The charming coastal village of Baltimore is situated on one of the most south-westerly points of Ireland, renowned for its attractive landscapes, unspoiled coast lines and Carbery 100 Isles.

The unique location of “our Square” is where locals and visitors meet for a chat and a drink, to unwind and relax, while enjoying most beautiful views over the peaceful harbour.

Hidden Treasure of West Cork

Baltimore and the Islands are the Wild Atlantic Way’s golden spur with Dún an Oír (castle of gold), Dún na Síad (castle of jewels) the Cailín Oír (golden girl - a ferry boat), not to mention golden sunsets, pirate treasures and sunken wrecks. Come and experience the wild, unspoilt, raw beauty of rugged coastlines, cliffs, seascapes, beaches, food, music, festivals, maritime history and adventure.

Why not start your adventure in Baltimore & The Islands and let us take your breath away!

50 THINGS TO DO

WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES
- Sailing
- Diving
- Deep Sea Angling
- Snorkelling
- Beaches & Swimming
- Boat Hire
- Whale, Dolphin, Seal & Bird Watching
- Kayaking
- High speed boat rides

LAND-BASED ACTIVITIES
- Playground
- Cycling
- Indoor Pool & Fitness Centre
- Looped Walks
- Open Gardens
- Dún an Óir Castle
- Prehistoric Sites
- Lifeboat Station
- Heritage Centres
- Art Centres

TRIPS & TOURS
- Sherkin Island
- Cape Clear Island
- Heir (Hare) Island
- Fastnet Lighthouse
- Tours of Carbery 100 Isles
- Lough Hyne Tours
- River Trips & Sunset Tours

SHOPPING & CRAFTS
- Local Art, Craft & Knitwear
- Galleries
- Grocery & Newsagent
- Skibbereen Town
- Farmer’s Market

LOUGH HYNE & BARLOGUE CREEK
- Walking
- Climbing Knockomagh Hill
- Swimming
- Bird Watching
- Kayaking
- Snorkelling

ENTERTAINMENT & FOOD
- Traditional Music
- Concerts & Festivals
- Old-Time & Set Dancing
- Bar Food & Family Restaurants
- Cafes & Deli
- Traditional Irish Food & Gourmet Restaurants
- Michelin Star Restaurant

DAY TRIPS
- Mizen Head - Visitor Centre
- Ring of Beara & Sheep’s Head
- Bantry House and Gardens
- Castletownshend, Union Hall and Glandore
- Schull Planetarium
- Drombeg Stone Circle
Baltimore and the Islands provide a brilliant and unique setting for family trips, activity weekends, midweek get-aways, weddings, parties & corporate events.

WEST CORK’S HIDDEN GEM ON THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY

The Wild Atlantic Way - The longest defined coastal touring route in the world - 2500km of unspoiled coastlines from West Cork to Donegal where land and sea collide. Beautiful scenery, wildlife habitats, heritage and traditional culture...a journey that will stay with you forever.

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

- Fiddle Fair (May)
- Seafood & Wooden Boat Festival (May)
- Walking Talking on Cape Clear (May)
- Open Ear Electronic Fest Sherkin (June)
- Baltimore Pirate Festival (June)
- O’Driscoll Clan Midsummer Festival (June)
- Sherkin Island Regatta (August)
- Baltimore Regatta (August)
- Cape Clear Regatta (August)
- Heir (Hare) Island Regatta (August)
- Baltimore Deep Sea Angling Festival (August)
- Storytelling Festival Cape Clear (September)
- A Taste of West Cork Food Festival (September)
- Sherkin RNLI BBQ Fundraiser (September)
- Baltimore Walking Weekend (October)
- The Wet Weekend (October)

For dates & information log on to: www.baltimore.ie

www.baltimore.ie
ON THE WATER

Because of its maritime tradition, Baltimore is well known as the Water Activities Capital of Ireland.

Sub-tropical flora and fauna flourish under the influence of the warm Gulf Stream. Activities to be enjoyed by the whole family include sailing, boating, swimming, snorkelling, kayaking and diving, with spectacular scenery, unpolluted waters and wrecks galore.

The southwest is the feeding ground for a number of whale & dolphin species; minke, fin & humpbacks, common & bottlenose dolphins. Seals, basking sharks and harbour porpoises are also seen along with sunfish and the occasional leatherback turtle.

There’s sea angling for everything from mackerel to tuna. Baltimore is especially well known for its shark and common skate fishing, both of which can produce a fish of well over 100 lbs (50 kg) in weight.

The varied bird life includes some rare members of the shearwater, petrel, skua and gull families.

Pirates of Baltimore

The attack in June 1631 by Barbary corsairs was the worst-ever attack on the mainland of Ireland or Britain, also known as ‘the Sack of Baltimore’ - 107 slaves were taken and sold on the markets in Algiers. Recently an archaeological team discovered a pirate shipwreck. You can visit the pirate exhibits in Dún na Séad Castle.

Follow the history through the Heritage Walk, in books by local authors and artefacts & displays in local bars. Fun for children and adults during the annual Pirate Festival in June including a dummy pirate competition, quiz, games and lots more.

www.baltimore.ie

THE ISLANDS

Cape Clear Island (ferry from Baltimore – 45 mins)
Ireland’s most southerly Gaeltacht Island, offering wild romantic scenery with heather, gorse and wild flowers covering steep rugged hills, sparkling harbours and spectacular cliffs, all contributing to the island’s unspoilt charm. There are many historic sites and it’s a birdwatcher’s paradise.

An Gaisceanan (Angling, Birdwatching & Eco Tours) ..............086 8123779
An Siopa Beag (groceries & Wi Fi access) .............................. 028 39099
Ard na Gaoithe B&B ................................................. 028 39160
Chleire Haven Yurt Village & Campsite .................. 086 1971956
Sean Rua’s Restaurant .................................................. 028 39099

Heir (Hare) Island (ferry from Baltimore – 20 mins)
(ferry from Cunnamore – 4 mins)
Discover a little piece of heaven, tucked away in a corner of Roaring water Bay, it’s an idyllic location for a family picnic on a necklace of wonderful sheltered sandy beaches.
Burke’s Shop, Tea/Coffee & Outdoor Pizza Oven .. 089 9653459
Heir Island Sailing School & Kayak Hire ... 087 1488127
Roaringwater Lodge B&B ............................................. 087 1488127

Sherkin Island (ferry from Baltimore - 10 mins)
Enjoy tranquil beauty with breathtaking landscapes and stunning clean golden beaches, leisurely walking trails past Franciscan Abbey, O’Driscoll Castle ruin and the old lighthouse. Today the island’s beauty inspires numerous artists, with open house studios and art exhibitions throughout the summer.
Sherkin North Shore (accommodation & discovery) .... 087 6185368
The Jolly Roger Pub .................................................. 028 20662

LOUGH HYNE

Nestling within a fold of hills 5 km away from Baltimore, Lough Hyne (Ine) is a place of peaceful serenity, steeped in local folklore and home to a unique ecosystem which sustains a huge variety of marine plants and animals. It’s connected to the sea via a narrow tidal channel, known as the Rapids.

A climb up Mount Knockomagh Hill rewards with stunning panoramic views. It’s a great place to go for a swim, bird & seal watching or a leisurely wander along the western shore towards Barlogue Creek.

WALKS & GARDENS

There are many lovely scenic walks, ranging from a simple 30 minute stroll to a 3-4 hour hill-walk. These include the Baltimore heritage trail, looped walks in and around the village, the iconic Beacon, Coney Island, the Hill, Trafraska Beach, Reengaroga or Lough Hyne nature reserve & woodland hill top walk as well as marked trails on the islands.

For garden enthusiasts there are formal flower gardens, rockeries, meadows, stone-walled herb gardens, birdsong-filled woodlands, fruit cages, bird hides, sunken gardens with ponds and fountains, orchards and carriage drives.

FASTNET ROCK

The Fastnet Lighthouse sticks up out of the Atlantic like a finger pointing at the heavens, and marks Ireland’s most southerly point. It is considered one of the most beautiful lighthouses in the world and remains the tallest and widest in Ireland or Great Britain.

Take a boat trip or guided tour to visit this famous “Carrig Aonar” (lonely rock).