

## Slí Ghallarais

Tús/Críoch: Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne, Baile an Fheirtéaraigh

Fad: c. 12km

Léarscáil: Uimhir 70, Sraith Eolais

### • Béal Bán agus Cuan Ard na Caithne <sup>2</sup>

D'fhéadfadh, dar le scoláirí áirithe, gurbh ón seana-Lochlannais a tháinig ainm an chuain seo sa Bhéarla (i.e. 'Smerwick' a chiallaíonn 'cuan ime' nó 'an chuid is fearr de'). Thabharfadh seo le fios go raibh na Lochlannaigh lonnaithe ann tráth dá raibh. Ach tá amhras fé sin agus scoláirí eile den dtuairim gurbh ón nGaeilge a thagann an ainm. Is sa chuan seo isteach a tháinig cabhlach na Spáinne is na Breataine ar ancaire roimis Ár Dhún an Óir i Mí na Samhna 1580.

### • Cnoc Bréanainn

Síneann Cnoc Bréanainn, an dara sliabh is airde in Éirinn, breis is 950 méadar os cionn na farraige. Tá lucht oilithreachta ag triall ar bharr Chnoc Bréanainn leis na cianta cairbreacha. Ghabhaidís siar ó thuaidh ó Chuan Fionn Trá ar Chosán na Naomh go barra an chnoic. Triallann pobal Chorca Dhuibhne go mullach an chnoic fós le hAifreann a chlos ar an nDomhnach deiridh de mhí an Mheithimh gach bliain.

### • An Teampall Bán <sup>3</sup>

Creidtear ionad adhlactha agus séipéilín ósna luath-Mheánaoiseanna a bheith sa láthair seo. Le blianta beaga anuas dheineadh an creimeadh talún cnámha agus cloigne a nochtadh go ndeineadh an láthair a chaomhnú le fiordhéanaí, le hoibreacha cosanta cósta.

### • Baile an Reannaigh <sup>4</sup>

Ogham a thugtar ar an scríbhinn is luaithe atá againn in Éirinn. Poncanna agus línte seachas litreacha, greanta ar ghallán cloiche mar atá sa sampla seo i mBaile an Reannaigh, atá sa Chloch Oghaim. Fuarthas 70 oghamchloch ar fad scaipthe ar fuaid Chorca Dhuibhne. Is féidir cuid acusan a tógadh ó Bhaile an Reannaigh a fheiscint i gColáiste Íde i mBaile an Ghóilín, lasmuigh den nDaingean.

### • Caisléan Ghallarais <sup>5</sup>

Túrtheach ón 15ú céad atá sa chaisléan agus sliocht Gearaltach a bhí ina gcónaí ann. Deineadh díobháil don gcaisleán le linn aimsir Chromail sa 17ú céad. Deineadh athchóiriú air le blianta beaga anuas.

### • Séipéilín Ghallarais <sup>6</sup>

Tá Gallaras ar an gceann is foirfe agus is iomláine des na cealla Críostaí go léir a bhfuil a n-iarsmaí le fáil in Éirinn inniu. Meastar gur tógadh é uair éicint idir an 10ú agus an 11ú céad. Níl a mhacasamhail de thógáil atá chomh healaíonta le feiscint i gcás aon chille eile. Tá an séipéal féin tógtha laistigh d'fhothrach seanamhainistreach.

### • An Riasc <sup>7</sup>

Mainistir mheánaoiseach atá sa Riasc. Deineadh an láthair seo a thochailt idir 1972-1975. Tá crosleaca ann chomh maith le clocháin, séipéilín agus ceallúnach. Tá iarsmaí a aimsíodh sa láthair ar taispeáint i Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne.

## Slí Ghallarais

Start / Finish: Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne, Baile an Fheirtéaraigh

Distance: c. 12km

Map: No. 70, Discovery Series

### • Béal Bán and Cuan Ard na Caithne/Smerwick Harbour <sup>2</sup>

It is suggested that the English version of the name of this harbour (i.e. 'Smerwick') originates from Old Norse, meaning 'butter harbour', or a very good (i.e. 'cream of') harbour, indicating that there was a Viking settlement in this area, although others disagree with this, seeing its origins in the Irish language. In the autumn of 1580 this was a busy place, with ships at anchor from both the English and Spanish fleets, leading to the Massacre at Dún an Óir on 10th November 1580.

### • Cnoc Bréanainn

Mount Brandon, the second highest mountain in Ireland at over 950m, dominates the area. This mountain has been a focus of pilgrimage since medieval times, and probably earlier. *Cosán na Naomh* (The Saints' Path) is a pilgrim route through the peninsula finishing eventually on the top of the mountain, which is named after St Brendan. An annual pilgrimage is still made to the summit of Mount Brandon on the last Sunday of June.

### • An Teampall Bán (The White/Bright Church) <sup>3</sup>

Coastal erosion has been exposing burials in this area for many years. Recent excavations have shown this to have been a medieval burial ground which still contains the ruins of a dry stone-built church, which may date from the early medieval period. The ruin is no longer visible due to recent measures taken to prevent further erosion of the site.

### • Baile an Reannaigh <sup>4</sup>

The earliest surviving form of writing in Ireland, Ogham, which consists of notches and lines carved on standing stones, is to be seen on the Ogham stone visible here. It was originally exposed at the end of the 18th century, along with several others (some now in the grounds of Coláiste Íde at Baile an Ghóilín outside Dingle), and is one of up to 70 such stones found in Corca Dhuibhne.

### • Gallarus Castle <sup>5</sup>

This recently-restored 15th-century tower house was built by members of the Fitzgerald family, who were important chieftains in this area at that time. It was damaged during the Cromwellian wars in the middle of the 17th century.

### • Gallarus Oratory <sup>6</sup>

This iconic building is the only one of its kind surviving intact on the Irish mainland. It was the church of a monastery, other elements of which are still visible on the site. It may date from the 10th or 11th centuries AD.

### • An Riasc <sup>7</sup>

This monastery, in use from the 6th century, was excavated from 1972 -1975. Here you can see several cross-inscribed stones and understand the layout of the monastery, with houses, church etc. visible. Artefacts and other cross-slabs found on the site are on display in Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne.