

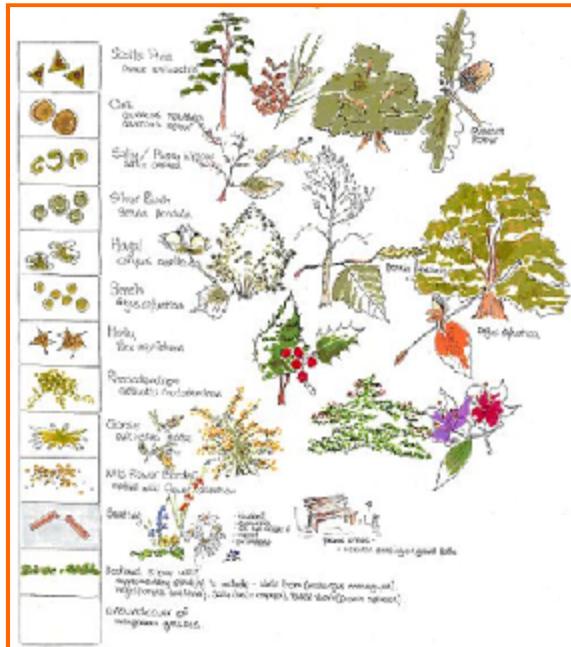
Eclipse Ireland Environmental Policy

Environmental issues:

The environment is clearly one of outstanding scenic beauty and its natural appeal attracts those visitors who are appreciative and loyal to rural harmony. Every care has been taken to ensure that the development has been assimilated into the landscape in a way that is not obtrusive or dominant. An environmental policy has been written in collaboration with Green Tourism. A landscaping proposal is already in place to preserve the extensive stands of native trees and shrubs and to supplement the existing with further planting to complement the environment. The modest simplicity of form and vernacular design of the buildings are free from unnecessary external adornment and decoration, and therefore provides a comfortable fit with the surrounding landscape, so that the Centre merges into an analogous whole. It is policy that the Centre will continue to promote a greater understanding and appreciation about the local heritage and wildlife of the area.

Cycle touring and custom made maps

The Management of Eclipse actively support the minimum use of your motor vehicle by providing bicycles and local walking routes. This is by far the best way to appreciate and tour the surrounding area. Please take advantage of our special touring rates and make full use of this facility.



Notes: Quick Guide

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare

Before you go check, where possible, if access is allowed and your activity is permitted in the area you wish to visit.

Respect any signs, regulations, policies and special concerns for the area that you wish to visit.

Permits may sometimes be needed for activities on public lands.

Where possible travel by public transport or share cars; consider the availability of parking.

Ensure you have the skills and equipment needed for your activity and to cope with emergencies that could arise.

Check the weather forecast and always be prepared for changing weather conditions.

For environmental and safety reasons, and to minimise your impact on other users, keep group numbers small; split larger parties into smaller groups.

2. Be Considerate of Others

Respect the people who live and work in the countryside.

Park appropriately - avoid blocking gateways, forest entrances or narrow roads. Remember that farm machinery, local residents and the emergency services may need access at all times.

Take care not to damage property, especially walls, fences and crops.

Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.

Let nature's sounds prevail. Keep noise to a minimum.

3. Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife

Dogs should be kept under close control and should only be brought onto hills or farmland with the landowner's permission. Some public areas stipulate that dogs must be kept on a lead at all times, please adhere to local guidelines.

Observe wild animals and birds from a distance. Avoid disturbing them, particularly at sensitive times: mating, nesting and raising young (mostly between spring and early summer).

Keep wildlife wild, don't feed wild animals or birds - our foods damage their health and leave them vulnerable to predators.

Farm animals are not pets; remain at a safe distance.

4. Travel and Camp on Durable Ground

Durable ground includes established tracks and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grasses or snow.

In popular areas:

Concentrate use on existing tracks and campsites.

To avoid further erosion, travel in single file in the middle of the track even when wet or muddy.

In more remote areas:

Disperse use to prevent the creation of new tracks and campsites.

Avoid places where impacts are just beginning to show.

If camping:

Protect water quality by camping at least 30m from lakes and streams.

Keep campsites small and discreet.

Aim to leave your campsite as you found it, or better.

5. Leave What You Find

Respect property. For example, farming or forestry machinery, fences, stone walls etc. Leave gates as you find them (open or closed).

Preserve the past: examine - without damaging - archaeological structures, old walls and heritage artefacts e.g. holy wells, mine workings, monuments.

Conserve the present: leave rocks, flowers, plants, animals and all natural habitats as you find them. Fallen trees are a valuable wildlife habitat; do not remove or use for firewood.

Avoid introducing non-native plants and animals e.g. zebra mussels in rivers and lakes.

Do not build rock cairns, structures or shelters

6. Dispose of Waste Properly

"If you bring it In, Take it out" - take home all litter and leftover food (including tea bags, fruit peels and other biodegradable foods).

To dispose of solid human waste, dig a hole 15-20cms deep and at least 30m from water, campsites and tracks. Cover and disguise the hole when finished.

Bring home toilet paper and hygiene products.

Wash yourself or your dishes 30m away from streams or lakes and if necessary use small amounts of biodegradable soap. Bring home any solids and scatter strained dishwater.

For more information on sanitation in the outdoors read the "Where to go in the outdoors" leaflet

7. Minimise the Effects of Fire

Fires can cause lasting impacts and be devastating to forests, natural habitats and farmland.

Therefore when camping use a lightweight stove for cooking.

Where fires are permitted: Use established fire rings, barbecues or create a mound fire.

Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand. Do not use growing vegetation for use as firewood.

Avoid burning plastics or other substances: which emit toxic fumes.

Burn all fires to ash, put out fires completely, and then scatter cool ashes.

We have subscribed to Fáilte Irelands Adventure Friendly Charters as follows:

Adventure Friendly Charter
Self Catering Providers

This premises welcomes Adventure Visitors and will do all we can to make your time with us comfortable, safe and memorable. In order to provide a service which is 'Adventure Friendly', we aim to provide the following:

- Dedicated space / room for Drying clothes / shoes etc
- Dedicated space / room for storing equipment
- Provides information on local Adventure activities, entertainment & dining
- Provides information on accessing appropriate supplies and equipment
- Provides information on transport to & from local activities
- Provides information on local guides with knowledge of adventure activities in the area
- Signs up to Leave No Trace Code of Ethics

- Nominated in-house Adventure 'Champion'
- Signed up to attend Fáilte Ireland's Adventure Customer Care Training programme

Outdoor Adventure Centres

This Tourism Provider welcomes Adventure Visitors and will do all we can to make your time with us comfortable, safe and memorable. In order to provide a service which is 'Adventure Friendly', we aim to provide the following:

- Offers a minimum of three of the following activities :
 - Mountain biking
 - Mountain running
 - Abseiling
 - Archery
 - Walking
 - Cycling
 - Orienteering
 - Caving
 - Zip Ropes
 - Kite Buggying
- Staff subscribe to best practice in safety and standards of their activity
- Informative staff who can advise visitors on aspects of the activity
- Information on local activities, entertainment and dining
- Has Public Liability Insurance
- Activity is available to range of ages groups and abilities
- Tuition is available
- Health & Safety briefing is provided to all before participating in the activity
- Variety of priced offers are available to visitors, based on age / abilities / group size etc
- Has clear & practiced procedure in place in case of Emergency, including staff trained in first aid, emergency contact numbers etc
- Access to storage facilities
- Access to toilets / changing facilities
- Signs up to Leave No Trace code of ethics
- Nominated in-house Adventure 'Champion'
- Signed up to attend Fáilte Ireland's Adventure Customer Care Training programme
- Provides information on local weather forecasts

Adventure Friendly Charter
 Cycling Providers
 Adventure Friendly Charter
 Walking Providers
 Adventure Friendly Charter
 Kayaking Providers
 Adventure Friendly Charter
 Archery Providers
 Adventure Friendly Charter
 Orienteering Providers