

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST GUIDE DAY 19TH - 21ST FEBRUARY

SATURDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

COMBER

**Your guide is Blue Badge Tour Guide Lolly Spence
A lifelong resident of Comber**

Saturday 19 February 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Meet at the Square in Comber

The peaceful little town of Comber has a multi-layered history dating back to the arrival of Early Man. Legend tells that St Patrick himself came to this pleasant vale at the north-west end of Strangford Lough and Christianity thrived in this area despite Viking incursions! Later, the Anglo-Normans made their mark, followed by the Scots who settled here in the early 17th century. Whiskey and linen industries helped the small village grow, and the arrival of the Belfast County Down Railway put the town of Comber firmly on the map. Famous for its statue of Major General Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie, its Titanic connections and its award-winning potatoes, Comber today is home to craft shops, artisan food outlets, antiques shops, and some first rate coffee venues. Come along on a walking tour to learn more about this unassuming place - you'll need flat shoes and a raincoat. Distance covered will be about two or three miles at a moderate pace with frequent stops.

Let the tour be-Gin

Level 4 Guides Fiona Barton and Pamela Montgomery

Saturday 19 February - Bangor

The first gin and history tour in Bangor. Invited guests only.

HISTORIC KNOCKBRED A CHURCH & GRAVEYARD PARK

Your guide is Green Badge Guide Mark Doherty

Saturday 19 February 10 am – 12 noon

Meet outside Cafe Nero in Forestside Shopping Centre

Find out about United Irishmen, Indian tombs, the piper lost at sea and a man who went down with the Titanic. Also learn the difference between Breda, Knockbreda and Newtownbreda!

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WHAT'S BEHIND THE TREES IN STORMONT ESTATE?

Your guide is Blue Badge Guide Sue McKay

Saturday 19 February 2 pm – 3.30 pm

Meet at the front gates to Stormont Estate, Newtownards Road

Don't we all sometimes wonder what IS behind the trees when we are passing or entering the Stormont Estate. There is so much to see on foot! This is a lovely woodland walk showing off the recent and future investment in the Estate. Sue will include a little bit of history, the bomb crater, the carved statues, the boardwalk, and much more

EXPLORING THE QUEEN'S QUARTER

Your Guide is Green Badge Tour Guide, Dr Tom Thorpe

Saturday 19 February 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Meet at The War Memorial in front of the Lanyon Building of Queen's University

This free walking tour introduces people to the sites, open spaces, built heritage and history of the Queen's Quarter, centred around Queen's University Belfast in south Belfast.

It will cover the urbanisation and development of the area from medieval times to the modern day and explore the historic buildings, public art and parks in the locality.

This tour is part of a series of events to mark International Tourist Guide Day on 21 February 2022.

To book click on the link below - Eventbrite

<https://bit.ly/34i8PAr>

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SUNDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

A TOUR OF DERRY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL FEEL!

Your guides are Blue Badge Tour Guides Emma Burns and Bronagh Masoliver

Sunday 20 February 11.00

Meet on the Guildhall Steps – on the side of Guildhall Square – facing the historic city walls

What connects the walled city with Philadelphia? How has France impacted local history? Why is the lead singer of an Italian band buried in the city cemetery?

A WALKING TOUR OF BALLYCASTLE

Your guide is Blue Badge Guide Petra Herrmann

Sunday 20th February 2.00 pm – 15.30 pm

Meet 2pm at the 4 Swans sculpture at the seafront in Ballycastle

Length of walk: 2-3 miles

Ballycastle - From ancient legends to a busy industrial town. A stroll along the seafront and into the town of Ballycastle. Admire the beauty of the quiet seafront and discover the industrial past of the town. Hear about the decline of the industry and the town today. There will be a few hidden gems to discover, and a legend or two that delves into the ancient past of the area.

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MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY

ARMAGH MALL

Your guide is Blue Badge Tour Guide Donna Fox

Monday 21 February 11 am – 12.30pm

Meet at the War Memorial facing the Courthouse
The Mall in Armagh

A tour of The Mall, Armagh, is a leisurely route of approx. 1km. You will hear about the transformation of this area from a former race course to one of Ireland's finest Urban parks. Along the way you will see some of the finest examples of Irish Georgian architecture, take in views of our 2 magnificent cathedrals, admire wonderful public art and hear about some of the personalities who have added to the history of this wonderful city.

CARRICKFERGUS

Your guide is Blue Badge Tour guide John O McIlvenna

Monday 21 February 12 noon – 1 pm

Meet at Carrickfergus Library, Joymount

Tour will last 1 hour and focuses on the history of the town and district. We will be walking round the town.

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