025

Ready to Walk Ireland?

Every tour is self-guided with hand-picked accommodation, daily luggage transfer, detailed route notes and GPX files, plus our personal local support throughout your walk. Dates and group sizes are flexible — just ask.

What's Included

- ✓ Accommodation: Welcoming en-suite B&B rooms
- ✓ Breakfast: Full Irish breakfast every morning
- ✓ Luggage Transfer: Daily transfer of your main bag between accommodations
- ✓ Personalised Itinerary and route app for your smart phone that keeps you on the trail at all times.
- ✓ Support: 24/7 emergency support throughout your holiday
- ✓ Pre-Departure Pack: Information pack sent before you travel, so you know exactly what to expect

Not Included

- ✗ Flights: Travel to Ireland is not included
- ✗ Insurance: You'll need travel and walking holiday insurance
- ✗ Meals: Lunches and dinners are not included (though we'll recommend great local spots)

Along the trail in Dublin, Ireland

Get in touch

Email:info@walkingholidayireland.com

Web:walkingholidayireland.com

This tour:walkingholidayireland.com/walking-tours/wicklow-way

FROM

€1,095

per person

See website for current rates