



Social History

Founded in 1226, when Richard De Burgo established a castle here, the town of Loughrea was developed as a feudal settlement. Today the remains of the medieval town wall, moat and a town gate are all still to be seen. Sections of the well preserved ruins of the Carmelite Church and Priory date back to the 1300s.

St Brendan's Cathedral, dedicated to St Brendan the Navigator, was designed in the style of the Arts and Crafts Movement. Supported by Edward Martyn of Tulira Castle, the architect William A Scott enhanced the interior of the building in the style of the 'Celtic Revival'. 'An Túr Gloine' art studio were commissioned to create many of the spectacular stained glass windows and artists involved included Sarah Purser (founder of the studio), Michael Healy, AE Childe, Evie Hone and Catherine O'Brien.

Stair Shóisialta

Bunaíodh Baile Locha Riach sa bhliain 1226, nuair a thóg Richard de Burgo caisleán ar an láthair, agus forbraíodh mar lonnaíocht fheodach é. Sa lá atá inniu ann is féidir iarsmaí an bhalla baile, an mhóta agus gheata an bhaile mheánaoisigh a fheiceáil fós. Tá codanna de hiarsmaí dea-chaomhnaithe Shéipéal agus Phríóireacht na gCairmilíteach ann ón gceathrú haois déag.

Dearadh Ard-Eaglais Naomh Breandán, a tiomnaíodh do Naomh Breandán an Loingseoir, i stíl Gluaiseacht na nEalaíon agus na Ceardaíochta. Le tacaíocht ó Edward Martyn ó Chaisleán Thul Aighre, rinne an t-aitlire William A Scott taobh istigh an fhoirgnimh a leasú i stíl 'na hAthbheochana Ceiltí'. Coimisiúnaíodh an stiúideo ealaíne 'An Túr Gloine' le cuid mhaith de na fuinneoga daite mórthaibhseacha a chruthú agus i measc na n-ealaíontóirí a bhí páirteach bhí Sarah Purser (bunaitheoir an stiúideo), Michael Healy, AE Childe, Evie Hone agus Catherine O'Brien.

Beach Code of Conduct

- Guard against all risk of fire
- Leave only footprints – don't be a litterbug
- Kill nothing but time
- Take nothing but memories and photographs
- Don't disturb, don't destroy and act responsibly

Cód Iompair ar an Trá

- Ná déan tine a adhaint
- Ná fág ach lorg do chos i do dhiaidh – ná bí i do bhodach bruscair
- Gaomhnaigh agus ná cealaigh
- Ná tabhair leat aon rud ach cuimhní agus fótagraif
- Ná mill agus ná cuir isteach ar aon rud agus bí freagrach

Keep Galway Litter Free
Coinnigh Gaillimh saor ó Bhruscar

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For further information
Chun a thuilleadh eolais a fháil

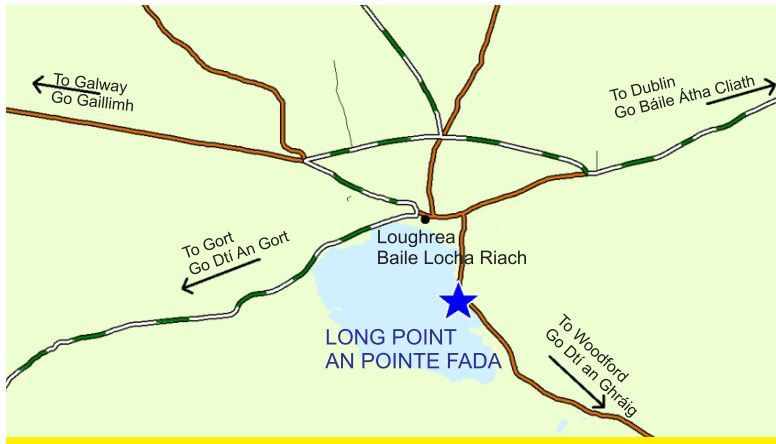
www.galway.ie/services/environment/beaches

Discover the Beaches of County Galway

Long Point, Loughrea
An Pointe Fada, Baile Locha Riach



Cuir Aithne
ar Thránna
Chontae na Gaillimhe



Situated directly south of the town of Loughrea (Baile Locha Riach - the town of the grey or dappled lake), the Long Point is located at the southern end of the lake.

Tá an Pointe Fada suite ar an taobh theas de Loch Riach, atá díreach ó dheas de Bhaile Locha Riach.

The Rock Base

The basin of the lake is believed to have originated through erosive action during the last Ice Age. Carboniferous limestone forms the rock base of the lake and water transparency is very high. Limestone contains calcium carbonate which comes out in solution into the lake water creating a calcareous or hard water lake. The lake is fed by springs and by a stream.

An tImchuach Carraige

Creidtear gur oibriú creimthe le linn na hOighearaoise deiridh ba chúis leis an loch-chuach. Is de chloch aoil imchuach carraige an locha agus tá an t-uisce an-tréhearach ann. Tá carbónáit chailciam i gloch aoil agus tuaslagtar é in uisce an

locha, rud a chruthaíonn loch le huisce cailcreach nó cruá. Is as fuaráin agus sruthán a shreabhann an t-uisce isteach sa loch.

Special Plant Life

Stoneworts are algae which grow in calcareous freshwater. After some time they become encrusted in lime and hence are given their name due to their stone like appearance. These plants are vulnerable to pollution and their presence indicates good water quality. Some species of stonewort have been recorded in Lough Rea, including *Chara curta*, *Chara contraria* and *Chara tomentosa*.

Among other aquatic plants to be found in the lake are slender-leaved pondweed, lesser pondweed, fennel pondweed, spiked water-milfoil, least bur-reed and amphibious bistort. On the sheltered western and south-eastern shores of the lake areas of reedswamp, wet grassland and wet woodland occur.

Beatha Phlandúil Speisialta

Is algaí a fhásann in uisce cailcreach iad na haol-lusanna. Tar éis tamaill tagann screamh aoil orthu agus is dá bharr sin a dtugtar an t-ainm aol-lusanna orthu. Cuireann an truailliú isteach orthu agus is comhartha iad a bheith i láthair ar cháilíocht mhaith uisce. Taifeadadh roinnt speiceas aol-lusanna i Loch Riach, ina measc *Chara curta*, *Chara contraria* agus *Chara tomentosa*.

I measc na bplandaí uisce eile atá le fáil i Loch Riach tá an líobhógach chaol, an líobhógach mhion, an líobhógach fhinéalúil, an líonánach, an rísheisc mhion agus an ghlúineach uisce.

Ar bhruacha foscúla iarthar agus oirdheisceart an locha tá achair de chorcach ghiolcaí, de thalamh féaraigh fliuch agus de choillearnach fhliuch.

Birdlife

Lough Rea is a designated Special Protection Area (SPA) because of the variety of birdlife it supports.

Shoveler, wigeon, teal, mallard, pochard, goldeneye and tufted duck can all be spotted around the lake. Reedbeds in the sheltered bays offer good habitat for mute swans, coot, moorhen and little grebe. On the island cormorants roost in the trees while black-headed gulls frequent the shore nearest to the town.

On the northern shore of the lake a walkway is provided along 'the promenade' and through Corry's Field, located adjacent to the Fair Green at the Gort Rd. This walkway passes through almost 15 acres of natural wetlands and meadow dotted with wild flowers and provides good vantage points for birdwatchers.

Beathra Éan

Ainmníodh Loch Riach mar Limistéar faoi Chosaint Speisialta (LfCS) de bharr éagsúlacht an bheathra éan a chothaíonn sé

Is féidir na héin seo a leanas a fheiceáil thart timpeall an locha – an spadalach, an lacha bhadánach, an lacha rua, an phraslacha, an mallard, an póiseard agus an t-órshúileach. Is gnáthóg mhaith iad na giolcarnaigh sna cuanta foscúla don eala bhalbh, don chearc cheannann, don chearc uisce agus don spágaire tonn. Téann an broigheall ar fara sna crainn ar an oileán agus taobhaíonn an sléibhín an bruach is gaire don bhaile.

Ar bhruach thuaidh an locha tá siúlbealach curtha ar fáil ar feadh 'na promanáide' agus trí gharraí Corry, atá suite taobh le Faiche an Aonaigh ar bhóthar an Ghoirt. Téann an siúlbealach sin trí bheagnach 15 n-acra de bhogach nádúrtha agus de mhóinéar a bhíonn breactha le bláthanna fiáine agus is stáitse maith é i gcomhair lucht fairthe éan.

