

Castle Leslie

Envision a nobleman on horseback as he crosses the countryside. Soon, he sees a damsel, a queen, in distress. He rides gallantly to help her cross a dangerous river. As he reaches his hand to her, he says, "Grip fast," and pulls her onto his trusty steed. Yes, this truly sounds like a romance novel or maybe an HBO series, but no. This is the tale of how the Leslie family motto originated and still defines their coat of arms to this present day.

This charming story of Castle Leslie in Monaghan, Ireland, is an ongoing romantic saga filled with Earls, Lords, Princesses, and even Knights, as Sir Paul McCartney himself found Castle Leslie to be the perfect private escape for his wedding, still unfolds. Yes, the Castle Leslie Estate is more than a 4-star retreat. It's a dream come true. What will your story be?

Happily Ever After



Castle Leslie Estate located in County Monaghan, Ireland is only 80 minutes from Dublin airport and 60 minutes from Belfast airport. Nestled on 1,000 acres of undulating Irish countryside, dotted with ancient woodland and glittering lakes, Castle Leslie Estate is one of the last great Irish Castle estates still in the hands of its founding family. Since the 1660s, the distinguished and somewhat individual Leslie family have lived on the Castle Estate, welcoming everyone from politicians to poets, ambassadors to ufologists; all the time making their home into one of the finest luxury Castle hotels Ireland has to offer.

The Leslie family has lived on the Estate since 1665. The land was purchased with a £2000-reward given to John Leslie, the fighting bishop, by King Charles II. The Family’s non-conformist ancestors include warlike bishops, politicians, social reformers, agricultural innovators, philanthropic wives, fine pre-Raphaelite painters, furniture collectors, writers and war heroes. They’ve been connected with royalty, ambassadors and prime ministers, and regularly visited by foreign émigrés, wits, poets and infamous kleptomaniacs. The Estate was passed to Desmond Leslie in 1964 and subsequently to his daughter Samantha Leslie.

As one of Europe’s finest equestrian playgrounds, Castle Leslie Estate offers memorable horse riding holiday experiences for riding enthusiasts of all levels.

The Lodge (formerly named The Hunting Lodge) and Equestrian Centre underwent extensive refurbishment and renovation before re-opening in May 2007. Both had been in the Leslie family for many years until 1984 when Desmond Leslie sold them. It was in the midst of the Irish troubles and his daughter Sammy had just qualified as an intermediate instructor. Undeterred, Sammy set up a yard in the old Estate farm buildings. Here she bought, sold and broke horses until 1987, vowing to re-purchase The Lodge (formerly named The Hunting Lodge) when she could. She achieved her goal in 2004. All the hard work and commitment started to pay off in 2005 when Castle Leslie Estate won the Sunday Times ‘Best Country House’ and Food & Wine’s ‘Best Country House Restaurant in Ulster’ awards. More recognition followed in 2006 with the Hotel & Catering Review Gold Medal Award for Best Country House which recognises excellence in 11 categories.

The Castle, at the heart of the Estate, offers authentic original interiors and old-style hospitality and is a complete respite from the world. The Lodge is the social hub of the Estate and brings locals and guests together in an atmosphere of conviviality and comfort. The Old Stable Mews are the perfect spot for groups that want the convenience of hotel living combined with private self catering.





Upon arrival to the Estate one needs a little time to prep and relax before embarking on your ultimate bespoke equestrian holiday. So let’s go over your accommodation options, nibbles and even maybe a little pre-spa treatment that Castle Leslie has to offer.

A Room of one’s own

Unlike most hotels, Castle Leslie Estate boasts a variety of accommodation to suit all tastes and vacation needs. We chose the lodge with it’s perfected luxury rooms overlooking the stable yard and convenient on site morning breakfast in the fabulous Snaffles restaurant. Then again, there’s always those wanting to stay in the actual castle which is an actual option! Step back in time and live the royal fantasy it’s all available at the estate.

The Castle

The Castle, rich in unspoilt rural splendour and breath-taking artifacts, offers complete respite from the rest of the world. A haven of tranquillity, The Castle features twenty one unique bedrooms – whether your idea of heaven is a romantic boudoir designed with relaxation and privacy in mind or flamboyant room decorated with rich deep colours, there’s a room to suit your tastes.

The Lodge

The Lodge offers a completely different experience to that of The Castle. Complete with 50 guestrooms – each of which remain true to the building’s original structure – and buzzing with activity, there is plenty to keep yourself occupied at the boutique, country house style Lodge.

The Old Stable Mews

For those looking for a self-catering holiday with family and friends there is the luxurious Old Stable Mews. Majestically set within a cut-stone courtyard, the Old Stable Mews offers old world elegance with modern convenience. This old coach house features a collection of two-bedroom mews, which have been restored and refurbished to offer every modern comfort.





Time To Ride

The Estate offers an idyllic setting for outdoor activity and adventure. It is the perfect place to discover the thrill of exploring the beautiful Irish countryside on horseback. We welcome riders of all abilities and offer expert tuition, gentle hacks and exhilarating cross-country rides. The Equestrian Centre combines the authentic charm of a country estate with all the amenities you'd expect from one of Ireland's best horse-riding locations.

As one of Europe's finest equestrian playgrounds, Castle Leslie Estate offers memorable horse riding holiday experiences for riding enthusiasts of all levels. So, whether you're a beginner or an experienced rider, Castle Leslie Estate is the place for you.

Specialised Equestrian breaks can accommodate intermediate to advanced riders over a three or four day break. These packages include 3 hours riding per day. You will receive expert guidance from our instructors to improve your riding capabilities from jumping, cross country to dressage.

By the end you will go home tired but with a feeling of accomplishment. We look forward to seeing you down at the stables.



- 300 new cross-country jumps
- 21 miles of meandering bridleways
- Mile-long all-weather gallop
- 56 stables
- Mechanical Horse
- 50×30 metre indoor arena with indoor cross-country fences
- Lounge and showering facilities
- 20 × 50 Dressage Arena
- 30 × 20 Outdoor Ménage
- Sand Gallops
- SJI approved show jumps
- Horse walker
- Lorry & trailer parking
- BHS, SJI & AIRE Approved



Recovery

Admittedly, consecutive days of riding, especially if it’s not on your regular schedule can take a toll on your body. Luckily, Castle Leslie Estate provides a luxury treatment menu and a relaxing atmosphere to work out those kinks and soreness.

The Victorian Treatment Rooms

A visit to The Victorian Treatment Rooms will leave you feeling refreshed and revitalized. With seven treatment rooms, two outdoor Hot Tubs, a Sauna and Relaxation Rooms, it’s the perfect place to ease your weary muscles after taking part in one of the many activities available on the Estate.Our highly-trained therapists will pamper you with a range of traditional organic therapies from the ‘Eminence Organics’ & ‘Voya’ ranges. Signature treatments include the Grip Fast Full Body Massage, Chocolate Truffle Wrap and LA Stone Therapy.These luxurious treatments and our expert staff are the main reasons why The Victorian Treatment Rooms at Castle Leslie Estate has gained a reputation for being one of the leading spa locations in Ireland.



EQluxure feature



Grip fast full body massage – (60 mins)
An intense and deep tissue massage from top to toe to rebalance aching muscles and disperse toxins.

Eat & Drink

Snaffles Restaurant 2AA Rosettes

At Snaffles, our 2 AA Rosette award-winning restaurant, you can enjoy delicious meals in a relaxed setting. Situated on the first floor in the Lodge, Snaffles welcomes both residents and non-resident guests. Snaffles is a beautiful open-plan restaurant and is light and spacious with a striking wall of contemporary glass. Signature dishes are cooked with superb locally sourced food which is prepared and presented with imagination and flair. Full of flavour, the diverse courses and extensive drinks menu, including our very own Fighting Bishop Gin, make Snaffles Restaurant one of Monaghan’s top restaurants. They also do a complete luxury breakfast buffet every morning which you can add on to your daily routine.

Relaxing & Soothing

Soothing leg and foot massage – (30 mins)
The perfect treatment to aid relaxation, especially those who suffer from tired, aching legs and heaviness.

The pleasure ground massage – (60 mins)
This relaxing body and head massage using a rich soufflé mixed with an aroma Lavender oil, will help relax and soothe your body and mind. Body Bliss...

Atilla’s hungarian mud wrap – (75 mins)
After a light scrub, your body is treated to a mineral rich mix of spicy Hungarian Herbal Mud. The body is then wrapped to encourage the release of toxins from the skin and allowed to work its magic. While you relax your head and shoulders are treated to a massage. After the mud is removed in the shower, the lovely silky soufflé is massaged into the body leaving your skin flawless!



Conor’s Bar & Lounge at The Lodge
“Oh my Guinness,” Conor’s is the ideal after ride watering hole. This social hub of the Estate, Conor’s Bar & Lounge brings locals and guests together in an atmosphere of conviviality and comfort. It is the ideal place to relax with a pint of Guinness. All guests from hungry horse-riders and starving walking-enthusiasts to health-conscious guests on a breather between treatments at The Victorian Treatment Rooms. Guests can unwind here after an activity-filled day while enjoying a 2 or a 3 course meal and relaxed conversation with family and friends. Or retreat to a cosy corner with the newspaper or a good book.

Afternoon Tea or Nightcap At Castle Leslie Estate
A visit to our luxury Irish Castle Estate is not complete without indulging in a delightful Afternoon Tea or an Evening Nightcap on the plush velvet couches in the castle. Relish in a selection of elegant savouries and homemade sweet treats.



Plan your own fairytale by contacting Castle Leslie Estate directly or visiting their website below.

Castle Leslie Estate, Glaslough, Co. Monaghan
Tel: +353 (0) 47 88100
info@castleleslie.com
castleleslie.com

Follow@castleleslie