

INFORMATION LEAFLET

BARD 2011



Where is Clare Island?

Clare Island is situated at the entrance of Clew Bay in County Mayo. It is necessary to take a passenger ferry from Roonagh Pier in order to reach the Island. Cars are parked at Roonagh pier for the duration of the summer school.

Roonagh Pier is 14 miles west off Westport. If you are driving from Westport take the coast road to Louisburgh (10 miles), drive straight through Louisburgh and about a quarter of a mile after the village, take a right turn to Roonagh (the road is clearly signposted for Roonagh Pier and Clare Island.) It is a further 4 miles to the pier.

Is there a taxi service from Westport to Roonagh pier?

Bard Summer School can recommend Marty's Service (prop Martin Coghlan) 087 9510377. Please inform Marty's Service that you are with the Bard Summer School and you will be able to avail of a €30 fare.

Where can I find the passenger ferry timetable?

During the summer months there are numerous ferry sailings from Roonagh Pier to Clare Island. The boat crossing takes about 20 minutes. There are two main ferry companies which provide this service. Return tickets can be purchased at the company kiosks at the Pier.

O Grady's Ferry Service: www.clareislandferry.com / 086 8515003

O Malley's Ferry Service: www.omalleyferries.com / 098 25045

Which airport should I fly to in order to reach Clare Island?

The nearest airport to Clare Island is Knock Airport, County Mayo. Other alternatives are Galway Airport, Shannon Airport, Dublin Airport.

How can I find out about bus and rail travel within Ireland?

Visitors can view further information on domestic travel arrangements on the following sites:

Irish Rail Train Services: www.irishrail.ie

Irish Bus Route and Schedules: www.buseireann.ie

What type of clothes will I require?

Participants are advised to bring comfortable, warm clothes. Weather is very changeable on an island therefore while some days are warm and sunny, others may be wet and windy.

Muscians

Musicians are encouraged to bring instruments.

Accommodation

Participants are required to reserve their own accommodation directly with Island B&Bs. The Bard website ([ww.bard.ie](http://www.bard.ie)) provides a full list of B&Bs and self catering accommodation and their contact details. Please inform your B&B of your date of arrival, date of departure and any special requirements you may have. Please also inform them if you wish to share your accommodation or reserve a single room.

Participants are advised to inform their guesthouse which boat they will take to Clare Island. Please ask your B&B to collect you from the boat to assist you with your luggage.

Groceries and Post Office

The general food store and post office on the Island is open daily (098) 26987.

Finance

Participants are required to pay their fee in full prior to commencement of the school. Please note that there is no bank or ATM machine on the island. Your B&B will accept cash or cheque as method of payment. 'Cashback' is available from the shop and the Bayview Bar.

Medical Assistance

In case of emergency, a qualified doctor will be available throughout the week. Please inform a member of the Bard Team if you require medical advice or assistance.

The Island's public health nurse can be contacted on 098 25407.

What will happen each day of the Summer School & Festival?

The summer school runs from 10am-4.30pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 10am-12.30pm on Sunday. Tea/coffee is provided each day at 11am.

What will happen each evening of the Summer School & Festival?

Entertainment will take place on the Island each evening. This may take the form of a Poetry Reading or an evening of music, song and dance as performed by the people of Clare Island.

What do I do when I arrive on Clare Island?

In advance of your arrival you will have arranged for your B&B or the local taxi service to collect you from the pier to bring you and your luggage to your accommodation.

Once you have arrived and settled into your accommodation, we invite you to relax and enjoy the Island.

The welcome supper will take place on Wednesday 6th July at 7.30pm in Granuaile House, The Quay, Clare Island.

What is included in my fee of €185?

Your fee includes the following:

Welcome Supper, Wednesday 6th July; Participation on the Bard Summer School; Tea and Coffee each day.

Dining

Breakfast: Participants will dine in their accommodation for breakfast.

Lunch: Participants may wish to dine in their own self catering accommodation, prepare their own packed lunch or avail of one of the local places to eat.

Evening Meals: On Wednesday evening, participants dine together at the Welcome Supper.

On Saturday evening, participants may wish to attend the Bard Féasta

For Thursday and Friday, participants have a choice of restaurants for evening meals.

What Is The Féasta?

On Saturday evening participants may wish to reserve a place at the Bard Féasta. This is an evening of feasting, poetry and music. It takes place in the dining room of the Bayview Bar. Booking and payment will be taken from participants and their guests during the week of the Summer School. Price is approximately €30 per adult and €11 per child.

Places To Eat on Clare Island

Lunch

Bayview Bar - (098) 26307

Anna's Coffee Shop- (098) 25048

Island Take Away (at the Community Centre)
(085) 7695033

Granuaile House (098 26250)

Dinner

Bayview Bar - (098) 26307

O'Grady's Restaurant (098) 22991

Island Take Away (at the Community Centre)
(085) 7695033

Travelling Around the Island

Clare Island is a small island and the School and Festival take place in close proximity to most of the accommodation on the Island therefore walking is the most popular form of transport on the Island.

O'Leary Bike Hire is located at the quay on Clare Island and has a large number of bicycles for hire.

O'Leary Taxi Service is available on 098 25640/ 0862228478.

Island Tours

O'Leary Taxi Service is available for hire on 098 25640/ 0862228478. The service will take you on a tour of Clare Island or bring you to any of the places of interest you may wish to see.

Baby Sitting Service

Please ask your B&B for recommendations about baby-sitting services on the Island.

Clare Island – Things To Do And See

For further information on Clare Island please visit www.clareisland.info