#### **TALBOT HOTEL**

C L O N M E L





# Key Facts about the Talbot Hotel Clonmel



Talbot Hotel Clonmel is one of Tipperary's finest 4 Star Hotels.

The hotel is centrally located in Ireland's Ancient East off the main Dublin to Cork road, the M8.

Situated only 45 minutes from Waterford & Kilkenny, 1 hour from Cork or just over 2 hours from Dublin.

Only 5 minutes from Clonmel town and a short stroll from the convenient Poppyfield Retail Park and shops.

99 guest bedrooms, Wheat Bar & Bistro, Howard's Restaurant, Spa for pampering treatments, award winning Talbot Fitness Leisure Centre with gym, sauna, jacuzzi, steam room and 20 metre swimming pool.

Over 300 car spaces with ample coach parking all complimentary.

The iconic Rock of Cashel, Cahir Castle, Swiss Cottage, Mitchelstown Caves & Ormond Castle are on our doorstep, plus much more!

Open your eyes to a world of natural wonders in Ireland's Ancient East while staying in the Talbot Hotel Clonmel.

Marvel at century old castles, tower houses and churches. Discover their history of drama, romance, intrigue, and deadly rivalries. Stay a while and sample the sensational local food produce, arts, and crafts – it's matched only by the local hospitality here in Tipperary.

From Cahir through the picturesque villages of Ardfinnan and Newcastle to the medieval town of Clonmel and on to historic Carrick-on-Suir, this trip will open your eyes to the world of natural wonders in Ireland's Ancient East.

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# Local Attractions



## Cahir Castle

Discover the people, places and experiences which shaped a landscape that was the main gateway to the centre of Ireland through the ages. Once the stronghold of the Butler family, this imposing, 12th-century fortress is one of Ireland's largest and best-preserved castles.

It has an excellent audio-visual show and guided tours for visitors to learn about the pivotal role it played in important periods in Irish history.



# Swiss Cottage

Join the tree-lined Coronation Walk for 2km alongside the gently flowing River Suir to the wonderfully romantic Swiss Cottage.

This exquisite 200-year-old gentry's folly was where lords and ladies spent long summer days at leisure. Surrounded outside by fragrant roses, lavender and wisteria, its delightful interior contains elegantly decorated rooms with specially made furnishings, hand-painted murals and what was once some of the most expensive wallpaper in the world. Find out more about its architectural and design curiosities on one of the 30-minute guided tours.



### Ormond Castle

No visit to Tipperary would be complete without a visit to the market town of Carrick-on-Suir only a 12-minute drive away. While in Carrick-On-Suir a visit to Ormond Castle is a must.

This is the finest example of an Elizabethan manor house in Ireland, Ormond was built in the 16th Century by the 3rd Earl of Ormond, 'Black' Tom Butler, after he was inspired by the architecture he encountered while spending time at the court of his cousin Queen Elizabeth I. Features include some of the most marvellously decorative plasterwork in the country.

Ormond Castle is one of 10 Butler Trail stops in the town, which also includes the beautiful stained glass and Kilkenny marble columns of St. Nicholas Church.



# Rock of Cashel

The Rock of Cashel is one of Ireland's most spectacular and – deservedly – most visited tourist attractions. It is reputed to be the site of the conversion of the King of Munster by St. Patrick in the 5th century. The Rock of Cashel was the traditional seat of the kings of Munster for several hundred years prior to the Norman invasion.

Set on a dramatic outcrop of limestone in the Golden Vale, the Rock of Cashel, iconic in its historic significance, possesses the most impressive cluster of medieval buildings in Ireland. Among the monuments to be found there is a round tower, a high cross, a Romanesque chapel, a Gothic cathedral, an abbey, the Hall of the Vicars Choral and a fifteenth-century Tower House.



# Suir Blueway

The Suir Blueway in Tipperary is a 53km kayaking and canoe trail from Cahir to Carrick-on-Suir which passes through Clonmel.

This also includes a 21km walking and cycling trail from Clonmel to Carrick-on-Suir (or vice versa) along the beautiful River Suir. It is the perfect way to sample Ireland's beautiful countryside and rich cultural heritage.

The route is divided into four stages and is ideal for leisure cyclists of all abilities, with excellent picnicking spots along the way. Bring your own bike or hire one at Blueway Bike Hire.

Should you enjoy a paddle on the River Suir's flowing waters, or to go for a cycle or walk along its banks, a hike up nearby mountains, or a sedate stroll in bustling towns and villages. The Suir Blueway Tipperary has something for all ages and interests.



# Clonmel's Main Guard

Visit Clonmel's beautiful main guard, which was built as a courthouse in 1675, hosted King James II as he toured Ireland, and was expertly restored at the turn of the last century. The Butler Trail in Clonmel takes its a 40 minutes audio guided walking trail about 1-2 hours and takes in the West Gate in the town walls, and the Franciscan Friary.



## Mitchelstown Caves

Mitchelstown Caves is one of the largest and most complex cave systems in Ireland. On the guided tour you will follow ancient passageways and visit massive caverns in which you are surrounded by indescribable dripstone formations, stalactites, stalagmites and huge calcite pillars and one of Europe's finest columns the inspiring "Tower of Babel" which stands some 9 meters in height. This is one of Europe's major show caves, discovered in 1833.

### Fethard Horse Museum

The Fethard Horse Country Experience is a state-of-theart interactive exhibition housed within a C17th Tholsel building where visitors can explore the story of the horse and its role in Irish culture over 2000 years.

Located in the heart of the Golden Vale, Fethard Horse Country Experience offers visitors the opportunity to discover the rich culture, heritage, and history of the region. Part of Ireland's Ancient East, this state-of-



the-art interactive experience examines the relationship between the people, the land and the horse

revealing how they are all inextricably linked.

Spread out over two floors within C17th Tholsel building the interactive nature of the exhibition makes it an enjoyable and informative experience for all ages. The entire building is also wheelchair accessible.

# The Thrill of the Races

The county is home to some of the world's most famous racehorses and the base for many of Ireland's most successful jockeys and trainers. Horse racing and thoroughbred horse breeding is indeed serious business in these parts.

For racehorse fans, a trip to Coolmore Stud is one for the bucket list. The famous Fethard stud farm – the world's biggest and best thoroughbred breeding operation – is home to the finest stallions on the planet.

Coolmore has started admitting a limited number of visitors through its gates during the summer months as part of a novel link-up with the nearby Fethard Horse Country Experience.

The tour of Coolmore is one of the many treats on offer for visitors to the Fethard Horse Country Experience. The state-of-the-art museum was opened by famous composer and local Fethard resident Andrew Lloyd Webber in 2017, and it celebrates the area's remarkable dominance of global horse racing.



Not only does Tipperary have the world's top stud farm in Coolmore, but it is also home to the Ballydoyle Racing Stable, acknowledged by racing experts as the finest horse training establishment anywhere.

- > Clonmel Racetrack (Powerstown Park) has been a popular venue for horse racing for more than 150 years. The racecourse is a right-handed track of 1.25 miles. It is recognised as a demanding National Hunt course with a stiff uphill climb followed by a gradual downhill run with an uphill finish. Viewing of racing from all points in the enclosure is exceptional.
- > Tipperary Race Track Racing is from April to October and offering a mixture of top-class National Hunt (jump) and Flat racing, Tipperary is at its busiest at the height of the summer but hosts its biggest meeting of the year on the first Sunday of October. The "Super Sunday" meeting is the only race meeting to stage Graded National Hunt races and a Group race on the Flat on the same card.

Follow some of Tipperary's

### Finest Food Trails



#### > The Apple Farm

The Apple Farm located a 5-minute drive from the hotel, have been growing Apples in this area for hundreds of years, and since 1968 they have been planting more orchards to increase their supply.

As well as apples, they grow pears, plums, sweet cherries, strawberries, and raspberries. They also have a Camping and Caravan Park on the farm. When they are not busy with this, you will find them making apple juice, sparkling apple juice, cider vinegar and mixed juices from other fruits; all done on the farm.

#### > Galtee Honey Farm

This is one of the most unique beekeeping establishments in Ireland, located in a conservation area for native Irish Black Bees, which produce award-winning honey and contribute hugely to pollination in the local environment. Book a general visit during summer and observe the bees, taste some honey, and learn about beeswax candles.

The Taste of Beekeeping Experience provides a more hands-on look at beekeeping. Put on a bee suit, open beehives, see the workings of the colony close, taste honey, and learn what to plant for bees. Located in Glengarra Wood, Burncourt, Cahir, this is a once in a lifetime experience to witness!

#### > Cashel Blue Cheese

Learn about farmhouse cheese-making in Ireland at the home of the renowned Cashel Blue and Crozier Blue cheeses.

During the unique Cashel Farmhouse Cheesemakers' visitor experience, experts share their philosophy about making cheese and the history of the family-run business, as well as tastings of sheep and cow milk, cheese curd, young and mature cheese. You'll also get tips on other great food experiences and the opportunity to buy quality, local cheese.