



Heritage Trail

Baltimore Heritage Trail

- Enjoy your walk through the historic village of Baltimore.
- Each plaque lists dates & specific information about buildings or locations.
- Baltimore's sheltered harbour has attracted settlers since Neolithic times (there is a passage grave, ca 3,500 BC on an island near Reengaroga causeway). Some say that the village was a Druidical centre in pre-Christian times. A ring fort (enclosed farmstead) dating from the early Christian era is located SE of the Lifeboat Station (but overgrown and inaccessible).
- In the 16th century the village was a significant fishing harbour with links to France and Spain. Pilchard fishing was important in the 17th century, with involvement of fishermen from SW England. Baltimore received a Town Charter in 1613 when it was part of the Carbery Estate and had two MP's up to 1800 when the charter was forfeited.
- On 20th June 1631 Algerian pirates descended on the village, killed two people and carried 109 others off to slavery in North Africa. They were guided in by a man called Hackett who was later executed in Cork. After this infamous "Sack of Baltimore" some of the locals decided to move upriver to a safer location and founded the town of Skibbereen.
- Sailing and yachting became much more popular after the Emergency and tourism started to increase dramatically. Baltimore is now known as the Watersports Capital of Ireland.
- For more information visit www.baltimore.ie

N.B. Please do not walk on private land without owner's permission, keep dogs on leads and leave no rubbish behind. Thank you.

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