



Counties Fermanagh & Tyrone

POP 230,000 / AREA 4846 SQ KM

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Dollakis (p651)
- ➔ Deli on the Green (p663)
- ➔ Terrace Restaurant (p651)
- ➔ Cedars Bistro (p657)
- ➔ Philly's Phinest (p661)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Westville Hotel (p650)
- ➔ Cedars Guesthouse (p657)
- ➔ Tullylagan Country House (p663)
- ➔ Kilmore Quay Club (p656)
- ➔ Mullaghmore House (p661)

Why Go?

The ancient landscape of Fermanagh is shaped by ice and water, with rugged hills rising above quilted plains of half-drowned drumlins (rounded hills formed by retreating glaciers) and shimmering, reed-fringed lakes. A glance at the map shows the county is around one-third water – as the locals will tell you, the lakes are in Fermanagh for six months of the year; for the other six, Fermanagh is in the lakes. This watery maze is a natural playground for anglers and canoeists.

County Tyrone – from Tír Eoghain (Land of Owen, a legendary chieftain) – is the homeland of the O'Neill clan, and is dominated by the tweed-tinted moorlands of the Sperrin Mountains, whose southern flanks are dotted with prehistoric sites. Apart from the hiking opportunities offered by these heather-clad hills, the county's main attraction is the Ulster American Folk Park, a fascinating outdoor museum celebrating Ulster's historic links with the USA.

When to Go

- ➔ May marks the start of the mayfly season, the most exciting time for trout fishing on Lough Erne, while June is the ideal month for cruising the lakes.
- ➔ If hiking is more to your taste, July is ideal for hill walking in the Sperrins. You can join a mass pilgrimage to the summit of Mullaghcarn, above Gortin, on Cairn Sunday, the last Sunday in the month.
- ➔ The tail end of summer is enlivened by the Ulster American Folk Park's annual Appalachian and Bluegrass Music Festival.

Counties Fermanagh & Tyrone Highlights

- 1 Hike over rare blanket bog to the remote summit of **Cuilcagh Mountain** (p660)
- 2 Ponder the meaning of the strange stone figures on **White Island** (p657) and **Boa Island** (p657)
- 3 Follow the course of an underground river through the **Marble Arch Caves** (p660)
- 4 Hire a canoe and explore the reed-fringed backwaters of **Lough Erne** (p653)
- 5 Learn about the historical links between Ireland and the USA at the **Ulster American Folk Park** (p661)
- 6 See how the Irish aristocracy enjoyed the high life in the elegant country house of **Florence Court** (p659)
- 7 Explore the Celtic monastic settlement on **Devenish Island** (p656), and climb to the top of its ancient round tower

