

Original Irish Hotels

Minister of State for Tourism, Brendan Griffin T.D., launches exciting new Irish Hospitality brand

Unique collection represents largest number of independent hotels in the country

Brand designed to embody the genuine spirit and characteristics of Irish hospitality

DUBLIN: Wednesday May 2nd, 2018 *Original Irish Hotels* is a new tourism and hospitality brand representing 60 owner-run hotels in the North and South of Ireland. At a press luncheon today in Dublin city centre, the new hotel collection was unveiled to the all-Ireland market and officially launched by Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin T.D.

This exciting new brand will promote and manage reservations from both the domestic and international travel markets and represents the largest collection of privately-owned hotels in the country.

The Original Irish Hotels website will undoubtedly be a source of inspiration and a visitor's expert guide to the countless ways to discover the island from historic castles, to charming country house hotels, luxury spas and tranquil resorts, to chic urban boutiques.

The hotels are further categorised as Luxury Haven, Spa Retreats, Walking & Hiking, Romantic & Getaway, Family Stays, Golf, Country Activity and Weddings. The collection is divided into 6 different regions of the country: Dublin, the Wild Atlantic Way, Northern Ireland, Ireland's Ancient East, the Lakelands and Into The West.

All sixty hotels enjoy unique locations, personalities and charm, each well-known for the quality of their offerings and services, and catering to every budget, lifestyle and travel interest.

Previously, many of the hotels were represented by either Manor House Hotels or Irish Country Hotels.

According to Roisin Wallace, the Director of Marketing of OIH: "We believe *Original Irish Hotels* will serve as a fantastic guide for those who are travelling in Ireland. We Irish have a reputation all over the world for our culture and history, our people and food and the diversity of our landscapes and countryside. Each of our hotels has its own personality and charm, and no two stays will ever feel the same. Original Irish Hotels wants to deliver unforgettable Irish experiences in hotels that are much-loved and minded by their owners and managers".

CHOICE

Welcome to a world of difference at Original Irish Hotels where the choice is endless:

Luxuriate at ***Galgorm Resort and Spa*** on the North **Antrim** Coast, Ireland's first thermal village, or head to a surfers' paradise at the **Sandhouse Hotel** in **Rosstown, Co. Donegal**. Looking for mid-term family fun? Practice a *cúpla focal* at the ***Carna Bay Hotel*** in the **West Connemara Gaeltacht**, ask a friendly face in **Garryvoe Hotel** to arrange a tour of 19th century Ballycotton Lighthouse or spend a morning whale watching off the coast of West Cork during your stay at **Casey's of Baltimore**. From your elegant base at **Brooks Hotel** in the heart of **Dublin**, take a stroll through Ireland's vibrant capital, experience world-class golf from **Teach de Broc**, situated on the first tee of the famous **Ballybunion** links or explore the vibrant and picturesque town of Westport or beautiful islands of Clew Bay from **Knockranny House Hotel**.

FOOD TRAIL

Ireland is one of the world's most talked-about food destinations and food lovers will rejoice as Original Irish Hotels takes enormous pride in offering the very best of Irish cuisine.

The Strawberry Tree at **BrookLodge and Macreddin Village** in picture-perfect **Co. Wicklow** is Ireland's first certified organic restaurant and proud member of the collection.

Across all of its kitchens and award-winning restaurants, Original Irish Hotels works with local producers to bring only the best freshly-caught, locally-sourced and home-grown ingredients to its menus.

Connemara's finest fish at ***Screebe House***, seasonal vegetables grown on-site at ***Mount Falcon Estate***, warm freshly-baked scones and homemade jam at **Lough Inagh lodge**, to afternoon tea in one of Ireland's finest luxury castle hotels, ***Ballynahinch Castle***.

EXPERIENCES: BEYOND BED AND BOARD

Original Irish Hotels offers a range of unmissable, authentically Irish experiences, from fishing and falconry to fireside warmth, scenic cycle tracks and winding walking trails. Original Irish Hotels takes its guests into the heart of the real Ireland.

At Delphi Lodge, Co. Mayo, set in a wild and unspoilt valley amidst total tranquillity, take a private boat trip on the Killary fjord before enjoying a seafood lunch and mussels on the pier. Settle in for a night of live Irish music at **Hylands Burren Hotel** or sample some Irish whiskey's uniquely served on a Hurley at **Fitzgeralds Woodlands House, Adare**, rest by the sea at the magnificent ***Parknasilla Resort and Spa***, a perfect jumping off point for serious walking or cycling around the Ring of Kerry.

WEDDINGS AND OCCASIONS

Original Irish Hotels offers a choice of dream wedding venues across the country including the newly-refurbished and reopened fairy-tale **Markree Castle** in **Co. Sligo**, secluded and romantic **Lough Rynn Castle** in Co. Leitrim and **The Dunraven** in the heart of the world-renowned village of Adare, Co. Limerick. For special family occasions, there are unique private rentals available where you and your loved ones can enjoy an exclusive experience in Ireland's finest destinations.

UNIQUE GIFT

The Original Irish Hotels Gift Card is the gift of an experience unlike any other. With a choice of 60 idyllic properties throughout Ireland, this gift will give your loved one's memories to last a lifetime. Order online, by phone or email or have them posted in a beautifully presented gift box with a copy of the Original Irish Hotels directory and a personalised message of greeting.

