



Mykidstime Family Guide to Mayo



Welcome to the Mykidstime Guide to Mayo. We have put together some suggestions to make your family's visit to Mayo as enjoyable as possible. As parents ourselves, we are delighted to share with you some of the family friendly spots around Mayo!

The Mykidstime Team

Top Ten Things to do in Mayo

1. The Award Winning [Great Western Greenway](#) is the longest off-road walking and cycling trail in Ireland. Meandering along the old Achill-Westport railway, this 42km traffic-free route is well mapped out and signed with no steep hills so perfect for a family day out. Bring your bike or rent one when you get there.
2. At [Westport House & Pirate Adventure Park](#) you can ride the Treasure Island Express, reace down the slippery slide and wet 'n' wild flume ride, go on the lake in the Swan pedal boats and play pitch and putt. There are some fantastic new Adventure Activities now available for the older ones and an indoor soft play area for the younger kids. Don't forget to visit the dungeons in Westport House!
3. The [National Museum of Country Life](#) shows the traditional way of life in Ireland since 1850. Family events run throughout the year and entry is free. Have lunch at the Museum café and explore the feature gardens, woodland walks, ancient Round Tower and lake in the grounds of Turlough Park.
4. Spend a few hours at [Graune Pet Farm & Playcentre](#) near Ballyhaunis – visit the animals and birds and let the kids loose in the playground, sand play area, bouncy castles, go-kart track and huge indoor play-room.



5. Take a ferry to Clare Island. Rent bikes or take an island bus tour to see the Pirate Queen Grace O'Malley's castle, explore the remains of promontory forts, megalithic tomb and ancient field systems and spot the birds nesting on the dramatic cliffs.
6. Visit [Ballycroy National Park](#) and see all the wildlife on the Tochar Daithi Ban Trail.
7. Spend the day on Achill Island and visit the beautiful beaches, the Deserted Village, the playground or take part in the many outdoor and water-based activities. The Atlantic Drive is a scenic loop around the island with breathtaking views.
8. See the spectacular cliffs and sea stack at Downpatrick Head. Older kids might like to visit the nearby Ceide Fields for a guided tour of life 5,000 years ago.
9. Visit some of the beautiful beaches along the coast, Bearthra, Old Head, Carrowniskey, Silver Strand.
10. Take a walk in Belleek Woods, visit the duck pond and have a picnic at some of the benches overlooking the River Moy.

Indoor Things to Do in Mayo



- Visit Graune Pet Farm. Lots of animals indoors – crocodile, turtles, snake, huge aviary, and lots more! There is a fantastic indoor room with bouncy castles, fun play corner, sand shed, tractor track, snooker and pool tables and arcade games.
- Visit the National Museum of Country Life and learn all about life in the past. Great way to spend an afternoon.
- Go bowling at Mayo Leisure Point
- All of the libraries in Mayo have childrens sections. A nice way to pass a couple of hours
- There are lots of Indoor Playcentres around Mayo - Westport House, Mayo Leisure Point in Castlebar, Tumble Jungle in Ballina and Pots of Fun in Claremorris
- Take in a matinee at Ballina, Castlebar or Westport cinema

Outdoor Things To Do



- Visit some of our fabulous beaches (FREE)
- Walk or cycle the award winning Great Western Greenway (FREE)
- Spend a day at Westport House and Pirate Adventure Park
- Go horseriding – there are lots of equestrian centres around Mayo
- Playgrounds – see our favourites list below (FREE)
- Visit Ballycroy National Park to see how many species you can find (FREE)
- Pick up your skateboard and head to the Skate park in Westport – just off the Railway walk – there is a skate park, basketball/Astroturf pitch and lots of cardio equipment for the adults to try too! (FREE)
- Go for a walk in McMahon Park in Claremorris, Belleek Woods in Ballina, (FREE)
- Take a tour of the Ceide Fields and the beautiful cliffs of Mayo
- Climb Croagh Patrick

Where to Stay



Please mention Mykidstime when Booking

The McWilliam Park Hotel

Claremorris, Co.Mayo

Tel: + 353 (0)94 9378000

Email: info@mcwilliampark.ie

Web: www.mcwilliampark.ie

The McWilliam Park Hotel offers luxury 4 Star Accommodation in Claremorris. It is the perfect family friendly hotel with extensive facilities and entertainment for your children including a Leisure Centre and Kids Club

Hotel Westport

Westport, Co.Mayo

Tel: +353 (0)98 25122

Email: reservations@hotelwestport.ie

Web: www.hotelwestport.ie

Hotel Westport is the perfect family holiday location. It is a family friendly hotel that caters to all the needs of a family including kids club, large family bedrooms and babysitting service

Ballina Manor Hotel

Ballina, Co.Mayo

Tel: + 353 (0)96 80900

Email: info@ballinamanorhotel.ie

Web: www.ballinamanorhotel.ie

Lovely Family Friendly Hotel in the centre of Ballina. Large family bedrooms and babysitting service.

Breaffy House Resort

Castlebar, Co.Mayo

Tel: +353 (0)94 9022033

Email: info@breaffyhouseressort.ie

Web: www.breaffyhouseressort.ie

Breaffy Resort consists of Breaffy House Hotel and Breaffy Woods Hotel. A great family destination with family rooms, interconnecting rooms, kids club and leisure centre.

Broadhaven Bay

Belmullet, Co.Mayo

Tel: +353 (0)97 20600

Email: info@broadhavenbay.com

Web: www.broadhavenbay.com

Broadhaven Bay Hotel is a great family friendly hotel. Recreational room, kids club, large family bedrooms, babysitting service, healthy kids menu and leisure centre.

Where to Eat



Achill

- Calveys Restaurant – Lovely local free range and organic produce
- The Cottage Coffee Shop – Delicious homemade food
- Blackfield Coffee Shop - Light snacks and sweet bites

Ballina

- Dillon's Restuarant, Dillon Terrace - set in a lovely courtyard, a great place for kids
- Coffee Vine Café, Tone St. – delicious homemade food and desserts.
- The Junction Cafe – sandwiches, salads, or chips and chicken or burgers

Ballyhaunis

- The Cosy Cup, Main St. - Café and juice bar on main street.
- The Tasty Dish, Knox St. – breakfast and lunch with kids menu available

Belmullet

- Gateway Leisure Centre - lovely restaurant, kids menu and onsite entertainment
- Broadhaven Bay Hotel Restaurant

Castlebar

- Café Rua, Spencer St – child friendly menu and highchairs

Turlough

- Horkans Garden Centre – Bay Leaf serves lunch & dinner and visit pet section
- Museum of Country Life café - child-friendly menu and high-chairs

Claremorris

- McWilliam Park Hotel – lovely restaurant or bar food available with kids menu
- Aghna's Café – café in Claremorris centre with delicious homemade food and treats

Charlestown

- Riverside Restaurant has a great healthy childrens menu, crayons and highchairs

Westport

- The Creel Café – down at the Quay great menu
- Sage Restaurant, High St – for early birds, great value & lovely kids menu
- Hotel Westport Restaurant

Playgrounds



- **Achill** - *Pairc na Mara* is beside *Keel* beach.
- **Balla** - Located on the fairgreen on *Mayo Abbey Road*
- **Ballina** - *Tom Ruane Park* is on the *Sligo Road*.
- **Ballindine** - beside the *Community Centre*.
- **Ballinrobe** - beside the *Show Grounds*.
- **Ballycroy** - The playground is located in the village.
- **Ballyhaunis** - on the *Friary Grounds*.
- **Belmullet** - beside the *Civic Centre*
- **Castlebar** - *Knockthomas, Salen* and *Lough Lannagh*
- **Charlestown** – in the *Town Park*
- **Claremorris** - *McMahon Park*
- **Crossmolina** - The playground in Crossmolina is on *Mullinmore road*
- **Foxford** - Beside the church
- **Irishtown** - in the centre of the village.
- **Killala** - in the *Town Park*
- **Kiltimagh** - *Tir na nOg* playground at the rear of *Aiden Street*
- **Knock** - There is a playground near the main car park in *Knock* village.
- **Louisburgh** - The playground is located at *Cois Abhann*.
- **Newport** - The playground is located beside the river at the *Quay*.
- **Swinford** - In *Brabazon Park*, on the road towards *Kilkelly*
- **Westport** - beside the *Leisure Centre* & cinema, on the *Golf Course Road* beside the new *Gaelscoil* and there is a playground on the grounds of *Westport House*, beside the *Café*

Shopping



- Clothes Shopping – there are lovely boutiques around Mayo. Shaws Department store is in Ballina and Castlebar and you can also find Next and AWear in Castlebar
- Foxford Woollen Mills has beautiful rugs, throws, linen and other homeware and craft gifts
- Westport has some great little gift shops and art galleries
- There are supermarkets in all the large towns so you can pick up any essentials