

County Carlow Calendar of Events 2020

Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
FEBRUARY			
1st - 29th February 2020 9.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. daily	Altamont Gardens and Altamont Plant Sales, Tullow, Co. Carlow	SNOWDROP MONTH IN ALTAMONT GARDENS – GUIDED TOURS A great opportunity to view this unique collection, first started by Corona North, former owner of the gardens, and now amongst the largest in Ireland, with over 150 named varieties. Guided tours each Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout February at 2 p.m. (€3 per person) with OPW Head Gardener, Paul Cutler. Meeting point – The Courtyard. Gardens are open from 9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. daily for general viewing. Advance booking of group tours requested. Guided tour of the snowdrop collection in the Walled Gardens each Saturday from 8 th -29 th February at 2 p.m. Meeting point – Altamont Plant Sales. Admission free.	T: 059-9159444 /087-9822135 (Robert Miller) E: altamontgardens@opw.ie /sales@altamontplants.com W: www.carlowgardentrail.com/ www.altamontplants.com
1st – 29th February 2020 every weekend 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Huntington Castle and Gardens, Clonegal, Co. Carlow	SNOWDROP WEEKENDS AT HUNTINGTON CASTLE An original 17th century garden, with charming woodland walks featuring over 10,000 snowdrops and spring plantings including beautiful crocuses. Huntington Castle was recently listed in the top six gardens to visit in Ireland’s Ancient East while tours of the castle will also be available every weekend from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Children’s adventure playground also open. Normal charges apply.	T: 053-9377160 E: info@huntingtoncastle.com W: www.huntingtoncastle.com
1st – 29th February 2020 Wednesday – Sunday weekly 10 a.m.–5.30 p.m.	Burtown House, Athy, Co. Kildare (exit 3 off M9 motorway)	SNOWDROP MONTH AT BURTOWN HOUSE An extensive collection of snowdrops, aconites, hellebores and early bulbs – self-guided garden tours each Wednesday - Sunday. Admission – Adults €8; Children €5. The Green Barn is open for hearty brunches 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and lunches 12.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m., using produce from the organic kitchen garden. Dinner served on Fri. & Sat. 6.30 p.m. – 8.30p.m. Booking recommended.	T: 059-8623865 E: info@burtownhouse.ie W: www.burtownhouse.ie
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More

Every weekend from February 1st until February 29th	Shankill Castle, Paulstown, Co. Kilkenny	Enjoy the woodland walks with a spectacular carpet of snowdrops, hellebores and early Spring bulbs. Admission: Adults €5. Group tickets, concessions and family tickets available. Entrance via front gate in Paulstown Village.	T: 059-9726145 E: info@shankillcastle.com W: www.shankillcastle.com
Every weekend from February 1st until March 1st	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES TO JOIN THE ADVENTURE SUPER ADVENTURE is a family-fun event and promises some great entertainment. Come along dressed as your favourite superhero, jump aboard the Rathwood Express and join in a fun adventure with the Radical Wonders. Take part in the Superhero Academy and defeat the villains who have been causing havoc in Rath Wood. Visit Treasure Ireland, the Enchanted Forest and Goose Island along the way. Design and take home your very own superhero mask while free super cupcakes are also available for all boys and girls on the day. Admission: Children €12, adults €4 and babies free.	T: 059-9156285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
Saturday 29th February 2020	Carlow Library, Tullow Street, Carlow Town	LIBRARY OPEN DAY A glimpse into the services and facilities available in Carlow, Borris and Bagenalstown Libraries. Visitors can try anything and everything from virtual reality to lace-making or comic illustration. Find out about the amazing services each library in Carlow offers on a daily, free basis. Special events happening on the day include: Carlow Central Library Saturday morning Storytime with Nicola and Irish Sign Language (ISL) interpretation by Teresa – 11 a.m. Launch of the new Library Record Collection and the Paul Galbally Collection – 11.30 a.m. Muinebheag/Bagenalstown Library Comic Book Workshop for Children with Declan Pierce – 11 a.m. Borris Library Borris Lace Demonstration with Borris Lacemakers – 11 a.m.	T: 059-9129705 E: fotoole@carlowcoco.ie W: www.carlow.ie
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Every weekend 29th February – 29th March 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	PEPPA AND GEORGE Peppa's little brother George has been up to no good chasing muddy puddles in the Rath Wood Forest. Join Peppa Pig aboard the Rathwood Express Train to help find him before Mummy and Daddy Pig make the discovery! Includes a free cupcake for every child, free tea and coffee for adults, a train ride to feed the geese and 1 hour play time in the Ark indoor soft play area. Admission: Children €12, adults €5 and babies free.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
MARCH			
Sunday 1st – Tuesday 17th March 2020	Throughout Carlow town	SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE/IRISH LANGUAGE FESTIVAL Join us in Carlow for a feast of music, dance, drama, fun and entertainment to celebrate all aspects of Irish language and culture.	T: 059-9158105 / 087-2857048 / 085-1340047 W: www.glorcheatharlach.ie
Tuesday 17th March 2020	Bagenalstown, Borris and Tullow.	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE – THROUGHOUT COUNTY CARLOW Ireland's national feast day is celebrated throughout County Carlow with a series of parades in honour of St. Patrick, the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland. Parades take place in Bagenalstown, Borris, Tullow and Carlow. Bagenalstown parade: 1 p.m., Borris parade: 1.30 p.m., Tullow parade: 2 p.m.	For further information contact T: 059-9130411 Carlow Tourism E: info@carlowtourism.com W: www.carlowtourism.com
Tuesday 17th March 2020	Carlow Town	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE – CARLOW TOWN The parade will start at 3.30 p.m. from the former Perry's on Kennedy Avenue (floats from Burrin Street) and travel along Kennedy Avenue before turning left onto Barrack Street, left onto Tullow Street and left onto Burrin Street where it concludes. Features marching bands, floats, schools, sports clubs and walking groups. Later that evening a St. Patrick's Night Céilí will take place in Carlow Town Hurling Club with the band "Rise the Dust" at 9 p.m. Admission: €10.	T: 059-9158105 / 087-2857048 / 085-1340047 E: emma@glorcheatharlach.ie W: www.glorcheatharlach.ie
Sunday 22nd March 2020	River Barrow, Carlow Town	THE DRAGON RUN 10KM The Irish Dragon Boat Association is holding the event 'The Dragon Run', a 10km circuit race on the River Barrow in Carlow Town. This exciting event will be open to dragon boats, O1s and kayaks with separate medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category. Advance booking for entries essential. With lots of action on the water, spectators are guaranteed an entertaining day.	T: 059-9161685 /085-7422902 E: info@dragonboat.ie
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th March 2020	Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow	DAFFODIL WEEKEND Visit one of the most extensive collections of daffodils in the country with over 10,000 flowers and numerous varieties on display. Voted the “number one thing to do” in Carlow by Trip Advisor, Delta Sensory Gardens are set on a 2.5 acre site with 16 interconnecting gardens. Delicious selection of refreshments, pastries, snacks, cakes and lunches available throughout the day from the on-site garden centre café. All profits from the weekend go to ÉIST Carlow Cancer Support Group. Admission: Adults €5, concessions €4, children free accompanied by adult. Group rates available.	T: 059-9143527 E: info@deltacentre.org W: www.deltasensorygardens.com Further details on Facebook
APRIL			
Friday 3rd - Sunday 5th April 2020	Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow	FLEADH CHEOIL CHEATHARLACH An extensive programme of events is promised featuring session trails, tráth na gceist, junior musician sessions and mini-Gaeltacht.	E: fleadhcheoilcheatharlach@gmail.com
Saturday 4th – Monday 13th April 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	RATHWOOD'S EASTER EGGSPERIENCE 2020 Hop on board the Rathwood Express for an EGGciting adventure to follow Little Red Riding Hood as she tries to find the mischievous Freddy Fox in Rath Wood Forest. Meet the Easter Bunny and get that well-deserved chocolate Easter Egg! Admission: starting from €12 per child and €6 per adult.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
Saturday 4th April 2020 1.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	EASTER FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS The wonderfully talented Marie O’Leary gives a demonstration on how to create an array of beautiful Easter and early spring floral arrangements and decorations for your home. €10 for attendance including morning coffee and be in with a chance to win Marie’s arrangement on the day with raffle tickets at €5. Altamont Plant Sales will also be stocking flower arranging basics to help you create your own stunning arrangements at home. Places are limited so booking is recommended.	T: 087-9822135 E: sales@altamontplants.com W: www.altamontplants.com
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Saturday 11th – Monday 13th April 2020	Huntington Castle and Gardens, Clonegal, Co. Carlow	EASTER TREASURE HUNT AT HUNTINGTON CASTLE The perfect location for family fun and a great Easter Treasure Hunt. Each child receives a basket and a set of clues... they then have to find ten golden nuggets before returning to Treasure Hunt Headquarters to claim their special chocolate surprise. There will also be an opportunity to meet some of the new little lambs, enjoy the adventure playground, visit the tea rooms and partake in a castle tour led by a family member. Advance booking advised. For more details see website.	T: 053-9377160 E: info@huntingtoncastle.com W: www.huntingtoncastle.com
Saturday 11th –April 2020	Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow	EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA Festival Join Mr. Hop – the Easter Bunny and his friends for some egg-citing family fun on Easter Saturday. Lunches, tea/coffee and snacks available in the on-site café.	T: 059-9143527 E: info@deltacentre.org W: www.deltasensorygardens.com Further details on Facebook Out More
Sunday 12th April 2020	Oisín Park, Rossmore, Killeslin, Co. Carlow	DAWN MASS AT OISÍN PARK This is the eleventh year the Easter Dawn Mass takes place at Oisín Park, Rossmore, Killeslin, near Carlow Town. Starting at 6.00 a.m., this special Mass invites visitors to join the many attendees for a spiritual ceremony.	T: 059-9141833
Sunday 12th April 2020 11.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.	Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Kilkenny Road, Carlow	CARLOW VINTAGE AND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB Show season launch. Stunning display of vintage cars from members. An opportunity to discuss membership and upcoming shows to be held in May and August 2020. Come and see the cars and meet the club members!	T: 087-2222105 W: www.carlowvintageandclassicmotorclub.com
Tuesday 14th – Saturday 18th April 2020	Throughout Carlow Town	INTERNATIONAL PAN CELTIC FESTIVAL The International Pan Celtic Festival is a celebration of the Celtic cultures of Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Brittany, Isle of Man and Cornwall in music, song, dance, languages, costumes, sport and story. This year's festival is expected to be bigger than ever and has an exciting programme of events to keep everyone entertained including street performances, a parade, live music, competitions and the Pan Celtic International Song Contest 2020.	T: 059-9158105 / 087-2857048 / 085-1340047 E: pancelticarlow@gmail.com W: www.panceltic.ie
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Saturday 18th April 2020 10.30 a.m. –2 pm	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	SPRING BEAUTIES WITH PATRICIA TYRELL AND MARY KEENAN Patricia Tyrrell is a qualified horticulturist with two gold medals and Best in Category from Bloom. She believes strongly that good landscape design should be underpinned with good planting design. In this workshop on Spring beauties she outlines how designed landscapes should encourage nature and fit into and reflect the surrounding natural landscape. Mary Keenan of the magical Gash Gardens in Castletown, County Laois is a horticulturist, broadcaster and garden writer. Once a farm paddock grazed by cattle, Gash Gardens is now densely planted and an expertly maintained country garden, home to colourful herbaceous borders, fine specimen trees and a river walk along the banks of the Nore. Cost: €19.50	T: 087-9822135 E: sales@altamontplants.com
Every weekend 15th April – 10th May 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	WINNIE THE POOH AND FRIENDS Hop aboard the Rathwood Express Train and meet Winnie the Pooh and his friends. Take a stroll through the honey pot trail in the Rath Wood Forest while feeding the geese, followed by an enjoyable picnic and drink. Each child receives a free Rathwood Teddy which sports Winnie the Pooh's famous red jumper. Admission: starting from €12 per child and €5 per adult.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
Thursday 16th April 2020	George Bernard Shaw Theatre @ VISUAL, Old Dublin Road, Carlow	PAN CELTIC INTERNATIONAL SONG CONTEST Newly composed songs 'as Gaeilge' representing the six competing Celtic nations will go head to head in this prestigious international song contest. A great night of cultural and musical entertainment. Tickets €10.	T: 059-9158105 / 087-2857048 / 085-1340047 E: pancelticcarlow@gmail.com W: www.panceltic.ie
Sunday 26th April 2020	Carlow Rugby Club, Oak Park Carlow	LEINSTER JUNIOR PROVINCIAL TOWNS CLUB FINAL The 95 th Bank of Ireland Leinster Rugby Provincial Towns Cup Final takes place in Carlow Rugby Club. Established in 1888 this competition is one of the oldest trophies in the history of Irish rugby.	E: carlowrugby@gmail.com
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MAY			

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd May 2020	Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Kilkenny Road, Carlow	CARLOW'S 8th INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CONGRESS The programme features a formal welcome reception, open, mixed, novice and congress pair competitions together with guided tours of Carlow Town and discounted shopping opportunities.	T: 086-8381762 E: sheilakellygallagher1942@gmail.com
Saturday 2nd May 2020 11.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	PAINTING DEMONSTRATION WITH JACINTA CROWLEY-LONG Jacinta is a professional artist based on the Carlow/Wicklow border and has a deserved reputation as Ireland's foremost contemporary canine and equestrian artist. Her work also extends to garden and landscape painting as a keen gardener and lover of nature. One day demonstration course for beginners or improvers. Cost €75 including morning coffee and light buffet lunch. Places limited to 12 and booking is essential.	T: 086-8244632 W: www.crowley-long.com
Saturday 9th May 2020	River Barrow, Carlow Town Park Carlow Town	KERALA BOAT RACE This boat race reflects traditional Indian boat racing. A special atmosphere is guaranteed for spectators.	T: 059-9161685 / 085-7422902 E: info@dragonboat.ie
Sunday 10th May 2020 10 a.m. – 5.30 p.m.	Duckett's Grove Near Carlow Town	VINTAGE CAR FAIR AT DUCKETT'S GROVE A day not to be missed if you own or enjoy looking at a marvellous display of vintage and classic cars and tractors from pre-war to the 1980s. Various activities for all family members, young and old including craft stalls, auto jumble, dog show, birds of prey, fun fair and a tour of the gardens at Duckett's Grove. Preview Saturday evening 9th May.	T: 087-2222105 W: www.carlowvintageandclassicmotorclub.com
Sunday 10th May 2020	Headquarters: The Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Road, Carlow	THE SHEEHY MOTOR GROUP CARLOW STAGES RALLY FEATURING THE O BRIEN CEMENT MK11 CHALLENGE A significant event in rallying showcasing the Mark II, a now unique car in motoring history. The only event in Ireland with a separate rally for Mark II cars. Stages are in and around the Bagenalstown area at Ballyloughan, Slieve Bawn and Myshall. Service area: Autolaunch, Bagenalstown.	E: secretary@carlowcarclub.ie W: www.carlowcarclub.ie
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Saturday 16th May 2020 10.30 a.m.–2p.m.	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	CONTAINER PLANTING – THE BENEFITS OF CONTAINERS FOR SMALLER GARDENS WITH HESTER FORDE AND TJ MAHER Hester Forde of Cosheen Garden situated on the estuary of Cork Harbour houses a unique collection of plants which provide year round interest. It has been described by Shirley Lanigan in her book, <i>The 100 Best Gardens in Ireland</i> , as	T : 087-9822135 E : sales@altamontplants.com

		<p>“nothing short of a tour de force”. Hester Forde has an insatiable appetite for plants and is a learned and inspiring speaker. TJ Maher of Patthana Garden co-delivers this talk on container planting. Set on over a third of an acre, Patthana is an award-winning small village garden in Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow where container planting is an integral part of the overall garden design. Cost: €19.50</p>	
<p>Saturday 16th May – Sunday 23rd August 2020 daily (Excluding 27th – 31st July 2020)</p>	<p>Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow</p>	<p>TEDDY BEARS’ PICNIC AT RATHWOOD It’s back and bigger than ever! Join us on the Teddy Bears’ picnic for a day you won’t forget. Go on an adventure with Goldilocks and the three bears and visit the teddy bear factory where you will create your very own bear with Goldilocks and her friends. Hop on board the Rathwood Express Train with the three bears and your new teddy bear friend. The Rathwood Express Train takes you down to the woodland to feed the ducks and geese at Treasure Island and through the enchanted forest. After the train journey, children enjoy a picnic with their new friends. Plenty of surprises and fun along the way. In the event of bad weather, the picnic will take place indoors. Admission: starting from €11 per child and €7 per adult.</p>	<p>T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com</p>
<p>Sunday 17th May 2020</p>	<p>Carlow Town Park, Carlow Town</p>	<p>TRI795 CARLOW SPRINT TRIATHLON Starting from Carlow Town Park, this very popular triathlon features a 750m swim, a 20km bike ride and a 5km run finishing in Carlow Town Park. The swim is an out and back course, the first 250m is upstream, with the last 500m downstream. The cycle tour goes from the Town Park out to the Grove Lounge in Tolerton before returning to Carlow Town Park. The run is an out-and-back along the banks of the River Barrow. A great spectacle for those who just want to come along and enjoy the fun – features some of Ireland’s best triathlon athletes with some international competitors. Music and entertainment in Carlow Town Park.</p>	<p>W: www.racing795.com</p>
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
<p>Saturday 23rd – Sunday 24th May 2020</p>	<p>Stage 1: Bunclody - Myshall Stage 2: Myshall - Leighlinbridge</p>	<p>COLUMBAN WAY / TURAS COLUMBANUS – CARLOW SECTION Following in the footsteps of Saint Columbanus, “The Columban Way” walk is a pilgrim and spiritual trail which follows his journey taken during the 5th and early 6th century from his home parish of Myshall, in the foothills of the Blackstairs Mountains, to begin religious studies in Fermanagh and Bangor, County Down. At the age of 48, Columbanus travelled to Europe founding monasteries along the way in France, Germany, Austria, before eventually</p>	<p>T: 087-6736311 E: columbanwaymyshall@gmail.com</p>

		settling in Bobbio, Italy where he was laid to rest in 615 AD. Pre-booking essential. Route - Saturday 23 rd May 2020: Stage 1 Bunclody to Myshall - 25km Sunday 24 th May 2020: Stage 2 Myshall – Leighlinbridge	
Friday 29th May - Saturday 6th June 2020	Carlow Golf Club, Deerpark, Dublin Road, Carlow Town	CARLOW GOLF CLUB OPEN WEEK One of the most enjoyable events celebrating the start of summer is the Carlow Golf Club Open Week which features plenty of prizes, team spirit and a friendly welcome.	T: 059-913 1695 W: www.carlowgolfclub.com
Saturday 30th – Sunday 31st May 2020	Carlow Rowing Club, Barrow Track, Carlow Town	CARLOW REGATTA 2020 One of the oldest rowing festivals in the country celebrating its 161 st year in 2020. Eights, quads and scull racing from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.	T: 085-7504758 - Avril E: secretarycarlowrowingclub@gmail.com
JUNE			
Wednesday 3rd – Sunday 7th June 2020	Grounds of Carlow College, College Street, Carlow Town	CARLOW ARTS FESTIVAL This year's festival is another celebration of the many riches the arts has to offer from national and international artists which also coincides with the 41 st anniversary of the festival's origins. Five days of extraordinary and innovative exhibitions, theatre performances, comedy shows and live music. The festival displays a vibrant programme of events featuring a dynamic range of entertainment and arts and transforms Carlow into a cultural hub.	T: 059-9173381 E: info@carlowartsfestival.com W: www.carlowartsfestival.com
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Sunday 7th June 2020	River Barrow, Carlow Town Park, Carlow Town	BARROW DRAGON BOAT REGATTA Come along and enjoy or participate in the unique spectacle of dragon boating as the Irish Dragon Boat Association brings one of its dynamic and colourful events to the River Barrow, Carlow Town. No previous experience required.	T: 059-916 1685 W: www.dragonboat.ie
Friday 12th - Sunday 14th June 2020	Borris House, Borris, Co. Carlow	BORRIS HOUSE FESTIVAL OF WRITING AND IDEAS The Festival of Writing and Ideas will mark its ninth year in 2020, bringing a weekend of stimulating dialogue and discourse, gathering together intriguing international minds – historians, novelists, journalists, film-makers, poets, theatre directors, war correspondents, biographers, artists and political	E: info@festivalofwritingandideas.com W: www.festivalofwritingandideas.com

		commentators – and inviting them to Borris Village for a few days. The evening programme features musical entertainment and comedy.	
Saturday 13th June 2020	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	A CELEBRATION OF ROSES The Walled Garden has the most extensive range of roses for sale in Ireland and June is the perfect time to celebrate Roses in all their glory. This day will feature a ‘Rose Clinic’ for all your rose related queries and advice from leading experts. The Walled Garden is guaranteed to have something to suit any aspect or situation in your garden including: Old Garden Roses – Damask, Alba, Portland, Bourbon & Hybrid perpetual roses Modern Garden Roses – Hybrid Tea (Large-flowered roses), Floribunda (Clustered-flowered roses), Shrub, Hybrid Rugosa, Ground Cover, Rambler, Scrambler, Climbing, Standards and David Austin Roses.	T: 087-9822135 E: sales@altamontplants.com
JULY			
Sunday 5th July 2020	Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow	SUMMER SUNDAY Selection of family friendly activities including face painting, treasure trail and much more in the Sensory Gardens from 11.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Summer bedding and shrubs available in the garden centre, containers and hanging baskets for sale or your own filled on request. Tea/coffee, lunches and snacks available in the café.	T: 059-9143527 E: info@deltacentre.org W: www.deltasensorygardens.com Further details on Facebook
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Sunday 5th July 2020	Myshall Village, Co. Carlow	BLACKSTAIRS VINTAGE CLUB ANNUAL RALLY The 13th annual vintage rally features vintage steam engines, oil engines, tractors and cars, music and songs, crafts, stalls and exhibits. Family fun day.	T: 087-6256028 / 086-6029050
Friday 24th July – Monday 3rd August 2020	Throughout County Carlow	CARLOW GARDEN FESTIVAL 2020 The Carlow Garden Festival is a wonderful opportunity for budding and experienced gardeners and nature lovers to obtain practical advice from a range of informative workshops while visiting the many beautiful gardens in the county. With gardens in full bloom and with the majority of gardening work completed, the festival is the ideal time to relax, admire the work of others and make gardening plans for the coming months and year ahead. Highlights include	T: 059-9130411 E: edeane@carlowtourism.com W: www.carlowgardentrail.com

Date	Venue	Pe
Friday, 24th July	Leighlinbridge	Éar
Friday, 24th July	Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge	Adam
Saturday, 25th July	Delta Sensory Gardens	M
Saturday, 25th July	Huntington Castle and Gardens	F
Sunday, 26th July	Rathwood	D
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Monday, 27th July	Delta Sensory Gardens	
Monday, 27th July	The Meadows	P
Tuesday, 28th July	Altamont Gardens	Ma
Tuesday, 28th July	Hardymount House	
Wednesday, 29th July	Burtown House	Art
Wednesday, 29th July	Shankill Castle	Klaus L
Wednesday, 29 th July	Lisnavagh House (evening)	Op adaptat
Thursday, 30 th July	Borris House	
Thursday, 30th July	Kilgraney House	

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Monday 27th – Friday 31st July 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	HARRY POTTER'S BIRTHDAY Attention Witches and Wizards! Your magical presence is requested in the celebration of Harry Potter's birthday. It's a celebration that everyone can join in – fun for all the family. Join the gang from Hogwarts and enjoy the different crafts, games and adventures they have in store. Admission: starting from €12 per child and €5 per adult.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com																		
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Wednesday, 29th July 2020	Lisnavagh House, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow @ 7.30 p.m. Gates open at 6.30 p.m.	OPEN AIR THEATRE AT LISNAVAGH HOUSE Lisnavagh House and Gardens welcome the return of the Chapterhouse Theatre Company with Laura Turner's adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma. Set in the fictional village of Highbury, young Emma Woodhouse – described in the novel's first sentence as 'handsome, clever and rich' – develops a penchant for matchmaking after she successfully pairs off two of her friends. But it soon transpires that amidst her plotting, Emma finds herself stuck in the middle of a tangled web... Enjoy a night of magical theatre under the stars, bring your picnic, chairs and blankets for the lawn, sit back, relax and enjoy the show!	T : 059-9161473 E : events@lisnavagh.com W : www.lisnavagh.com																		
AUGUST																					

Sunday 2nd August 2020	Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow	200TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF JOHN TYNDALL, SCIENTIST Carlow County Museum hosts a special day to celebrate the 200 th anniversary of the birth of John Tyndall, the great scientist, educator and alpine mountaineer. Join his biographer Roland Jackson to look at Tyndall's worldwide impact 200 years on from his birth in his home village of Leighlinbridge.	T : 059-9130411 E : dmulligan@carlowcoco.ie
Thursday 6th August 2020 7.30 p.m.	Lisnavagh House, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow	OPEN AIR THEATRE AT LISNAVAGH HOUSE Lisnavagh House and Gardens announce the return of Off The Ground Theatre Company for the annual open-air stage this summer with their adaptation of William Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost". Gates open at 6.30 p.m. Enjoy a night of magical theatre under the stars, bring your picnic, chairs and blankets for the lawn, sit back, relax and enjoy the show!	T : 059-9161473 E : events@lisnavagh.com W : www.lisnavagh.com
Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th August 2020	Carlow Town	CARLOW VINTAGE AND CLASSIC MOTOR CLUB VINTAGE CAR DISPLAY A great opportunity for all the family to enjoy a marvellous display of vintage and classic cars and tractors from pre-war to the 1980s. There will be a parade of cars through Carlow Town on the evening of Saturday, August 15th. Sunday, August 16th features a display of cars from many of the bygone eras, including some pre-war vehicles, as well as motorbikes, scooters and agricultural machinery. Music, stalls, a children's play area and food will keep all visitors entertained. Supervised parking is free for all members of the public. Secure parking for exhibitors the night before the show can also be arranged.	T : 087-6722972 W : www.carlowvintageandclassicmotorclub.com
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
Saturday 15th - Sunday 23rd August 2020	Throughout the county	HERITAGE WEEK Week of indoor and outdoor events celebrating the rich heritage the county has to offer and promoting awareness of our built, natural and cultural heritage. Activities range from fairs, night time bat walks, wildlife tours and lectures to music recitals, historical re-enactments and outdoor activities.	T : 059-9129705 E : jshortall@carlowcoco.ie W : www.heritageweek.ie
Sunday 16th August 2020	Coppenagh, Tullow, Co. Carlow	TULLOW AGRICULTURAL SHOW One of the most established agricultural shows in the country, Tullow Show has something to interest both rural and urban visitors and young and old. Features food and craft halls, trade stands, competitions in horses, ponies, cattle, sheep, art and much more.	T : 086-834 6931 E : tullowagrishow@eircom.net W : www.tullowshow.com
SEPTEMBER			

Sunday 6th September 2020	Rathanna Village, Carlow	BLACKSTAIRS HILL FARMING SHOWCASE A hill farming showcase in Rathanna Village at the foot of Mount Leinster hosted by the Blackstairs Farming Group. Music, local crafts and much more on show.	T: 087-2813831 Details on Facebook
Monday 7th - Wednesday 9th September 2020	Carlow, Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club and Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort	COUNTY CARLOW GOLF CLASSIC 2020 Carlow Tourism hosts its annual golf classic featuring three top quality courses - Carlow, Bunclody Golf and Fishing Club and Mount Wolseley Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort. Rate €175 per person (valid until May 29th) and €185 p.p. thereafter including three rounds of golf, three meal vouchers, one gala dinner and a fantastic prize fund of up to €7,000. Musical entertainment follows the gala dinner on Wednesday, 9 th September. Special accommodation rates at Mount Wolseley and nearby. Early bird rate of €150 p.p. applies from 8 – 9.20 a.m.	T: 059-913 0411 E: edeane@carlowtourism.com W: www.carlowtourism.com/golfclassic
Tuesday 15th – Thursday 17th September 2020	Ballintrane, Fenagh, Co. Carlow	NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS The National Ploughing Championships is one of Europe's largest outdoor agricultural events incorporating a ploughing contest. The event which attracted almost 300,000 visitors in 2019 offers a great entertainment programme for all the family. A great celebration of rural Ireland.	T: 059-8625125 E: info@npa.ie W: www.npa.ie
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
Saturday 19th September 2020 11.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.	Altamont Plant Sales, Altamont Gardens, Tullow, Co. Carlow	INTRODUCTION TO GARDEN DESIGN WITH INGRID SMYTH This course provides an introduction to garden design and is aimed at providing attendees with the tools to enable them to design their own dream garden. Ingrid Smyth, garden designer covers the design process of analysing your garden, surveying it, gathering inspiration on how you want it to look, drawing up a garden design plan and the implementation of your design. €75 includes morning coffee, complimentary buffet lunch and course notes. Places are limited to 12, booking is recommended.	T: 087-9822135 – Robert / 086-8745580 – Ingrid E: sales@altamontplants.com or info@ingridsmythgardendesign.com W: ingridsmythgardendesign.com
Saturday 19th – Sunday 20th September 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	FOSSETT'S CIRCUS AT RATHWOOD The Big Top Experience! Take a trip on the Rathwood Express Train and join us in the Big Top located inside the Rathwood Forest. Admission: starting from €12 – adult and children	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
OCTOBER			

Every weekend October 2020 (Exact dates TBC)	Borris House, Altamont Gardens, Duckett's Grove, Huntington Castle, Carlow College and Lisnavagh House	CARLOW BIG HOUSES FESTIVAL Taking place over four weekends, the Carlow Big Houses Festival gives visitors a unique opportunity to peek behind the doors of some of Ireland's most lavish manor houses. Get a glimpse beyond the impressive facades of these ancestral homes, walk in the footsteps of fascinating historical figures and take in the sumptuous splendour of some of the most significant homes in Irish history. Visitors can step back in time and absorb centuries of heritage and culture as they enjoy house tours by family members and talks by renowned national speakers who provide a rare and entertaining insight into the great houses of Carlow and the secrets and stories of the people who owned and worked in them. Whether you're strolling through beautifully landscaped historical gardens or marvelling at interiors that have survived for centuries, you'll be swept away by the magic of these very special Carlow treasures. Authentic food and drink experiences with a strong focus on local provenance forms part of the festival programme.	T: 059-913 0411 E: edeane@carlowtourism.com W: www.carlowtourism.com
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
Thursday 1st - Thursday 8th October 2020	Various locations throughout Carlow Town	FÉILE AN FHOMHAIR 2020 Féile an Fhomhair, Carlow's popular autumn bi-lingual festival features events organised in various locations throughout Carlow Town creating a great festival atmosphere. Events are organised for every age with drama, literature, art, music, storytelling, cinema, comedy and entertainment.	T: 085-1340047 /087-2857048 E: eolas@glorcheatharlach.ie W: www.glorcheatharlach.ie
Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th October 2020	Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Road, Carlow	FOLLOW ME UP TO CARLOW SET DANCING WEEKEND Set dancing enthusiasts from overseas and across the country gather to enjoy a veritable feast of dance workshops or to experience some of the country's top céilí bands. Beginners as well as seasoned dancers are welcome to attend an individual workshop, céilí or the entire event.	T: 087-6389520 /086-8146842
Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th October 2020	Mount Leinster /Blackstairs Mountains/River Barrow/Rathwood	CARLOW AUTUMN WALKING FESTIVAL Carlow's majestic Blackstairs Mountains and River Barrow together with the charming villages of Myshall and Borris feature as part of the Carlow Autumn Walking Festival. The festival caters to all levels of walkers, from very experienced hill walkers out to enjoy an invigorating mountain trek to novices seeking some peace and tranquillity along more leisurely routes. There is a choice of over 15 different walks plus outdoor family activities including	T: 059-9130411 E: info@carlowtourism.com W: www.carlowtourism.com

		canoeing safari trails with Go-With-the-Flow River Adventures, Pure Adventure and Paddle Your Own Canoe and bike and hike options with Waterside Bike & Hike in Graiguenamanagh along the River Barrow.	
Saturday 3rd – Sunday 4th October 2020	Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Kilkenny Road, Carlow Town	CARLOW'S 17TH INTERNATIONAL KARATE COMPETITION Karate based competition with all disciplines included. Welcoming visitors from the Czech Republic, England, Northern Ireland, Wales, Scotland, Germany and Spain.	T: 086-105 7071 E: carlowkarateclub@gmail.com
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
Saturday 17th – Sunday 18th October & Saturday 24th October – Sunday 1st November 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	SPOOKTACULAR PUMPKIN TRAIN ADVENTURE Create a Halloween experience to remember for your little ones - magical, enchanting and just a little bit spooky, the train has been specifically designed for younger children. With a walk through an enchanted forest, a spooky train ride, pumpkin carving, and hot chocolate, it doesn't get more magical than this. From 4.00 p.m. onwards, things get a little bit scarier for the bigger kids, as the train is opened to older children and adults for a super spooky ride. Admission: starting from €12 per child and €7 per adult.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
Thursday 22nd – Monday 26th October 2020	Huntington Castle, Clonegal, Co. Carlow	HALLOWEEN AT HUNTINGTON CASTLE A Halloween Spookfest at a genuine haunted castle! Features a ghostly guided tour with ghosts, ghouls and screams. Family tours suitable over 12's / adult tours only. Advance booking required. Bring your own torch and wear a costume!	T: 053-937 7160 E: info@huntingtoncastle.com W: www.huntingtoncastle.com
Saturday 31st October 2020	Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow	HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL Join us for some ghoulish goings on in the gardens if you dare!!! Halloween games, ghosts, ghouls and much more. Prizes for best costume on the day!	T: 059-9143527 E: info@deltacentre.org W: www.deltasensorygardens.com Further details on Facebook
Mid October – 24th December 2020	Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven, Leighlinbridge,	ARBORETUM HOME AND GARDEN HEAVEN For a complete festiveday out this Christmas, head to Arboretum Home and Garden Heaven where you can explore the Christmas shop and savour the delights of the stunning in-store Christmas décor. Browse beautiful gifts, festive	T: 059-972 1558 E: info@arboretum.ie W: www.arboretum.ie

	Co. Carlow	lights, striking decorations and Christmas trees of all sizes. Plus enjoy the fun interactive in-store Christmas characters. This five star garden and lifestyle centre has a whole host of family events for the Christmas period including an exclusive breakfast with Santa and free viewing of Santa's two real reindeer Donner and Blitzen daily from mid-November.	
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
NOVEMBER			
21st November – 24th December 2020	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow, Co. Carlow	RATHWOOD CHRISTMAS SANTA TRAIN Ireland's most popular Santa Experience. Many generations, from young to old, have enjoyed this magical visit to Santa, Mrs. Claus and their elves over the years. A fun filled hour of entertainment, storytelling, train ride, magical forest walk and presents for the children. Booking necessary on www.rathwood.com from September 1st at twelve noon. Admission: starting from €17 per child and €12 per adult.	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com W: www.rathwood.com
DECEMBER			
Friday 11th – Tuesday 21st December 2020	Delta Sensory Gardens, Strawhall Estate, Carlow	CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND The multi-sensory unit transforms into an area full of Christmas cheer, but at the same time, experienced staff make it a calming, relaxed Christmas experience for children with special needs, autism and sensory issues. Online bookings will be available for Sensory Santa on weekend of the 19 th and 20 th . Light lunches, tea/coffee and cakes served each day, with full Christmas lunch on Sunday 13 th December (booking essential). Late opening each evening until 7pm for lights and café. A colourful display of outdoor lights will be on display in the sensory gardens; with festive face painting and other activities.	T: 059-9143527 E: info@deltacentre.org W: www.deltasensorygardens.com Further details on Facebook
TO BE CONFIRMED	Rathwood, Rath, Tullow	PANTO CIRCUS Come join us here at Rathwood for a magical evening like no other, as Circus meets Panto!	T: 059-915 6285 E: info@rathwood.com

Monday 28th – Wednesday 30th December 2020	Co. Carlow		W: www.rathwood.com
Date	Location	Festival	Find Out More
Thursday 31st December 2020	Borris Village	BORRIS FIREWORKS AT BORRIS VIADUCT The viaduct is one of Borris' best known landmarks and is the location for a special New Year's Eve celebration which features a stunning display of fireworks at midnight which are visible all over the town and for miles around.	T: 087-2168929 E: magdaking@eircom.net