

## How to Book Your Visit

All activities are based on the National Museum of Ireland-Country Life themes and exhibitions. Other than junior activities, programming can be delivered to groups of any age (over 7yrs).

Groups might include:

- Active Age
- Adult Education
- Special Interest
- Third Level
- Community Groups
- Language Schools
- International Groups
- Scouts & Guides
- Family Groups

*If you are looking for a tour or other activity that is not listed above we will endeavour to tailor a specialised activity to complement your needs.*

*For groups with hearing difficulties and visual impairments we can provide:*

- FM Tour Guide System
- Large print version of the general tour

*Hallowe'en workshop*

Contact the **Bookings Office** to make a booking or for further information on the education service at the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life.

### Bookings Office Details

National Museum of Ireland – Country Life  
Education & Outreach Department,  
Turlough Park,  
Castlebar,  
Co. Mayo.

**Email:** [educationtph@museum.ie](mailto:educationtph@museum.ie)

**Telephone:** 094 9031751 or 01 6486304

**Fax:** 094 9031498

**Bookings Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 10.00am –2.00pm

Programming details also available at [www.museum.ie](http://www.museum.ie)

If you would like to join our mailing list please contact

[tpark@museum.ie](mailto:tpark@museum.ie) or phone **094 9031755**



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# museum

## Country Life

National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

## Guided Tours, Workshops and Demonstrations for Groups

*Basket making*



Rush basket making

## Guided Tours

All tours last between 45 and 60 mins.

**1. General Tour** includes Introduction to Turlough Park House, its History & Surroundings, Historical and Environmental Context, Living & working in the community plus relevant section of Calendar Year (also available in Irish).

**2. General Tour with a focus**  
*Choose one from the following:*

### Activities in the Home

- Hearth & Home
- Lighting
- Clothing

### Working on Land & Water

- Farming • Fishing

### Trades

- Blacksmith • Carpenter
- Tinsmith • Shoemaker
- Basket maker • Wood Turner
- Thatcher • Tailor
- Shopkeeper • Cooper
- Harness maker • School Teacher

### Cycle of Life

- Birth, Marriage, Death

### Seasonal Calendar

- St. Brigid's Festival • Summer
- St. Patrick's Day • Harvest
- Easter • Halloween
- May Day • Christmas

### Forces of Change

- From the traditional way of life to modern times

### Historical Context

- Land Issues & political developments

**3. Junior Interactive gallery tours (Age 4 to 6)**

- Junior General Tour
- Junior Housing Tour
- Junior Clothing Tour

## 4. Behind the Glass Case

Science Tour – Why and how the museum buildings and exhibition cases are designed to protect the objects.

## 5. Nature Ramble

(all seasons)  
What are the seasons, how do they affect trees, plants & animals? Learn to identify trees.

## 6. Housing in the Last 100 yrs

Vernacular housing styles and traditional materials & techniques.

## 7. Sustainability

The use of locally available natural resources and recycling.

## 8. Saints, Patterns & Patrons

Did you know that St. Kevin is the patron saint of blackbirds? Learn about the lives, legends and legacies of Ireland's holy men and women.

## 9. Emigration

Between 1801 and 1921 almost 8 million people left Ireland for new lives elsewhere. Join us for a tour of the galleries to find out why they left and where they went.

## 10. New! Celtic Revival and Cultural Nationalism

The growth of cultural nationalism in Ireland in the late 19th century.

## 11. New! Fact or Fiction Tour

Which guide speaks the truth about the museum objects and which one is making it up? You decide!

## 12. New! The Moylough Belt Shrine

An in-depth look at this medieval treasure from Moylough, Co. Sligo.

## Workshops & Demonstrations

Workshops are of one-hour duration unless otherwise stated. All materials are supplied.

### General Workshops

- 1 'If things could talk': Investigating Objects
- 2 Investigating Pictures
- 3 Traditional Clothing
- 4 Weaving Techniques
- 5 Decorating Ceramics
- 6 Traditional Games\*
- 7 Music Workshop
- 8 Wattle Weaving (90 minutes)
- 9 Treasure Hunt

### Seasonal Workshops

- 1 St. Brigid's Crosses
- 2 St. Patrick's Badges\*
- 3 Decorating Easter Eggs
- 4 Harvest Knots\*
- 5 Hallowe'en Traditions
- 6 Christmas Cards & Decorations
- 7 Mummer's Masks (90 minutes)

### Junior Activities (Age 4 to 6)

- 1 Housing in the Past Workshop
- 2 Exploring Ceramics Workshop
- 3 Weave a clay basket Workshop
- 4 Clothing in the Past Workshop
- 5 'In the Deep Blue Sea' Music Workshop

### Demonstrations with hands-on element

- 1 Spinning & Wool-craft
- 2 Weaving & Wool-craft
- 3 Basket Weaving & Willow Work
- 4 101 uses of Straw
- 5 Rush Work
- 6 Candle Making
- 7 Butter Making

\*These activities are available in Irish language. Other workshops may be available as Gaeilge on request.