



# 10 Villages to Visit in Erris!

1. **An Baile Chruaich (Ballycroy):** an ancient landscape that is, paradoxically, home to Ireland's newest National Park. *Ballroom of Romance* – a famous Irish film was made here.
2. **Ceathrú Thaidhg (Carrowteige):** a seaside Gaeltacht village, where some of Ireland's most beautiful walking trails commence e.g. the Black Ditch Loop and the Children of Lir loop.
3. **An Fód Dubh (Blacksod):** its square lighthouse played a vital role in the D-Day landings during WWII, and thousands have emigrants have set sail from here for a new life in the USA & Canada.
4. **Inis Gé Theas (Iniskea South):** the villages on these islands have long been deserted. The islands are full of archaeological ruins and are internationally important homes to bird life and other fauna & flora.
5. **Baingear (Bangor Erris):** anglers travel from all over Europe to catch salmon & sea trout in the Owenmore River & Carrowmore Lake. The famous Bangor Trail also runs from here to Newport.
6. **Gleann na Muaidhe (Glenamoy):** with two rivers running through the Glenamoy area, this beautiful region is also famous for fishing & angling.
7. **Eachléim (Aughleam):** this Gaeltacht village is well-known for its Coláistí Samhraidh Gaeilge (Irish summer colleges) and is home to Ionad Deirbhile Heritage Centre & the Blacksod Bay Emigration information centre.
8. **Barr na Trá, Poll an tSómais & an tInbhear (Barnatra, Pullathomas & Inver):** the mountains and hills here are popular with hikers and there is a much-photographed shipwreck on a nearby beach. The Prophet of Erris (Brían Rua Ó Cearbhain) was born in Inver in the 16<sup>th</sup> century – he predicted many things that have come true today.
9. **Béal Deirg (Belderg):** a haven for geologists & archaeologists, this area is famous for the discovery of what is now known as the Céide Fields, by a local schoolmaster Patrick Caulfield. Irish poet, Séamus Heaney, wrote a poem titled *Belderg* after a visit to Caulfield's home.
10. **Gaoth Sáile & Dumha Thuama (Geesala & Doohoma):** the annual Geesala horse races on the beach inspired John Millington Synge's *Playboy of the Western World* and Ceann Ramhar (Doohoma Head) is one of the Wild Atlantic Way discovery points.

**Béal an Mhuirthead (Belmullet)** is the main town in Erris, straddling the isthmus between the mainland and the Mullet Peninsula. Enjoy its shops, cafés, pubs & restaurants, and the stunning views over Broadhaven Bay to the north and Blacksod Bay to the south!

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