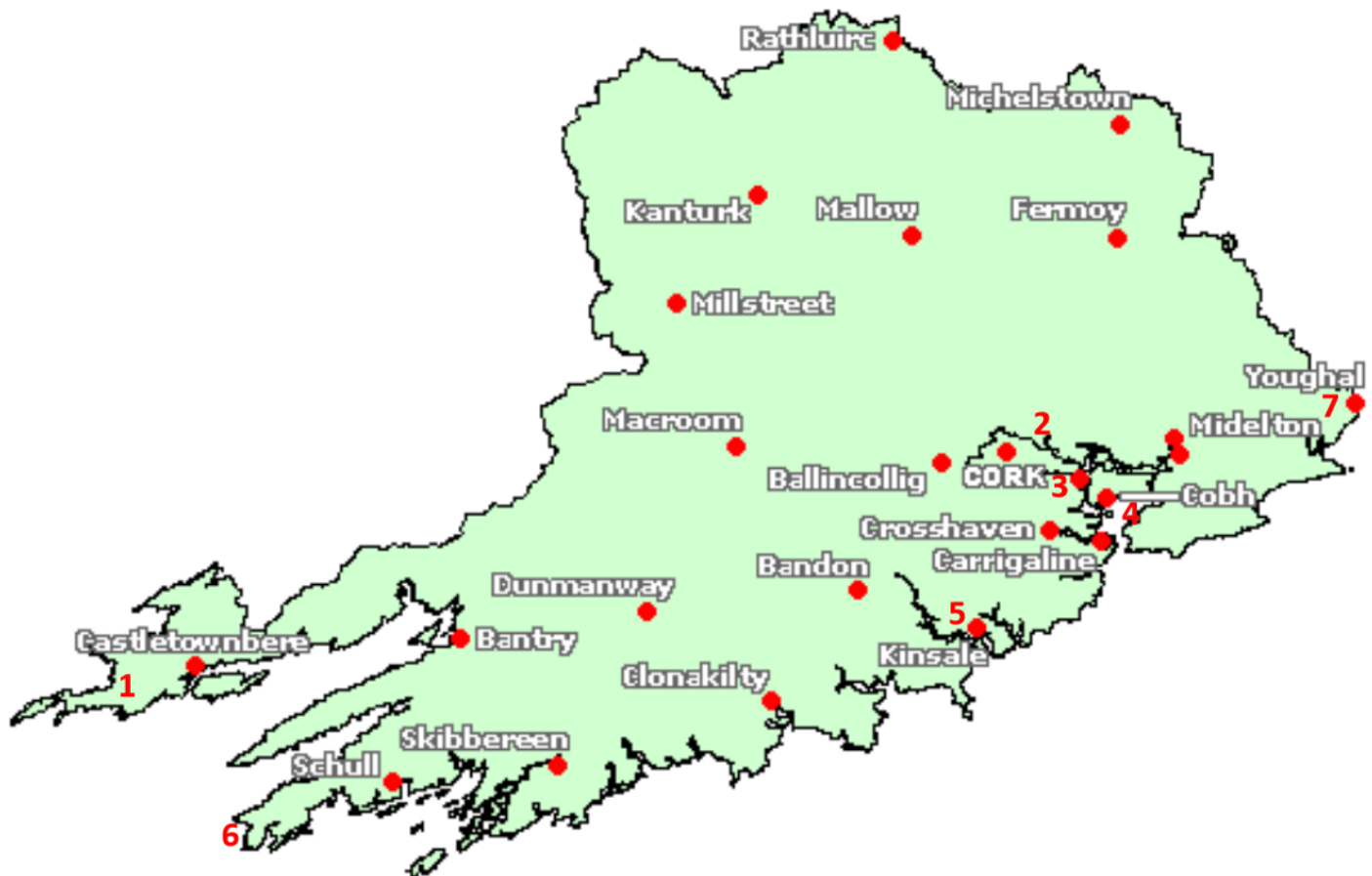




Cork

County Cork, in the Province of Munster has a number of attractions you will not want to miss. Plus some interesting sights that are slightly off the beaten path. So take your time and spend a day or two in Cork when visiting Ireland.



- 1. Beara Peninsula** the most westerly point in Ireland—next stop New York!
- 2. Blarney** home to Blarney Castle and the famous Blarney Stone
- 3. Cork** the third largest city in Ireland after Dublin and Belfast
- 4. Cobh** Infamous as the final port of call for the Titanic prior to its ill fated maiden voyage.
- 5. Kinsale** An “Irish Heritage Town” known as the “Gourmet Capital of Ireland”
- 6. Mizen Head** Signal Station is Ireland’s most South Westerly point
- 7. Youghal** the gem of Ireland’s Ancient East, a truly unique place with miles of sandy beaches coupled with a rich medieval history!

Beara Peninsula is totally tranquil and unspoiled, with roads too narrow for big tour buses and scenery as dramatic and beautiful as the Ring of Kerry and Dingle to the north. A real “hidden gem”, of particular note are Garnish Island where the Celts first landed; the Mare’s Tail, the highest waterfall in Ireland and the cable car to Durse Island.



Blarney you're going to see the Castle. But make sure you get the chance to see it from as many angles as you can. From some sides it looks warlike, from others magical. From the top of the Castle you can take in the wonderful views of over 60 acres of sprawling parklands which include gardens, avenues, arboretums and waterways and don't forget to kiss the Blarney Stone..



City of Cork The best way to see the city of Cork and sample the flavor of its life, is to walk. There is a signpost Walking Tour, so get the accompanying booklet and set off to explore the hilly streets and meet the people. St. Finn Barre's Cathedral is a splendid triple-spired example of French-gothic architecture. Walk along the Western Road to Tudor-Gothic University College with its attractive riverside quadrangle, and visit the Honan Chapel there. Climb up Shandon Church, the tower of which you will have noticed dominating the north side of the city from its lofty hill-top position. The Cork Heritage Park at Blackrock is well worth a visit. City Hall, a fine modern building nicely reflected in the river. Visit the Markets, The English Market with openings off Princes Street, Patrick Street and the Grand Parade, a covered market for fish, fruit, meat and vegetable, on the Coal Quay (pronounced Kay), the open-air market which is as much part of the folk-culture of Cork as is Shandon



Cobh a magical seaside town with a special place in Ireland's history. Its magnificent harbor is one of the most visually enticing anywhere in the world. The old town was a departure point for approximately 2.5 million emigrants headed for North America between 1848 and 1950. The harbor was the final departure point of Titanic.



Kinsale be captivated by its beautiful setting, with the long waterfront, narrow winding streets and Compass Hill rising sharply behind the town. The old fortifications of Charles Fort and James Fort guard the narrow entrance to Kinsale from the sea. The town has poignant memories of the sinking of the liner 'Lusitania' in 1915, off the Old Head of Kinsale.



Mizen Head Maritime Museum and Heritage Attractions is a must-see with its spectacular location on high cliffs with swirling Atlantic Ocean tides. From the Car park and Visitor Centre, the Signal Station is a ten minute walk along the path, down the 99 steps and across the Arched Bridge, the Mizen is famous for its wildflowers and sightings of the bird migration north-south flight path is just a mile off shore.



Youghal pronounced “Y'all”. It is Youghal's rich history that has brought us the Youghal of today – a distinct and unique place, blending a modern town center, teaming with tangible historic character and curiosity, complemented by the beaches and waterside amenities of a seaside suburb.

