



Fáilte Ireland

National Tourism Development Authority

THE THOROUGHBRED TRAIL WEEKEND

The chance to go behind the scenes at the yards of top trainers John Oxx, Dermot Weld, Dessie Hughes and Conor O'Dwyer and enjoy top class action at either The Curragh or Punchestown Racecourse in Co Kildare with quality value for money accommodation

DISCOVERIRELAND.IE/EASTCOAST

YOUR HOST FOR THE THOROUGHBRED TRAIL



Frances Crowley and her family have been involved in horse racing all their lives. She is a former Classic-winning Trainer and Champion Amateur Jockey and lives on the Curragh with her husband, Pat Smullen, the Champion Flat Jockey. As host, Frances will accompany you on your visit to the trainers yards (wear suitable footwear!) where you will meet the Trainer and experience first-hand a working racing yard including horses being put through some work and race day preparations. The trip also includes a guided tour of the Irish National Stud. When you get to the races, Frances will join you for lunch and mark your card for the afternoon's racing and she may organise some Jockeys and Trainers to visit your table and give you the opportunity to rub shoulders with some of our racing stars.

Your Trainers Yards on The Curragh, County Kildare, The Thoroughbred County

- **John Oxx**, based in Curraghbeg stables, is one of Ireland's most respected and successful trainers and has enjoyed many big race successes including the English and Irish Derbys, the Breeders Cup Mile, the English and Irish Guineas. His principal jockeys are Michael Kinane and Fran Berry.
- **Dermot Weld**, based in Rosewell House, is one of Ireland's top flat trainers and, having trained winners in every continent (bar Africa!), including the winner of the Melbourne Cup no less than twice, has international renown. His principal jockey is current champion flat jockey Pat Smullen.
- **Dessie Hughes** started his racing career as a successful National Hunt Jockey but his plan was always to train. He is based at Osborne Lodge and has trained such stable stars as Hardy Eustace, Central House, Schindlers Hunt and Colonel Braxton.
- **Conor O'Dwyer** is known for being an excellent big race jockey having claimed both the coveted Cheltenham Gold Cup and Champion Hurdle twice, but now training in Rossmore Stables on the Curragh, Conor has made an easy transition from riding to training, and is enjoying success on the track
- **Irish National Stud and Horse Museum** – Set on 1000 acres of top class land the stud has mares, foals, yearlings and stallions. The stud is currently used by breeders from all over the world and leading winners have been bred by the National Stud including Daytona, Cairdeas, Desert King and Casion Clique. The museum is a state of the art exhibition where the Sport of Kings comes to life. It tells the story of Ireland's long love affair with horse racing and how man and horse unite for sporting competition. www.irish-national-stud.ie

Weekend 11th/12th/13th Sept: The Curragh

Friday 11th – Check into hotel of your choice and enjoy the evening at your leisure.

Saturday 12th – Depart Hotel on luxury coach

- Visit Trainers Yard
- Tour of National Stud, Kildare
- Day at the Races - includes 4 course silver service lunch at The Curragh Racecourse* with Frances Crowley as your host and tipster.

Sunday 13th – Check out of your hotel and choose one of the options below:

- Your VIP invitation giving you a further 10% off your purchases at Kildare Village Outlet Shopping, an unrivalled shopping experience featuring reductions of up to 60% on previous seasons' collection from leading international and European brands for the home and wardrobe .

www.kildarevillage.com

- Entry to Castletown House, Celbridge, Co. Kildare (Ireland's largest and earliest Palladian style house built between 1722 and 1729 – a fascinating tour of this celebrated house awaits). www.castletown.ie

* "Super Saturday" program features the final Classic of the season The Irish Field St Leger with a celebration promoting the Group 1 race as Europe's premier trial race for the Emirates Melbourne Cup. The Group 1 Ladbrokes National Stakes will also feature on this star studded card which also includes the Group 2 Irish National Stud Blandford Stakes. The day will include a celebration of the life of legendary trainer Vincent O'Brien.



Weekend 13th/14th/15th Nov : Punchestown

Friday 13th – Check into hotel of your choice and enjoy the evening at your leisure.

Saturday 14th – Depart Hotel on luxury coach

- Visit Trainers Yard
- Tour of National Stud, Kildare
- Day at the Races - includes 4 course silver service lunch at Punchestown Racecourse* with Frances Crowley as your host and tipster

Sunday 15th – Check out of your hotel and avail of the option below:

- Your VIP invitation giving you a further 10% off your purchases at Kildare Village Outlet Shopping, an unrivalled shopping experience featuring reductions of up to 60% on previous seasons' collection from leading international and European brands for the home and wardrobe www.kildarevillage.com

* Punchestown - The Home of Irish National Hunt Racing since 1827, Punchestown Racecourse is set amidst 450 acres of magnificent Irish countryside in the heart of Ireland's Thoroughbred county. The Winter Festival is one of the highlights of the November calendar with a chance to see the stars of previous years being taken on by the young pretenders.



Fáilte Ireland, Horse Racing Ireland, Trainers Yards, The Curragh, Punchestown, the Irish National Stud, Kildare Village Outlet Shopping, Castletown House and many of County Kildare's top quality hotels have teamed up to bring you a very special horse racing weekend with a difference. Package includes 2 nights Bed & Breakfast, 1 Dinner (Friday or Saturday subject to availability), visit to Trainer's Yard, tour of the National Stud, entry to race days, lunch, discount voucher to Kildare Village Outlet Shopping and tour of Castletown House (September 13th only).

TO BOOK – Select hotel of your choice (contact details below) and make booking directly quoting the Thoroughbred Trail.

€269.00 per person sharing (Single Supplement Applies)

PARTICIPATING HOTELS (where you should direct your bookings):

Barberstown Castle, Straffan – www.barberstowncastle.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)1 6288157

The Heritage Golf and Spa Resort , Killenard – www.theheritage.com Tel: 00 353 (0)57 864 5500

The K-Club, Straffan – www.kclub.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)1 601 7200

Rathsallagh Country House, Dunlavin – www.rathsallaghhousehotel.com Tel: 00 353 (0)45 403112

€219.00 per person sharing (Single Supplement Applies)

PARTICIPATING HOTELS (where you should direct your bookings):

Carlton Abbey Hotel, Athy – www.carlton.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)59 863 0100

Carton House, Maynooth – www.cartonhouse.com Tel: 00 353 (0)1 651 7701

Clanard Court Hotel, Athy – www.clanardcourt.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)59 864 0666

Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge – www.keadeenhotel.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)45 431666

Maudlins House Hotel, Naas – www.maudlinshousehotel.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)45 896999

The Osprey Hotel & Spa, Naas – www.osprey.ie Tel: 00 353 (0)45 881112

Westgrove Hotel, Clane – www.westgrovehotel.com Tel: 00 353 (0)45 989900

While every attempt will be made to adhere to the programme as laid out on the selected weekends, circumstances beyond our control may lead to changes in named premises however where this happens every care will be taken to substitute with a premises of equal standing. Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this brochure. Fáilte Ireland cannot, however, accept responsibility for errors or omissions, but where such are brought to our attention, future publications will be amended accordingly. Some sporting activities may by their nature be hazardous and involve risk. It is recommended in such cases to take out personal accident insurance. While most operators would have public liability insurance, it is desirable to check with the establishment or operator concerned as to the level of cover carried. © Fáilte Ireland. Published by Fáilte Ireland

