



# Cuan na hAisléime



"koo-an-uh **HASH**-lame-uh"



Oibríonn daoine fós ag na bachtáil ag  
baint úsáid as slán traidisiúnta chun  
an mhónin a ghéarradh  
© Chris Hill/National Geographic Creative

People still work the peat banks using  
the traditional sleán to cut the turf  
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## Teas á chruthú, an bealach deacair

Fós sa lá atá inniu ann tá móin á baint ag na hOileánaigh le húsáid mar bhreosla.

Go hiondúil bhíodh stráice de thalamh portaigh ag beagnach gach feirmeoir. Chaithfeadh na feirmeoirí seachtain san earrach i mbun obair mhaslach ar an bportach chun dóthain breosla a chur ar fáil dá dteaghláigh don bhliain.

Is gnách go mbíodh meithealacha bainteoirí móna le chéile, iad ag gearradh cruthanna cearnóige móna agus á gcaitheamh ar bhruach an phortaigh. Sleán a bhíodh in úsáid acu, láí speisialta ar a raibh dhá lann. Sna seachtainí ina dhiaidh sin, chuir siad atheagar ar na fóid mhóna agus rinne siad cruacha móna. Ansin thugtaí deis don mhónin triomú roimh í a thabhairt abhaile ar charr asail nó i gciseáin ar a ndroim. Faoin am a raibh na daoine réidh leis an mhónin a chaitheamh ar an tine, bhíodh na fóid leath chomh mór is a bhí siad ar dtús.

Bhíodh an oiread sin luais faoi scoth na mbainteoirí móna go raibh siad in ann sé fhód a choinneáil san aer ag aon am amháin.

## Creating heat, the hard way

*Islanders still cut turf from peat for fuel.*

*Traditionally almost every farmer had his own turf bank. A week's back-breaking work in spring provided his family with enough fuel for a year.*

*Turf cutters often worked in gangs, cutting squares of peat and throwing them on to the side of the bank. They used a special, two-bladed spade called a sleán. Over the following weeks they rearranged the sods in ever larger stacks to dry before carrying them home by donkey and cart or in baskets on their backs. By the time they were ready for the fire, the sods were half their original size.*

*Champion turf cutters could work so quickly that they kept six sods in the air at once.*



Shiúil na mná ar feadh na míle chun ciseanna tromá móna a thabhairt abhaile  
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Women walked for miles carrying the heavy creels of turf home  
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1 Bain triail as snorcláil nó cadhcáil Atlantach ar na conairí siúil Gormbhealaigh ó Dhumha Goirt.  
Experience Atlantic snorkelling or kayaking on the Blueway trails from Dumha Goirt (Doogort).

2 Faigh rothar ar cíos agus cuir tú le céann de thrí thimbhealach rothar Acla ag Gob an Choire.  
Hire a bike to try out one of the three Acaill (Achill) cycle loops at Acaill (Achill) Sound.

3 Léim ar an mbád ag an gcéibh bheag ag an gClochar Mór agus tabhair aghaidh ar Chliara.  
Take a boat to Clare Island from An Chéibh Bheag at An Chloch Mhór (Cloghmore).



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