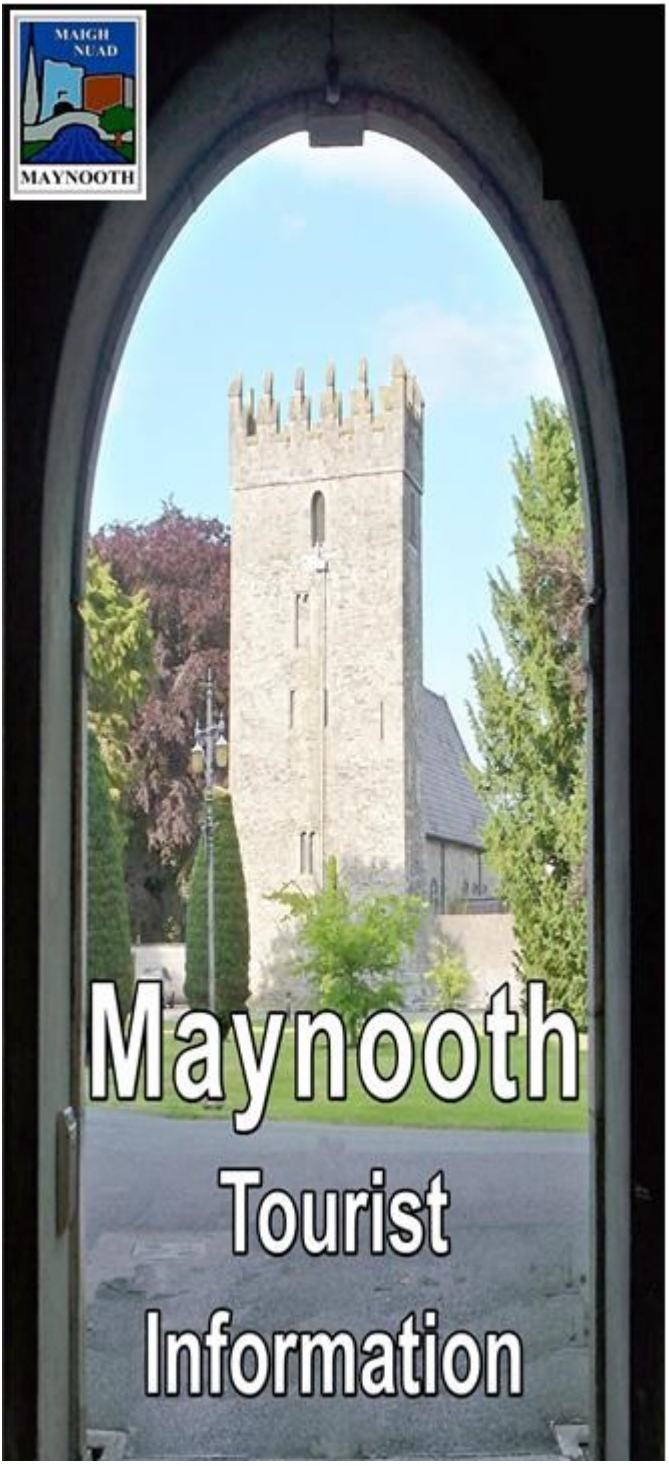
MAIGH
NUAD
MAYNOOTH
Maynooth
Tourist
Information

Planning to Visit?
Excellent! Bienvenue! Céad Míle Fáilte. We are looking forward to seeing you. Maynooth is approximately 24 kms from Dublin City Centre at Junction 7 off the M4 Motorway, westbound for Galway/Sligo. From Dublin Airport, take the M1 Motorway towards Dublin City Centre and exit for the M50 Southbound Motorway. Having passed through the unmanned Toll Point, take next exit West for the N4/M4 Motorway and leave at Junction 7 for Maynooth. You may also reach us using public transport via bus route C3/C4. Visit www.dublinbus.ie and www.buseireann.ie, or for mainline or suburban rail, visit www.irishrail.ie.

A Brief History
Maynooth takes its name from Nuadha Neacht, a pre-Christian King of Ireland. Its historical origin could be said to date from the 12th century when the Fitzgerald Family was granted the Manor of Maynooth. It belonged to the Earl Of Kildare, whose principal castle was located in the town. In the early 16th century during the Silken Thomas rebellion, the town was recorded to have been burned by the English. In 1795, the Royal College of St. Patrick was established as the National Seminary of Ireland, and it was granted Pontifical University status in 1896. The college was declared open to lay students in 1966, and with its annual influx of over 10,000 students, it has become a vibrant university town while still retaining its unique rural atmosphere and historical identity. It is worth noting that the majority of places and items of historical interest featured in this brochure are within ~400 metres (0.25 miles) of our town centre.

Maynooth Castle (1)

The ruined 13th century Geraldine Castle lies just outside the college grounds. Once home to the powerful Fitzgerald family, the Keep houses an exhibition which includes the story of Silken Thomas, a rebel executed by Henry VIII for treason in 1537. The night before Silken Thomas surrendered, he played the lute beneath the yew tree on what is now the college grounds. The Fitzgerald family crest is unique for an Irish/Norman crest, as it features monkeys on each side of the coat of arms. The monkeys are said to have been incorporated into the Fitzgerald crest in the time of John Fitzthomas, the 1st Earl of Kildare. According to folklore, as an infant he was sleeping in a bedchamber at Woodstock Castle, an outpost of Maynooth near Athy, when a fire broke out. In the confusion, the infant was thought to have perished in the fire. However, it was discovered that a monkey normally kept in chains as a pet had broken free and rescued the baby, keeping him safe in one of the towers. Out of gratitude to the animal, the Fitzgeralds incorporated monkeys into their family crest and adopted the family motto of 'Non Immemor Beneficii' ('Not Forgetful of Favours').

Manor Mills Wheel Maynooth (2)

Originally the mill was attached to the castle. The castle was ruined during the battle of 1640 and was rebuilt in the mid-1700s. In 1850, the mill was acquired by the Kavanagh Family and was run as a mill into the 1990s. The site is now a shopping centre.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church (3)

This is a quintessential Gothic church in the shape of a cross. Facing east, it was dedicated in June of 1840. The limestone façade and bell-tower were the work of James Joseph McCarthy, the celebrated church architect of the 19th century. He also designed the Maynooth College Chapel. Worthy of note are the stained glass windows over the Austrian oak altar and the north and south transepts. Also of note are the Celtic style impressions of the Four Evangelists on the ceilings.

The Maynooth Pound (4)
This enclosed area is a rare surviving example of 18th century pounds which were once widespread in Ireland. The Civil Authority impounded stray animals that were only released when their owners paid the scale charges. In default of these charges, the animals were sold at Public Auction.

The Tree of Liberty Stone (5)

The stone was erected by the Society of United Irishmen and is located to the left of the entrance to Carton Avenue. The words on the stone reflect the origins of Liberty:
"What is that in your hand,
It is a branch, of what? The tree of liberty,
Where did it first grow, America,
Where does it bloom, France,
Where did the seed fall, Ireland"

Carton Avenue (6)
Laid in 1757 by the 20th Earl of Kildare, this was created as an access that leads from Maynooth Castle to the Carton Estate. This avenue provides a pleasant walk which is very popular with local residents and visitors. It is 971m (1062 yds) long and contains 130 lime trees planted singly on both sides along its length.

Carton House & Estate

Carton is an 1100 acre fully-walled estate which belonged to the Fitzgerald family since 1176. The Fitzgeralds, who were part of the Strongbow (Norman) Invasion of Ireland, became Earls of Kildare in 1315 and went on to become one of the most influential families in Irish History, to the extent that Maynooth was the capital of Ireland for a short period. In 1977, it was purchased by the Mallaghan Family.

Courthouse Square Maynooth (7)

The 3rd Duke of Leinster was Augustus FitzGerald, who lived from 1791-1874. In 1819, he developed the square to build a courthouse, which also contained a ballroom, concert rooms and supper rooms. The building was burned in 1920 during the War of Independence. Courthouse Square was renovated in 1996. The artwork known as Axis was commissioned by Kildare County Council. In the art world, the term 'axis' is used to describe an imaginary or visible line identifying movement. The design of the bollards and sculptures show the town as a constant source of growth for learning, spirituality, economics, and community. Seven bronze upright sculptures spiral out from a central bronze disc set into the paving, each piece appearing in a state of natural growth or change.

The names of men from Maynooth who marched into Dublin in 1916 to take part in the Easter Rising appear in relief on the tall post sculpture at the southern end of the square.

Royal Canal & Harbour Field (8)

The Royal Canal reached Maynooth in 1796 via the Rye Water Aqueduct near Leixlip. Never a commercial success, it was purchased in 1845 by the Midland Great Western Railway Company, who built a railway line alongside it. The canal was closed to traffic in 1961, but following a period of restoration by the Royal Canal Amenity Group and ANCO, it is now re-opened to boat traffic. The Harbour provides fishing and barge moorings. The field adjacent to the Harbour, known locally as the Harbour Field, contains a grass area for picnicking, a children's playground, and a Tone Zone exercise area for teenagers and adults.

Geraldine Hall (9)

Geraldine Hall was built 1859 as a Church of Ireland Parish School. In 1935, the school house was used by the Young Men's Association. The site is now home to the local Scout Unit.

St. Mary's Church of Ireland (10)

This was originally built as a private chapel for the Fitzgerald family in the early 13th century. The present structure is a mosaic pieced together from fragments of earlier buildings. Its unusual east window was taken in 1770 from the ruined Church of Laraghbryan. St. Mary's Church is a vibrant Anglican centre of worship in Maynooth.

St Patrick's College (11)

In 1795, St. Patrick's College Maynooth was founded as the national seminary for all of Ireland. In 1896, Pontifical University status was granted, and priests ordained in St. Patrick's seminary accounted for well over half of the diocesan clergy. In total, over 10,000 priests have been ordained at Maynooth. Probably the most interesting building in the college is the chapel, which was built between 1874 and 1890. The tower was not completed until 1902. The 454 choir stalls make it the largest stalled chapel in the world.

Guided tours are available of the university campus. The highlights include Silken Thomas' Yew Tree (Ireland's oldest native tree), St. Joseph's Square, and the college chapel. Explore the beautiful gardens and marvel at Pugin's Gothic Revival architecture. Hear tales of the Ghost Room and discover Nicholas Callan's inventions in the National Science Museum. Visit www.maynoothcampus.com

VISIT MAYNOOTH

The Church of Laraghbryan (12)

The original name of the parish recalls the early Christian monastery of Lathrach Briuin that was founded by St. Senan, son of Finton, during the second half of the 13th century.

Town Twinning

In 2011, Maynooth was twinned with Canet-en-Roussillon in the Catalan area of France. Since then, regular reciprocal visits have taken place between our two towns.

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT — MAIGH NUAD

IRISH MEN'S SHEDS MAYNOOTH menssheds.ie

Religious Services

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church - Mass
Daily at 10am Mon-Sat, Saturday at 19:00
Sunday at 08:45, 10:00, 11:30 & 1.00pm

St. Mary's Church of Ireland
Service of Worship - Sunday - 11:30am

Maynooth (Presbyterian) Community Church
Service - Sunday - 10:30am

River Valley Baptist Church
Sunday: Family Bible Study - 09:45am
Morning Worship - 11:00am
Evening Service - 7:00pm
Thursday - Bible Study & Prayer - 7:00pm

Sports & Leisure Facilities

Carton House - 01-5052000, Dublin Road
Glenroyal Leisure Club & Gym - 01-6291313, Straffan Road
The K Club Golf and Spa - 01-6017297, Straffan
Lyreen Angling Centre - 01-6292562, Dunboyne Road
Maynooth GAA Club - Moyglare Road
North Kildare Rugby Club - Kilcock Road
Maynooth Town F.C. - Rathcoffey Road

Emergency Contact List

Garda Local Station - 01-6291413 - 999/112
Ambulance - 999/112
Fire Brigade - 999/112

Local GPs

Dr. Gaffney - 01-6291169
Dr. Nolan - 01-6285943
Maynooth Medical Centre - 01-6292556
K-Doc (Out of Hours) - 045848701

Acknowledgments to Contributors:
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Men's Sheds Maynooth would like to acknowledge and give thanks to the following sponsor for the enthusiasm, advice and encouragement not to mention the significant financial support in the production of this tourist brochure.

THE GLENROYAL HOTEL
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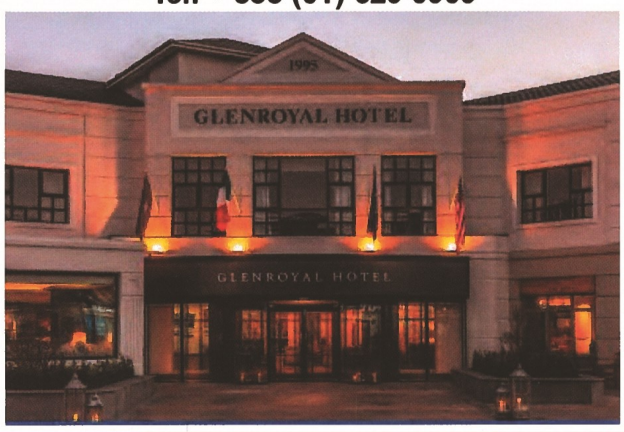

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NUIM Maynooth and **Saint Patrick's College,**
and in particular
Maynooth Campus Conference & Accommodation

Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

MAYNOOTH COLLEGE FOUNDED 1795

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www. maynoothcampus.com
email: info@maynoothcampus.com
telephone: + 353 (0) 1 708 3726

Men's Sheds Maynooth would like to acknowledge and give thanks to the following sponsor for the enthusiasm, advice and encouragement not to mention the significant financial support in the production of this tourist brochure.

Carton House Hotel & Spa
the Management and Staff

www. cartonhouse.com
Tel:. + 353 (0) 1 505 2000

MEETINGS
CARTON HOUSE HOTEL
2nd Tuesday of Month (except August)
www.maynoothkilcocklionsclub.org
maynoothkilcocklions

LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Maynooth Kilcock Lions Club

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Maynooth Purple Flag™
"for a better night out"