

Thu, 27 July Grade C • 5 km • 1½ hours

Dunmore Wood, Durow

Along woodland paths returning by the banks of the river Nore.

Meet: Dunmore Wood carpark, Grid Ref: S412787 7.30pm

Fri, 28 July Grade B • 8 km • 2½ hours

Ballacolla Family Walk

Starting from the village of Ballacolla, take in the rolling countryside of South Laois along quiet country roads and green lanes.

Meet: Hayes' Shop, Ballacolla, Grid Ref: S372814 7.30pm

Sat, 29 July Grade B • 7 km • 2½ hours

Ballykilocavan Farm Stradbally

Beautiful walk through one of Irelands oldest preserved Heritage woodlands, farm fields, Oak avenues, a hidden part of undiscovered Laois.

Meet: Farm entrance, Grid Ref: S593965 2.30pm

Sat, 29 July Grade C • 6 km • 1½ hour

Portlaoise Togher Wood Family Walk

This is a beautiful forest walk on the edge of Portlaoise town through mature woodland and forest trails.

Meet: The Rugby Club, Grid Ref: S468962 7.30pm

Sun, 30 July Grade A • 14 km • 3-4 hours

Durrow Leafy Loop Walk

The Leafy Loop brings you through woodland, farmland and riverbanks with a delightfully rich abundance of flora and fauna.

Meet: Dunmore Woods carpark, Grid Ref: S412787 2.30pm

“Get Ireland Walking”

– Active Community Walking Programme

Walking is the easiest way to get moving, get active and get happy, and Get Ireland Walking is here to help you get started: We've got tips and advice for anybody who wants to start walking to feel better, and we have all the information you need to start a walking group - so you can get fit with friends.

For further information on this programme please contact Laois Sports Partnership (057) 8671248 or email info@laoissports.ie.

GRADES OF WALKS:

A = Strenuous

B = Difficult

C = Moderate

Grade C walks are suitable for families

WALKING
...A WAY TO A HEALTHIER YOU!

WALKERS PLEASE NOTE:

REGISTRATION: takes place half an hour prior to each walk: €2 per walk or €25 Festival Ticket.

- Wear comfortable walking boots/shoes.
- Bring raingear.
- We walk as a group, please stay with Walk Leaders.
- Walk routes may vary slightly to those listed due to weather conditions or walker numbers.
- Bring sufficient food and water for the duration of the walk.

COUNTRYSIDE CODE:

- Leave No Trace.
- No Dogs allowed.
- On country roads walk in single file on the right hand side.
- Respect private property, farmland, wildlife and the rural environment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

On Family Walks and Laois Walks Festival, please contact:

Dominic Hartnett | Group Leader
Susan Lawlor | Festival Co-Ordinator © 087 2574477
Laois Partnership © 057 866 1900

info@laoispartnership.ie
www.laoispartnership.ie/laois-walks-festival

Peter Maher | Rural Recreation Officer © 085 1742217
petermaher@laoispartnership.ie

Laois Tourism www.laoistourism.ie

On the range of walks in Laois:

www.laois.ie/walking

On things to see and do, or places to stay in Laois:

www.laoistourism.ie

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Members of Laois Walks Committee, Community Groups, the Local Development Associations, Coillte, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Landowners

www.laoispartnership.ie

Fáilte Ireland National Tourism Development Authority
NDP National Development Plan
coillte OUTDOORS
LAOIS SPORTS PARTNERSHIP
The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development - Europe Investing in your future
LAOIS PARTNERSHIP COMPANY
Comhshaoil, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil Environment, Community and Local Government

16th Annual
Laois Walks' Festival

1st - 30th July 2017

featuring:

- Bog
- Road
- Canal
- Mountain
- Woodland



28 walks 28 locations



www.fb.com/LaoisWalksFestival

www.laoispartnership.ie

WALKING FESTIVAL 2017

Sat, 01 July Grade C • 5 km • 2 hours

Play Day Emo

Lake Walk and using Nordic poles. A circuit of Emo court demesne (second largest walled park in Europe) passing forest plantations, fields and Emo Court itself.

Meet: Community Centre, GAA carpark, Grid Ref: N530056 11am

Sat, 01 July Grade B • 10 km • 2½ hours

Oakvale Woods, Stradbally

Explore the forest on the 'Cobbler's Walk', passing a Mass rock, lime kilns and the gate of the Cobbler's Castle folly.

Meet: Oakvale Wood, Stradbally, Grid Ref: S585951 2.30pm

Sun, 02 July Grade A • 10 km • 3 hours

Rickets Rocks, Clonaslee

A mix of minor roads, sandy roadways and forestry tracks up into the Slieve Blooms passing Rickets Rocks waterfall.

Meet: The Heritage Centre, Grid Ref: N319109 2.30pm

Tue, 04 July Grade C • 5 km • 1½ hours

Ballinakill Family Walk

This walk starts from the historic gardens and skirts the Masslough, passing the Heywood estate.

Meet: Historic Heywood Demesne entrance carpark, Grid Ref: S465812 7.30pm

Wed, 05 July Grade B • 10 km • 2½ hours

Capponellan Woods, Durrow

Woodland walk through part of the Castle Durrow estate once owned by Lord Ashbrooke.

Meet: Capponellan Woods carpark, Grid Ref: S386764 7.30pm

Thu, 06 July Grade B • 8 km • 2 hours

Abbeyleix, Killamuck Bog Family Walk

This Fáilte Ireland approved loop features old bog tracks and peaceful wooded lanes.

Meet: Carpark of Manor Hotel, Grid Ref: S435841 7.30pm

Fri, 07 July Grade C • 5 km • 1½ hours

Portlaoise Family Friday Walk

A gentle stroll around streets of Portlaoise, suitable for buggies and wheelchairs

Meet: Council offices, Grid Ref: S470981 7.30pm

Sat, 8 July Grade B • 10 km • 3 hours

Rock of Dunamase/ Dysart Wood, Portlaoise

Take in the wonderful views from the Rock of Dunamase and stroll along the woodland paths of Dysart Wood.

Meet: Dysart Wood carpark, Grid Ref: S532976 2.30pm

Sun, 9 July Grade A • 12 km • 3 hours

Portarlinton

The Derryounce walk is a community owned walk around the picturesque Derryounce Lakes.

Meet: The Hawthorn Inn carpark, Grid Ref: N534124 2.30pm

Tue, 11 July Grade A • 10 km • 2½ hours

Spink

A challenging walk traversing the hills of the 16th Century Cooper Estate with spectacular views of Laois, Carlow, Waterford, Kildare & Tipperary.

Meet: Knock Church, Spink, Grid Ref: S516 836 7.30pm

Wed, 12 July Grade B • 10 km • 2½ hours

Luggacurren

This walk includes quiet winding country roads with great countryside views.

Meet: Community Centre, Grid Ref: S586888 7.30pm

Thu, 13 July Grade B • 7 km • 2½ hours

Grantstown

Quiet roads, laneways, Grantstown lake and countryside views

Meet: Gates of the lake, Grid Ref: S338795 7.30pm

Fri, 14 July Grade C • 5 km • 1½ hours

Portarlinton Family Walk

Sí Walk, lovely gentle walk traversing the town of Portarlinton. Family walk suitable for buggies and wheelchairs.

Meet: Community Centre carpark, Grid Ref: S545123 7.30pm

Sat, 15 July Grade B • 10 km • 2½ hours

Rossmore, Killeshin

This walk is a must for the wonderful views of the Barrow Valley, Dublin and Wicklow Mountains.

Meet: Oisín Park, Grid Ref: S349950 2.30pm

Sun, 16 July Grade A • 12 km • 3-4 hours

Gattabawn

Stroll along the Gattabawn loop which uses old farm lanes, open countryside and forest paths.

Meet: Mackey's Pub, Gattabawn, Grid Ref: S356685 2.30pm

Tue, 18 July Grade A • 12 km • 2½ hours

Grand Canal, Fisherstown

Walk along the Grand Canal down the Barrow valley passing moored boats and grain stores to the village of Vicarstown.

Meet: The Fisherstown Inn, Grid Ref: S467890 7.30pm

Wed, 19 July Grade B • 8 km • 2½ hours

Errill

A lovely walk through country lanes taking in Moonamondra Bog with panoramic views of the Devil's Bit.

Meet: The Green, Grid Ref: S218788 7.30pm

Thu, 20 July Grade A • 12 km • 2½ hours

Fossey Mountain, Timahoe

This demanding walk goes up Fossey Mountain and back into the historic village of Timahoe.

Meet: The Goose Green, Timahoe, Grid Ref: S536903 7.30pm

Fri, 21 July Grade C • 5 km • 1½ hours

Mountmellick Family Friday Walk

Enjoy a gentle stroll around quiet roads and streets of Mountmellick suitable for buggies and wheelchairs

Meet: (MDA) Museum, Grid Ref: N449073 7.30pm

Sat, 22 July Grade A • 12 km • 3-4 hours

Ridge of Capard, Rosenallis

Enjoy a walk through Ireland's largest state-owned nature reserve as you watch for the Hen Harrier, a rare bird of prey.

Meet: Ridge of Capard carpark, Grid Ref: N363065 2.30pm

Sun, 23 July Grade A • 10 km • 3-4 hours

Mountrath, Monciknew Mountain Walk

Experience the natural views and the beauty of the Slieve Bloom mountains as you ramble along its woodland paths.

Meet: Cattle mart at 2.15, Grid Ref: S668748 2.30pm

Tue, 25 July Grade B • 10 km • 2 hours

Wolfhill

The "hill of the howling wolves" on the Slieve Margy Ridge offers spectacular views of Slieve Margy and The Swan area.

Meet: Church Carpark, Grid Ref: S585839 7:30pm

Wed, 26 July Grade A • 10 km • 2-3 hours

Cullahill

Stunning panoramic views across several counties, taking you along old country lanes, forest tracks and open countryside.

Meet: Community Centre at 7.15, Grid Ref: S353742 7.30pm