

GEO PARK EVENTS

July – December 2024

www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



**CUILCAGH
LAKELANDS
GEO PARK**

www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



For 2024, our aim is to host a range of events which encourage people with various interests and abilities to engage with their Geopark – its unique landscapes, geology, and stories and to attract visitors to this wonderful UNESCO region.

The Geopark covers an extensive area, across West Fermanagh and West Cavan containing over 60 sites of natural, historical, or cultural interest. Our Geopark Guides and our communities are crucial to the delivery of the Events Programme and with their on-going support and assistance we are able to deliver a truly diverse and engaging programme.

In everything we do we promote the Leave No Trace Principles and ask people to adhere to the Geopark Code. Please be responsible and wear warm waterproof clothing and sturdy footwear to all events. Events may be added, altered, or cancelled and most are weather dependant so please check our website or social media pages for updated details.

Some events in this guide will be delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland.

If for some reason, we have to cancel an event please note that refunds will be offered.



CHILDREN'S BUSHCRAFT

Join Geopark Guide Stephen at Old Castle Archdale to sample life in the great outdoors and connect with your inner Bear Grylles. Learn all about shelter-building, and cooking outside during our two-hour Introduction to Bushcraft session. Please dress for the outdoors.

Date/Time: Saturday 6, 10am–12pm, 1pm–3pm

Location: Old Castle Archdale

Suitability: Children over 5 years

Price: £7.50 per child

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

DISCOVER THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BOGS ON INTERNATIONAL BOG DAY

Join Geopark Guide and bog expert Heather for a guided experience at one of Cavan's finest bogs - Aughawena. Discover more about this fascinating and incredibly important ecosystem. Then join us at Tomregan Hall for The Bog Cinema Installation & refreshments. Showing a series of short films documenting the Restoring Cavan's Boglands project since inception: A visually stimulating and intimate exploration of bogland.

Date/Time: Saturday 27, Walk 2.30pm–4.00pm,

The Bog Cinema Installation & refreshments 4.30pm–6.30pm

Location: Ballyconnell Recycling Centre

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: €5 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

DRUMLANE ABBEY – WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE PRESENT

Nestled within the heart of Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, join Hawthorn Lodge (A Geopark Sustainable Business Network Member) and Drumlane History and Heritage Group for a leisurely guided tour at the historic Drumlane Abbey and Round Tower, Milltown, Belturbet, County Cavan, for an afternoon filled with exploration and discovery, whilst enjoying nature and the stunning scenery.

Date/Time: Sunday 28, 2pm–5pm

Location: Drumlane Abbey

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: €10 per person

Booking essential via: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/drumlane-abbey-where-the-past-meets-the-present-tickets-863110535847?aff=oddtcreator

WILLOW WEAVING

Join Geopark Guide Stephen to learn the ancient craft of willow weaving. During this two-day course you will have expert tuition to weave your own breadbasket.

Date/Time: Saturday and Sunday 3 & 4 10am–4pm

Location: Belturbet Town Hall

Suitability: Adults

Price: €115 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

JAMPA LING OPEN DAY

Everyone is invited to spend an informal afternoon at Jampa Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Centre (A Geopark Sustainable Business Network Member). Take a walk in the stunning grounds - nineteen acres of land which include a mature birch forest and views of the spectacular Cuilcagh Mountain. Stay for a cup of tea and visit the craft shop.

Date/Time: Monday 5, 2.30pm–5.00pm

Location: Jampa Ling, Bawnboy

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

No booking needed, just drop in

HERITAGE WEEK 17-24 AUGUST

CHILDREN'S BUSHCRAFT

Join Geopark Guide Stephen at Cavan Burren Park to sample life in the great outdoors and connect with your inner Bear Grylles. Learn all about shelter-building, and cooking outside during our two-hour Introduction to Bushcraft session. Please dress for the outdoors.

Date/Time: Saturday 17, 10am–12pm, 1pm–3pm

Location: Cavan Burren Park

Suitability: Children over 5 years

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

ADVENTURE CAVING

Join Geopark Guide Helen and Cave leader Sean for an underground adventure. Explore the maze of underground passages that stretch out under the stunning village of Boho in the heart of Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark and learn about how and why they have formed here. No caving experience necessary, all equipment will be provided.

Date/Time: Saturday 17, 11am–1pm

Location: Meet at Boho Community Centre

Suitability: Adults of a reasonable fitness level

Price: £25 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

ST MOGUE'S ISLAND GUIDED TOUR

Join Geopark Guide and local history expert Aidan for a boat trip to the historic St Mogue's Island. Learn about the fascinating history of the area, the story of St Mogue and take in some stunning views.

Date/Time: Sunday 18, 12pm–3pm

Location: St Mogue's Island

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

EXPLORE HERITAGE AT KILLYKEEN FOREST PARK

Join Geopark Guide Fergal, for a gentle guided experience of approximately 10kms to explore the heritage in and around Killykeen Forest Park.

Date/Time: Sunday 18, 12pm–3pm

Location: Killykeen Forest Park, main carpark (Cavan town side)

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

CURSING'S AND BLESSINGS - ST BRIGID'S STONES

Join Geopark Guides Bee and Dani who will give a talk on the St. Brigid connection to this region and escort the group to view the St. Brigid Cursing and Blessing Stones.

Date/Time: Sunday 18, 2pm–3.30pm

Location: Meet at Lough MacNea amenity area

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

HERITAGE WEEK GEOPARK SUMMER SCHEME

Join Geopark staff and guides for 5 days of activities including biking, caving, bug hunts, fossil making, archery and a visit to the water park at Cavan Adventure Centre.

Date/Time: Monday – Friday 19-23, 9.30am–2pm

(packed lunch needed daily)

Location: Various – meeting in Killykeen Forest

Park and Cavan Adventure Centre

Suitability: Children 8–12 years old

Price: €20 per child

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

WEAVE YOUR OWN BIRD FEEDER

Join Geopark Guide and expert willow weaver Stephen to learn the ancient craft of willow weaving. In this 4-hour session you will receive specialist tuition to weave your own bird feeder.

Date/Time: Wednesday 21, 9.30am–1.30pm

Location: Downra Courthouse

Suitability: Adults and children over 12 years

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

FELTED FLOWERS

Join local artist and Geopark Guide Morag for this gorgeous felting workshop, where you will make some beautiful flowers to take home and enjoy all year round. No experience necessary.

Date/Time: Wednesday 21, 2pm–4.30pm

Location: Downra Courthouse

Suitability: Adults and children over 12 years

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

FROM FLEECE TO FABRIC – THE STORY OF WOOL

Come along to Downra Courthouse on Friday 23 August to see the story of wool from fleece to fabric with Geopark Guides Bee, Morag and Dani. See demonstrations of carding, dyeing, spinning and weaving and why not have a go yourself! Hear stories of St Brigid, Patron Saint of sheep and cattle farmers, weavers and makers. See how you can elevate the value of this natural resource by transforming it into a thing of beauty.

Date/Time: Friday 23, 1pm–4pm

Location: Downra Court House

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Drop in event – no need to pre book

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

The Ballyconnell Intergenerational Community Choir will present a wonderful uplifting programme of music. Director of the choir Karina Charles Lynch is very keen to get people of all ages singing together. We all know that singing makes us feel good. Andrew Lynch is on keyboard accompaniment. This will be an opportunity to hear a new Community Choir with a few solo numbers by Karina and Andrew and perhaps a special guest. Members of the audience will be invited to part take in a little singing too. This will be an intimate and inclusive experience. Not to be missed. This community initiative is funded by Creative Places and The Arts Council of Ireland and Cavan Arts.

Date/Time: Sunday 25, 7pm–9pm

Location: Cavan Burren Park

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland

BAT HUNT ON INTERNATIONAL BAT NIGHT

Join Geopark Guide and local bat expert Ian on a quest through the night in search of one of Ireland's most mysterious creatures. Use our specialist bat detectors to identify different species and find out why these legally protected flying mammals are so important to our ecosystem.

Date/Time: Saturday 24, 8.30pm–10pm

Location: Castle Caldwell Forest Castle Car park

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: £5 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghkarakelands.org

FORAGING AT BALLYCONNELL CANAL / WOODFORD RIVER WALK

Join Geopark staff and local arboriculturist Shailagh Healy to identify local plants and flowers that can be used in food and home remedies on this 4km walk at Ballyconnell Canal.

Date/Time: Sunday 25, 2pm–4pm

Location: Ballyconnell Canal / Woodford River Walk; Ballyconnell Bridge Car Park

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghkarakelands.org

This event is delivered with the financial support of Geological Survey Ireland



SUNSET PADDLE TO CLOUGH OUGHTER CASTLE

Join the Cavan Adventure Team (A Geopark Sustainable Business Network Member) on this special sunset paddle to Clough Oughter Castle.

Date/Time: Friday 30, 7pm–10.30pm

Location: Cavan Adventure Centre, Inishmore

Suitability: Adults of a reasonable fitness level

Price: €40 per person

Booking essential via: www.cavanadventure.ie

September

WHAT TREES CAN TELL US

Join Geopark Guide Fergal in Killykeen Forest Park and hear about what trees can tell us about the weather, land, and animals around us.

Date/Time: Saturday 7, 12pm–3pm

Location: Killykeen Forest – Main Carpark (Cavan town side)

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: €6 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

MAGNIFICENT MINIBEASTS ON EUROPEAN HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Join Geopark staff for a minibeast hunt and undergrowth safari. Using our specialist equipment, we will safely capture some magnificent minibeasts, before learning how to identify them using classification and ID charts. Finish the day by painting your own minibeast to take home with you.

Date/Time: Saturday 14, 10am–11.30am

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve (McGrath's Cottage)

Suitability: Suitable for families

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

KILLYKEEGAN GUIDED EXPERIENCE ON EUROPEAN HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Join Geopark staff for a guided experience at this stunning Geopark site. Learn about the Geology and see the limestone pavement, visit the ancient Cashel and discover why this site is a designated nature reserve and area of special scientific interest.

Date/Time: Saturday 14, 12pm–1.30pm

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve (McGrath's Cottage)

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

CUILCAGH MOUNTAIN JEEP SAFARI ON EUROPEAN HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Join Geopark staff on European Heritage Open Day as you are chauffeured through Cuilcagh Mountain Park in one of the Geopark vehicles. Learn about the fascinating history of the site, see the Geology underfoot, and enjoy the scenic views without the hard work!

Date/Time: Saturday 14, 2.30pm–4.30pm

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve McGrath's Cottage

Suitability: Adults and children over 12 years
(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

MUSIC OF THE BOGLANDS

Culture Night Cavan presents 'Music of the Boglands' an enchanting programme of events for Culture Night, Friday 20th September, at The Railway Station, Belturbet hosted by the "Restoring Cavan's Boglands" project. This is the culmination of a year-long eco-awareness Creative Climate Action project funded by Creative Ireland and Culture Night, & Cavan Arts. Full details available on our website.

Date/Time: Friday 20, 5pm–10pm

Location: Belturbet Railway Station

Suitability: Suitable for all
(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: Free

Drop in event – no need to pre book

E-BIKE ADVENTURE

Join Geopark Guide Fergal, for this unique 18km looped e-bike historic adventure. Take in the beautiful sights of the drumlin landscape with its rivers and lakes so famous to Cavan. Hear about the history of the ancient sites such as Drumlane Abbey and Urney Graveyard, as well as other special features of this area. Includes a light lunch. The trail encompasses quiet tarmac roads and country lanes. All equipment, lunch and guide are included.

Date/Time: Saturday 28, 10am–5pm

Location: Cavan Adventure Centre, Inishmore

Suitability: Adults of a reasonable fitness level

Price: €95 per person

Booking essential via: www.cavanadventure.ie

October

GUIDED EXPERIENCE AT OWENBREEN RIVER ON GEODIVERSITY DAY

Join Geopark Guide and local expert Ian for a guided walk at this beautiful site. See Cuilcagh Mountain from a different view as you follow the Owenbreen River through the blanket bog. See some fossils on the riverbank and take a trip through time when Ireland was under a shallow tropical sea.

Date/Time: Saturday 5, 11am–1pm

Location: Owenbreen river walk

Suitability: Suitable for adults

Price: £5 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



ROCK DETECTIVES ON GEODIVERSITY DAY

Join Geopark staff to celebrate Geodiversity Day by journeying back in time. You will learn about Ireland under water, while hunting for fossils of ancient sea creatures. Make your own fossil and planet earth to take home with you.

Date/Time: Saturday 5, 2pm–3.30pm

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve

Suitability: Suitable for children 6–12 years old

Price: £5 per child

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



10 SEPTEMBER
**INTERNATIONAL
GEODIVERSITY
DAY**
THE DIVERSITY
SUSTAINS THE LIFE

DRUMLANE ABBEY – WHERE THE PAST MEETS THE PRESENT

Nestled within the heart of Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, join Hawthorn Lodge (A Geopark Sustainable Business Network Member) and Drumlane History and Heritage Group for a leisurely guided tour at the historic Drumlane Abbey and Round Tower, Milltown, Belturbet, County Cavan, for an afternoon filled with exploration and discovery, whilst enjoying nature and the stunning scenery.

Date/Time: Sunday 6, 2pm–5pm

Location: Drumlane Abbey

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: €10 per person

Booking essential via: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/drumlane-abbey-where-the-past-meets-the-present-tickets-863110535847?aff=oddtcreator

DARK SKY AND MOON OBSERVATION ON GEODIVERSITY DAY

Join amateur astronomer Terry Mosley from the Irish Astronomical Association to experience the pristine dark skies of the Geopark and the abundance of stars and planets that are visible to the naked eye.

Date/Time: Friday 11 & Saturday 12, 8.30pm–10pm

Location: Fri 11 Cavan Burren Park and Sat 12 Killykeegan Nature Reserve (McGrath's Cottage)

Suitability: Suitable for adults

Price: £7/€9 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



10 SEPTEMBER
**INTERNATIONAL
GEODIVERSITY
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THE DIVERSITY
SUSTAINS THE LIFE

DARK SKY EXPLORERS ON GEODIVERSITY DAY

Join staff from the Geopark and Armagh Observatory and Planetarium for a day filled with dark sky activities.

Date/Time: Saturday 12, 10am–4pm

Location: Belcoo Community Centre

Suitability: Suitable for all

(Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: see website for full details of activities and pricing

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org



10 SEPTEMBER
**INTERNATIONAL
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DAY**
THE DIVERSITY
SUSTAINS THE LIFE

WILLOW WEAVING

Join Geopark Guide Stephen to learn the ancient craft of willow weaving. During this two-day course you will have expert tuition to weave your own breadbasket

Date/Time: Saturday 12 & Sunday 13, 10am–4pm

Location: Castle Island, Enniskillen

Suitability: Suitable for adults

Price: £100 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

MAKE YOUR OWN WILLOW CHRISTMAS WREATH

In this 2-hour workshop, Geopark Guide Stephen will teach you to craft your own willow wreath which can be updated and used every year.

Date/Time: Saturday 7, 10am–12pm, 2pm–4pm

Location: Castle Island, Enniskillen

Suitability: Suitable for adults

Price: £35 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

CUILCAGH MOUNTAIN JEEP SAFARI ON INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

Join Geopark staff to celebrate International Mountain Day at the Geopark's only true Mountain as you are chauffeured up in one of the Geopark vehicles.

Date/Time: Saturday 7, 11am–1pm, 2pm–4pm

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve

Suitability: Suitable for all (Children must be over 12 years and must be accompanied by an adult)

Price: £5 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

MAKE YOUR OWN WILLOW CHRISTMAS WREATH

In this 2-hour workshop, Geopark Guide Stephen will teach you to craft your own willow wreath which can be updated and used every year.

Date/Time: Sunday 8, 10am–12pm, 2pm–4pm

Location: Townhall Belturbet

Suitability: Suitable for adults

Price: €40 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

CUILCAGH MOUNTAIN GUIDED BOARDWALK TOUR ON INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

Have you ever wanted to climb Cuilcagh but thought it was just a bit too much? Join Geopark staff for a drive through Cuilcagh Mountain Park, where you will be chauffeured to the beginning of the boardwalk for a 5km walk to the viewing platform and back.

Date/Time: Sunday 8, 11am–2pm

Location: Killykeegan Nature Reserve

Suitability: Suitable for adults with reasonable fitness

Price: £5 per person

Booking essential via: www.cuilcaghlakelands.org





Contact Information

Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark,
MacNean Resource Centre,
Blacklion,
Co Cavan,
Ireland,
F91 NWV7

T: 00353 71 985 3692

E: info@cuilcaghlakelands.org

This is Cavan!

Tourism Information
www.thisiscavan.ie

Fermanagh Lakeland Tourism

www.fermanaghlakelands.com

For more information on upcoming activities, latest news, additional Geopark sites and much more please visit:

www.cuilcaghlakelands.org

www.cavanburrenpark.ie

www.marblearchcaves.co.uk

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